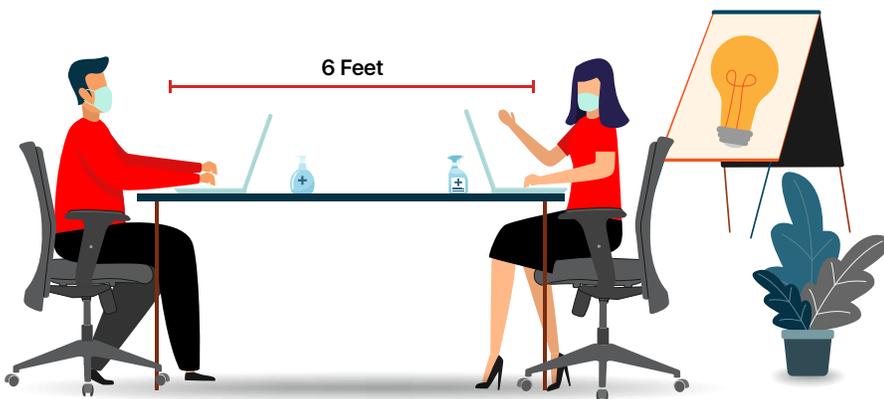


## Coming Back to a Safe Workplace & a New Work Life in 5 Simple Steps

The way we work has been constantly changing & the recent pandemic still continues to influence every worker's life in one way or another. While the quarantine restrictions being lifted and implemented from time to time, people have gradually started heading back to the office. It is only natural for some of us to be eager to step outside, but there are a few who are still anxious to enter a public environment. Here are 5 simple ways to ensure your seamless and safe return to the office:



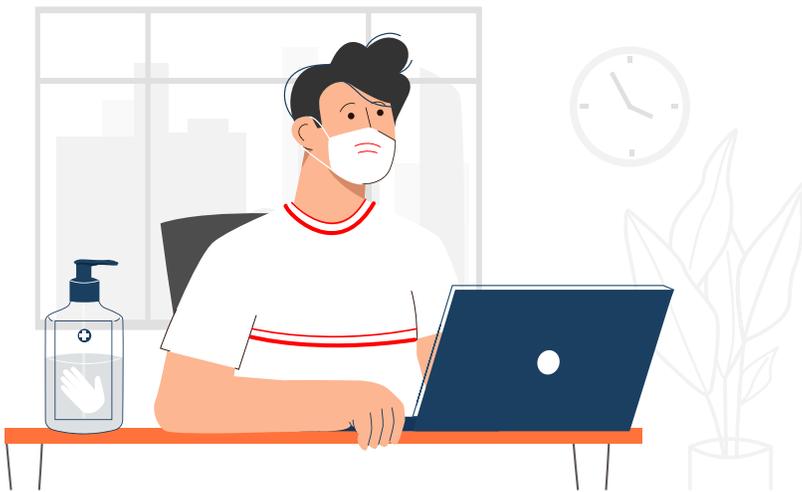
## Make Sure Your Office Has a Safe Working Environment:



Collaboration in an open plan office was the main driver of productivity before. But that sort of a work mode is not safe in today's day and age. At present, a safe office environment is one that promotes physical distancing and overall employee wellbeing. This means, office spaces & office furniture have to be reinvented and redesigned. When it comes to office landscaping, it is of primary importance to reduce the density of workers in a given area and follow the guidelines of maintaining 6 feet distance between 2 people. However, this is only a part of the bigger pie and there is a lot more to be done in order to maintain employee safety. This brings us to brand new retrofitted office furniture designs.

All offices need to start implementing the use of screens to create separation to between workers in order to avoid the spread of any virus. At the same time, there needs to be smart geometrical alignment and placement of the furniture in order to promote physical distancing and save real estate cost at the same time. Essentially, a safe office now looks like an open office with a lot of physical and visual barriers among workers. People prefer working in silos and meetings are only happening over virtual platforms. Safety is the first priority. So before you return to your office, make sure it is safe for you and your colleagues. As one of the business leaders, we implore you to reach out to us, and take our support in providing your office with the right office furniture that will help maintain employee wellbeing. For more details, do look at our consolidated Guide to a Safe & Evolving Workplace (link for this to be provided here).

