

VARMBLIXT

A collaboration between IKEA and Sabine Marcelis

Launching Spring 2023



When light comes to life

In collaboration with award-winning Dutch-New Zealand designer Sabine Marcelis, the VARMBLIXT collection explores the surprising and emotional effects of light at home, from both direct and indirect sources. Through sculptural lighting products and stylish accessories that play or interact with light, this collection will transform your home in radiant, new ways.

With the exception of five lighting products which will be long-term additions to the range, the collection will be available for a limited time in stores.

Lifted up by light

The VARMBLIXT collection marks the beginning of an IKEA journey to strengthen the many people's curiosity connected to lighting in the home. It is designed to inspire a new interest in how light can transform the look, feel and atmosphere of our homes, as well as having a positive impact on how we feel.

Indeed, light is crucial to our general health and wellbeing. It directly affects our body's circadian rhythm – a natural process that regulates the sleep-wake cycle, repeating every 24 hours. This means that the amount and type of light we are exposed to everyday has a significant impact on our emotional wellbeing.

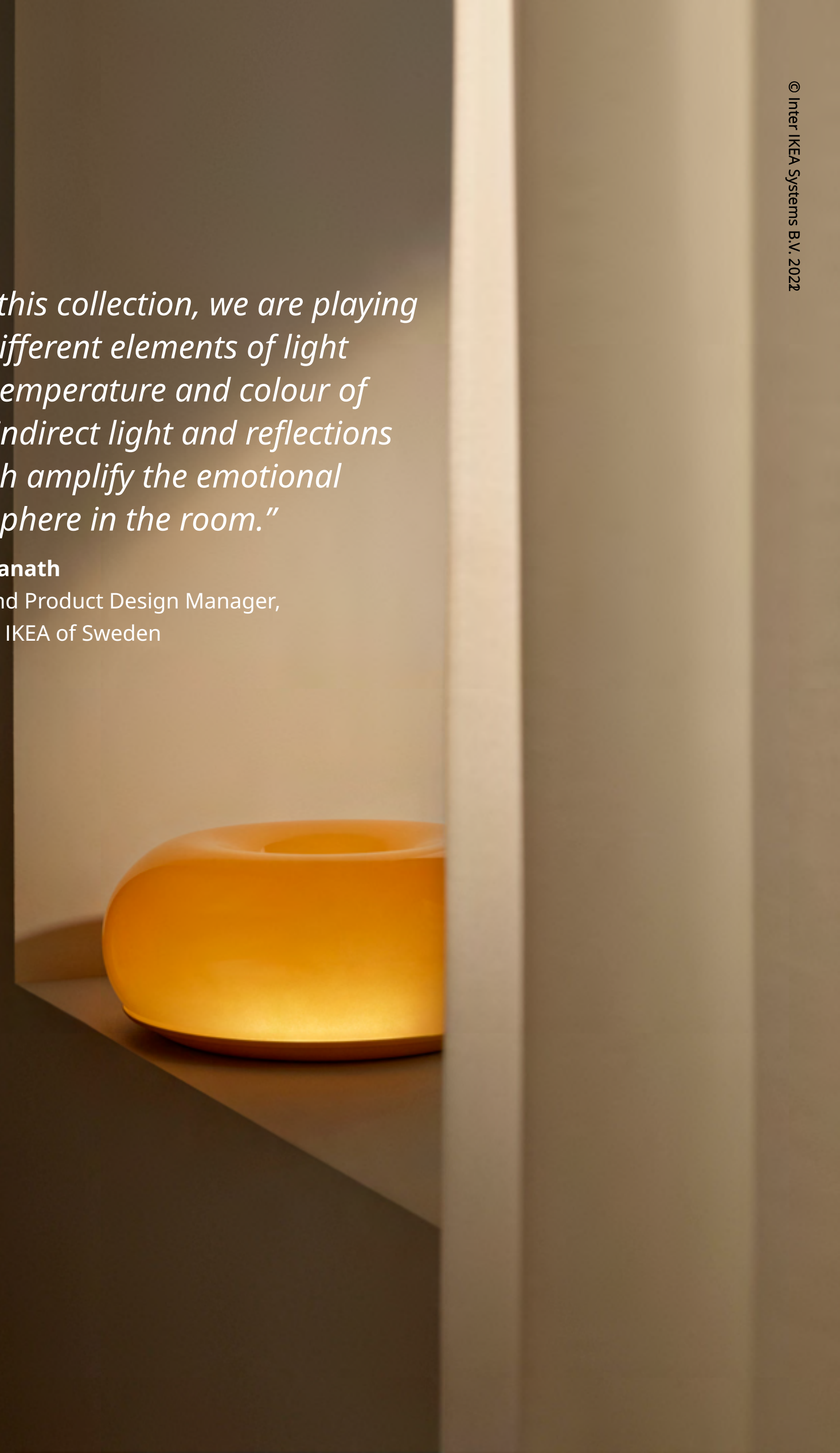
The VARMBLIXT collection is the first point of departure in exploring the transformative possibilities around light in the home. The aim is to make way for better and more emotional lighting in the future.

