



What Today's Attorneys Want From Their Workspace

Prepared by Office Furniture Source

The Legal Work Space is Changing

Law firms are rethinking what the office should accomplish.

Today's legal workplace must do more than provide desks and private offices. It must support focused work, confidential conversations, collaboration, mentorship, recruiting, and client experience — all while adapting to changing work habits and expectations.

Recent research from Gensler's 2025 Legal Workplace Survey reveals a clear shift in how attorneys want to work and the types of environments they value most

For firms planning renovations, relocations, or long-term workplace strategies, these insights offer an important opportunity to evaluate whether their current space truly supports the way legal professionals work today.



Key Insights

1

Lawyers Are Collaborating More

The research shows attorneys are spending less time working alone and more time collaborating with colleagues — both in person and virtually.

At the same time, learning, mentoring, and social interaction are becoming more important parts of the workplace experience.

What This Means for Law Firms

Modern law offices need a wider variety of work settings, including:

- collaborative meeting spaces
- technology-enabled conference rooms
- touchdown spaces for quick conversations
- informal gathering areas
- hybrid-ready environments

The traditional “office plus conference room” layout is no longer enough to support the full range of how attorneys work throughout the day.



Privacy and Focus Still Matter

2

While collaboration is increasing, legal professionals still place a high value on focused, uninterrupted work.

Confidentiality, acoustical privacy, and concentration remain essential in legal environments.

The goal is not to eliminate privacy — it’s to create balance.

Today’s Legal Workplace Must Support:

- private conversations
- focused heads-down work
- confidential client discussions
- high-stakes meetings
- quiet environments for concentration

The most successful law firm workplaces are designing for both connection and concentration.





3

Lawyers Want More Hospitality-Inspired Spaces

One of the strongest themes in the research is the growing preference for environments that feel more comfortable, restorative, and human-centered.

Attorneys increasingly gravitate toward workplace settings inspired by:

- libraries
- coffee shops
- residential environments
- hospitality spaces
- nature-inspired retreats

These environments help create a workplace that feels less rigid and more adaptable to different work styles and energy levels throughout the day.

Why It Matters

These spaces can help:

- improve employee experience
- encourage informal collaboration
- support wellness
- attract talent
- create a more welcoming client environment

The modern law office is becoming an experience — not simply a place to work.

4

Different Generations Want Different Things

The survey also highlights that workplace preferences vary across senior partners, senior associates, and junior associates.

While quiet environments remain important, younger attorneys place greater value on:

- flexibility
- dynamic work settings
- residential-style environments
- collaborative spaces
- workplace choice

This creates an important challenge for firms: How do you create a workplace that respects tradition while supporting the next generation of legal talent?

Forward-Thinking Firms Are:

- creating more workplace variety
- offering different work settings throughout the office
- designing spaces that support mentorship and interaction
- balancing professionalism with comfort and flexibility



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The Office Still Matters

Perhaps the most important takeaway from the research: Professionals still see value in the office. In fact, many respondents indicated they ideally need the office more than they currently use it. The office continues to play an important role in:

- culture
- collaboration
- mentorship
- client experience
- learning
- relationship building

The question is no longer: **“Do we still need an office?”**

The question is: “Does our office support the way attorneys work today?”



How Office Furniture Source Helps Law Firms

At Office Furniture Source, we help law firms create workplaces that balance:

- confidentiality and collaboration
- professionalism and comfort
- focused work and connection
- employee experience and client experience

Whether your firm is:

- renovating existing space
- relocating offices
- rethinking hybrid work
- updating conference areas
- improving attorney experience
- planning for future growth

—we help guide the process from strategy and planning through furniture selection and installation.

Start the Conversation

Take the Law Firm Workplace Assessment.

Evaluate whether your current office supports:

- privacy and acoustics
- collaboration
- attorney productivity
- client experience
- workplace flexibility
- future growth
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Or schedule a consultation with the Office Furniture Source team to explore workplace strategies tailored to your firm.

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