## Work from Home is the New Normal:



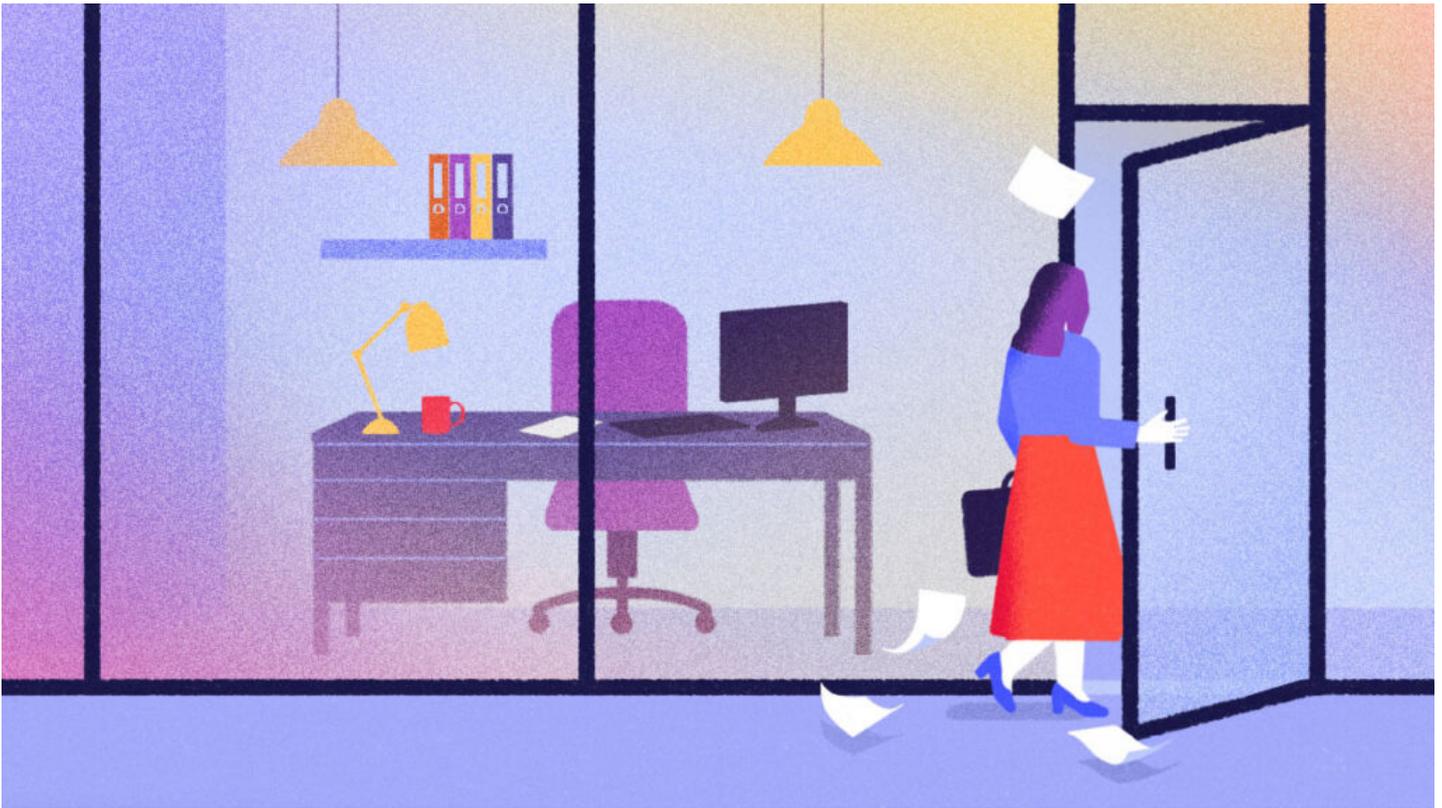
While offices are re-opening, there are strict instructions for all organizations to work with partial workforce strength. Work from Home is more of a necessity than a luxury now & it is highly recommended to have your own personal home office that suits your work style. Working for long hours out of your bed or the dining table is not physiologically ideal for your body in the long term. It will surely lead to musculoskeletal disorders due to poor posture. Multiple organizations have mandated home office furniture allowance for their employees and if you are looking for a good ergonomic home office setup that suits you,