PH186660.jpg

"With this collection, we are playing with different elements of light – the temperature and colour of light, indirect light and reflections – which amplify the emotional atmosphere in the room."

Anna Granath

Range and Product Design Manager,
Lighting, IKEA of Sweden





*“The beauty of each form,
together with the colour
palette, brings this collection
to a different level where
industrial design becomes
almost a piece of art.”*

Chiara Ripalti
Product Design Developer,
Lighting, IKEA of Sweden

Meet the designer

Sabine Marcelis is a designer based in Rotterdam, The Netherlands and raised in New Zealand. This collection marks her second time collaborating with IKEA following her participation in IKEA Art Event 2021.

A graduate of the Design Academy Eindhoven, Sabine works across product, installation and spatial design. Her stripped-back designs foreground simple shapes, and the materials and processes from which they are made. Inspired by ephemeral effects in nature, many of her pieces create sensorial experiences by playing with the interaction of natural light with materials such as glass.

Sabine's celebrated designs include the installation *No Fear of Glass* at the Mies van der Rohe Barcelona Pavilion, a fountain installation at Design Miami 2018 and her iconic *Candy Cubes* and doughnuts. In 2020, she was awarded *Wallpaper** Designer of the Year and was named one of *Architectural Digest's* top 100 creatives in 2021 and 2022.



"This collection is about creating products that inject a sense of warmth and positivity into the home."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer

The full spectrum

The collection – including five sculptural lighting products that will be long-term additions to the range – is designed to enhance the atmosphere of your home through inspiring design and emotive lighting.

Alongside the design principles of IKEA, each of the products exhibit Sabine Marcelis' unique design language, one that's characterised by minimal shapes and forms, and an intuitive understanding of light and colour.

As both statement pieces and sources of a warm, cosy light, the collection's lighting products show how light can add an emotional layer to life at home. Elsewhere, the home accessories explore the beauty of light in varied and poetic ways – how natural light interacts with glass or the wonderful hues of a sunset reinterpreted in wool.

PH186656.jpg



A grand statement

This LED pendant lamp with curved pipes made from frosted white glass is the collection's signature piece. A stunning sculptural object when turned off, it transforms into a magical display of light engineering when switched on. The pipes can be adjusted as you please.



"There is a recurring theme in my work about bending light. I wanted to bring that to this collection in a stripped back way. With the pendant lamp, there is no front or back, so from every angle it has to look interesting."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer



"The doughnut appears in my work because it's a perfect, finite shape – it has no beginning and no end. It's complete. There is perfect balance for me in this shape."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer

Delightful doughnuts

The 'doughnut' is one of Sabine Marcelis' signature shapes and features in two different forms in the VARMBLIXT collection. As a striking glass bowl – available in amber and mint green – it can hold fruits and snacks; open or closed. The translucent curved shape is enhanced as it catches the light.

Elsewhere, the vibrant doughnut-shaped lamp can be mounted on your wall or placed on a table or shelf, depending on your mood.



“I love that light can activate things and bring a dynamic quality to static objects.”

