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## Touffu, a house for pets

**Designers:** Violeta Alcaide Weishaupt and Manel Jiménez Ibáñez  
**Year:** 2018

Because our domestic animals also have the right to live in a stylish setting Touffu is an original house for pets that hides a very special design behind its typical pitched roof facade. The thing that makes Touffu different is not obvious but requires looking more carefully at the detail and how the whole is put together. The structure is conceived as a series of panels put together easily, one fits the other, slotting into a series of grooves provided in each panel that makes its assembly simple and structurally sound without using any screws. They slot together under their own weight so that the house is perfectly stable.

This type of coupling, using pressure and without the need for any other assembly tools is a marvel of traditional Japanese carpentry, that is commonly used in the construction of architectural structures in that country. And in fact the designers of this pet house for the outdoors are just that, two architects: Violeta Alcaide Weishaupt and Manel Jiménez Ibáñez. Touffu is possibly the smallest scale house project that an architect could be involved with but there was an added difficulty, it had to be made into a flat pack in order to facilitate shipping.

The panels are made from phenolic board, a material that can withstand inclement weather conditions. However Touffu can easily be accommodated indoors thanks to its suave looks which are equally at home inside. The interior has a cushion, upholstered with a re-moveable cover so that it can be washed.

Touffu is available in two sizes, one for larger pets and the other for smaller ones. It's suitable for dogs, cats or hamsters.

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## Violeta Alcaide Weishaupt and Manel Jiménez Ibáñez

Violeta Alcaide Weishaupt and Manel Jiménez Ibáñez studied architecture at the Valencia Universidad Politécnica.

Both took a year out of their college to study at the Lausanne École Polytechnique Fédérale, which meant that their first steps in the professional world were taken in Swiss architect's studios.

Their careers subsequently developed between Spain and Switzerland, working in several practices in both countries. Although their main activity is carried out under the framework of architecture work both are also interested in getting involved with design projects. Separately or as a team, specifically when a project requires research into materials or challenges that are connected with design and materials, related to form or a specific need.



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## Project Details

Year: 2018

Designers: Violeta Alcaide Weishaupt  
and Manel Jiménez Ibáñez

Materials: HPL phenolic board. Foam rubber  
polyurethane with filling visco-elastic  
covered with waterproof fabric.  
Removable fabric cover.

Sizes: XS 38x53x53 cm (14"x21"x21"),  
S 54x64x64 cm (21"x25"x25")

Colours: White, red and anthracite.

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DIABLA is a new brand of outdoor furniture, accessories and complementary items. The designs are typically casual, original and creative, with new formulas for enjoying outdoor living in all kinds of settings and at any time of year. DIABLA is a brand with an inspiring attitude that offers creative ideas for stylish settings. The bold, colourful designs not only contribute something new, they are also the expression of new lifestyles.

DIABLA is the third GANDIABLASCO brand, a new business adventure backed by this prestigious firm with close to eight decades of experience in the domestic and international contemporary design sector. The collections are developed with the support of resources and expertise accumulated by GANDIABLASCO in terms of the design, production and development culture that prevails in the business. The company entrusted the leadership of this new project to architect and designer Sara Romero, founding partner of the Romero Vallejo studio.

Customers can purchase items from the DIABLA collection in the brand's own online store, [www.diablaoutdoor.com](http://www.diablaoutdoor.com), as well as in the usual GANDIABLASCO points of sale.

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