visit [www.featherlitestore.com](http://www.featherlitestore.com) and place your order right now. We have a specially curated range of work from home furniture that will address all your work from home needs. Here's a link to browse the consolidated catalogue of Featherlite's Work from Home Furniture range.(link to be provided here). You will not only find a wide variety of ergonomic chairs to choose from but also an exclusive collection of home office desks with add-ons such as detachable shelves that act as space multipliers and mobile pedestal units for storage. Our design approach here has been holistic and one that promotes wellbeing at home, at work.

## Accept & Adapt to the New Work Life:

The recent pandemic has taught us a lot about how to remain safe in a public environment. We need to accept first, that the new work life does not go hand in hand with our usual work style and habits. Wearing a mask and keeping ourselves sanitized at every step is part and parcel of today's work routine for every single worker. Humans, by nature, are the best adaptive mammals. We are good at getting used to changes around us. Once we accept, adapting to the new norms should be a piece of cake. This may sound daunting, but it is crucial for your safety as well for the safety of people around you.

Be a responsible worker and make sure to follow all precautions when you step back into your office. Get used to remote working or working in silos; no better way to promote physical distancing. Keep up the practice of conducting business meetings on virtual platforms. Ensure the use of visual cues by using visual tapes in your office to restrict movement in certain office spaces. Frequency of cleaning the workplace must be doubled, in order to keep all surfaces free of any contamination.



## Improvise Your Work Style to Suit Safe Work Modes:

This is a team game where workers are as involved as those who run the organization. Offices need to entitle their workers to their own dedicated workspace. This will not only generate a feeling of ownership among them, but also make them feel safe. Make sure there are hand sanitizers and cleaning tools always at your disposal. On the other hand, organizations to lay focus on the choice of materiality. "Design for Disinfection" is the new trend. They need to use easily cleanable fabrics and surfaces with anti-microbial coating to avoid virus contamination. Introduce smart technology to retrieve data regarding levels of room occupancy for periodic cleaning. Office furniture designs must promote agility and flexibility in the workplace, e.g., lightweight and foldable workstations and chairs with castors for ease of movement. This will enable workers to move freely at will if they want to maintain social distancing and feel safe. Modular & agile office furniture is the perfect solution for businesses to safely bring back their workforce and operate with high density while maintaining physical distancing.



# Overcome these Barriers and Emerge a Winner:

Going forward, the foundation of all workplaces will be employee wellbeing and the capacity to adapt, improvise and overcome to changing needs in the future. Whether it's the next epidemic or a prospect for growth, office design needs to be flexible enough to be rearranged and changed to create a safe working environment. To maintain employee engagement, productivity and innovation, businesses must offer them different working modes in different office settings for safe and equal participation by all. Integration of smart technology is a must for fluidity and ease of operations. This will allow workers to interact safely and comfortably.

Office and office furniture design thinking should not be leaned towards permanence. Instead businesses must install modular and agile furniture in their offices to enable ease of movement whenever and wherever required. New technology that supports gesture and voice activation must be implemented to avoid touching of surfaces by workers, e.g. facial recognition scanner or voice activated attendance recorder. Materials must be selected to boost workplace cleanliness and avoid spreading of pathogens. These materials should endure repeated cleaning and disinfection. All workers must be rendered a feeling of inclusiveness through safe and equal participation regardless of age, abilities or health issues.



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to shop our Work from Home Furniture Collection