Sabine Marcelis

Designer

The joy of warm colours

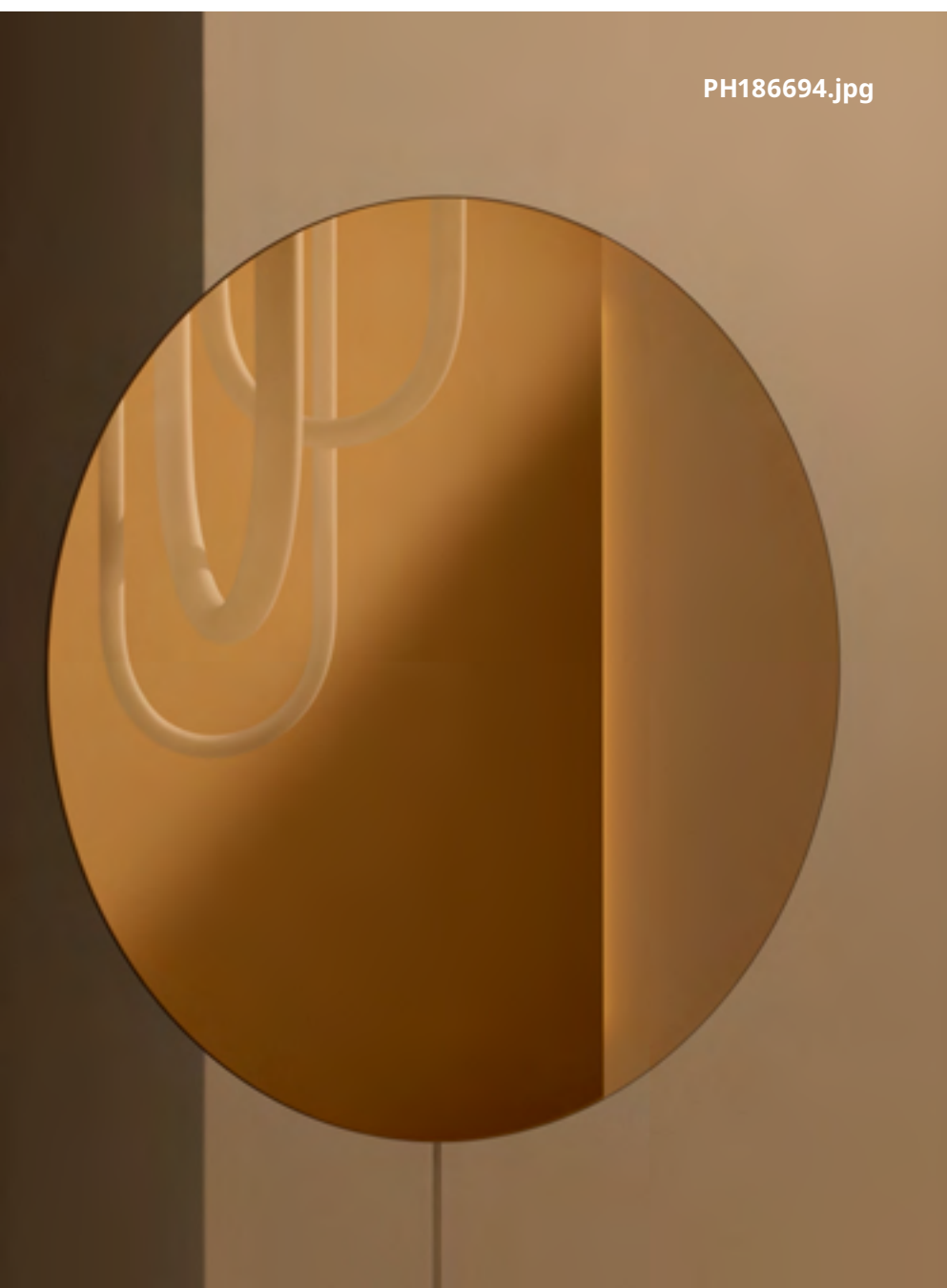
This hand-tufted 100% wool rug highlights the attentive use of colour in the VARMBLIXT collection. Its smooth gradient softly fades from deep orange to amber yellow like a sunset. The overlapping style adds extra design interest, creating an illusion of depth and colour. The gradient colourway appears on napkins in the collection, too.

"The palette was very much inspired by a warm evening light because this light evokes a positive vibe."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer

A sculpture that shines

The VARMBLIXT circular wall lamp captures the surprising duality of the collection's lighting products. When they are turned on, they emit a warm light that changes the look and feel of your room; when turned off, they are beautiful sculptural objects that will make a statement wherever they're placed. The sculptural quality of this lamp is emphasised by how the lamp bends out from the wall – a recurring motif in Sabine's work.



PH186694.jpg

So much more than a wall mirror, this product is transformed into a distinctive talking piece with the addition of a semi-transparent glass panel and light strip that emits a mellow glow.



PH186655.jpg



“I think you shouldn’t bring anything into your house that does not make you happy or trigger some sort of emotional response.”

Sabine Marcelis
Designer



As the light hits...

The collection includes this elegant glass cocktail set, consisting of a carafe, champagne coupe, tumbler, tray with metal panels and drinks stirrers. When they catch the light, the glass objects create dreamy reflections and shadows. Sabine calls these light effects 'moments of wonder'.



"Glass needs light to become more than what it is already."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer



Stripped to the essentials

As a designer, Sabine Marcelis strips back her designs to get to the core of her idea. Take this wall lamp, for example. Its slender, tube-like form exemplifies how a simple shape can be reworked for big impact. It's a sleek example of flexible design – it can be mounted horizontally or vertically, and can be grouped with more lamps to create an eye-catching light installation in your home.

Like so much of the VARMBLIXT collection, there is something simple yet different about this vase. Inside, the white sphere is designed to keep long flower stems in place.

“There is room for all of these objects to surprise beyond what their first function is.”

Sabine Marcelis
Designer



In conversation with Sabine Marcelis

Why did you want to make a collection with IKEA that puts light at the forefront?

I've always worked from a very experimental point of view, and design things that stem from a fascination with how light interacts with different materials, inspired by ephemeral moments found in nature. When I was asked by IKEA to work on this collection, I thought that this was an amazing opportunity to try and keep the same feeling of what I ordinarily create, but in an accessible manner for the many people.

And what is it about light specifically?

For me, it's a fascination – it's something that always catches my eye. I love that it's ever-changing. I love that light can activate things and bring a dynamic quality to static objects.

"My work is always about showcasing something interesting, and colour and light play a big role in aiding these beautiful effects."

Sabine Marcelis
Designer



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How's it been collaborating with IKEA?

It's been so nice to collaborate with IKEA! What's very important to me, is that there is creative freedom – the designs that are now presented to the world are exactly what the first ideas were.

How did you arrive at this specific way of working with specific materials, light and colour?

I've always wanted to showcase certain effects. I graduated, for example, with a home wine making system because I wanted to show the process of the liquid becoming wine – it's very beautiful to watch. Colour and light play a big role in aiding these beautiful effects. It's about highlighting what a material – or combinations of materials – can be, so that it grabs your attention; you want to take a closer look.

What is your favourite piece in the collection, if you had to pick one?

The one I am most proud of is the circle lamp that is pulled out from the wall a little bit. It's very simple, minimal but it's quite complex in how it's engineered to hang so simply. I think it can live a really long life and find a home in many different places; it can be used in multiples. Also, the glassware – I can't wait to have those in the studio. They have a little touch of something different about them.



What will this collection add to someone's home?

It can activate the space. And it's an invitation to be creative in a way as well. I'm curious to see how and where these different objects will be placed. I have my ideas about it, of course, but I want it to spark some inspiration as well. That should be a reason to buy them – that you see the collection as an opportunity to inject some warmth into your home.

Products overview



<Multiple grouped links>

VARMBLIXT LED pendant lamp

Glass and powder coated steel. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø46, H72/160cm. White frosted glass
005.311.41



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VARMBLIXT LED wall lamp

Plastic and powder coated aluminium. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø50cm. White metal/ circle
005.314.76



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VARMBLIXT LED table/wall lamp

Glass and plastic. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø30cm. Orange glass/round
905.251.50



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VARMBLIXT rug, low pile

100% wool. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. W180×L195cm. Handmade/orange
805.300.10



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VARMBLIXT LED wall/mirror lamp

Glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø55cm. Dimmable/ bronze-colour round
005.315.32



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VARMBLIXT LED wall lamp

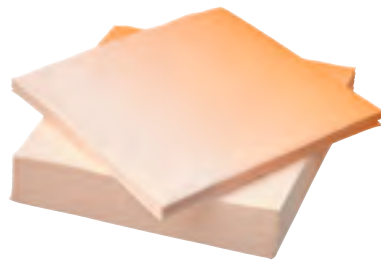
Powder coated aluminium. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. H115cm. Dark red metal/linear
405.314.98



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VARMBLIXT rug, low pile

100% wool. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. W100×L180cm. Handmade/yellow
505.376.97



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VARMBLIXT paper napkin /30 pack.

Paper. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. L24×W24cm. Orange
805.324.91



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VARMBLIXT glass shelf

Tempered glass and powder coated aluminium. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. W90×D27cm. Frosted glass/white
505.300.02



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VARMBLIXT serving bowl with lid

Painted glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø30cm. Glass/orange
405.299.90



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VARMBLIXT serving bowl with lid

Painted glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø18cm. Glass/green
805.299.93



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VARMBLIXT tray

Tempered glass and powder coated aluminium. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. W34×D48cm. Frosted glass/dark red
805.300.05



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VARMBLIXT carafe with stirrer

Heat resistant glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. 1l. Clear glass
905.299.83



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VARMBLIXT champagne coupe

Heat resistant glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. H17cm. 15cl. Clear glass/white
705.299.60



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VARMBLIXT glass

Heat resistant glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. H15cm. 35cl. Clear glass
305.299.57



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VARMBLIXT drink stirrer /6 pack.

Heat resistant glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. L18cm. White glass
405.299.52



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VARMBLIXT vase

Heat resistant glass. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø10cm, H25cm. Clear glass/white
005.299.87



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VARMBLIXT bottle opener

Galvanized steel. Designer: Sabine Marcelis. Ø6cm. Silver-colour
705.324.96

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