

Finishing touches:

Local sofa crowned king of the castle

Think of leather lounges and images of overstuffed armchairs in gentlemen's clubs, or extraordinarily expensive imported items by Italian manufacturers, come to mind.

Now an Australian company has entered the fray, with Sydney-based furniture maker King Furniture producing a sofa that will more than hold its own in the world of leather.

King's Strata recently won the prestigious Furnishing Industry Association of Australia award for the best leather sofa in Australia.

The Strata was designed and manufactured in Sydney and is a world away from the staid, over-stuffed lounges many of

us grew up with in the suburbs.

While a traditional lounge really only enables a family to sit bolt upright in front of the television, the Strata was created with today's more relaxed and flexible lifestyles in mind.

Featuring a large rectangular base, around which there is a low-slung back and sides, the Strata is really a platform for living on.

"We designed the Strata to sit on, work on, eat on and lie about on," King Furniture founder David King said.

"People expect a lot more from their sofas nowadays and the Strata delivers."

The secret to the Strata's success is the way in which, at the flick of a lever, the back and sides can be slid forward or back, depending on the desired

position. It also comes with bolstered, self-supporting cushions which can be adjusted to give you either a more vertical sitting position, or a relaxed profile for lounging around.

And it looks good too, a fact that didn't escape the attention of the panel of judges at the FIAA awards.

The Strata's low profile gives it an ultra-contemporary edge, plus it has the added bonus of making a room appear larger.

The leather used on the Strata is the finest in the world. King sources it from Germany, where it is also used for interiors on top-of-the-range BMWs and Rolls Royces.

Although the Strata won the award in the leather furniture category, it can also be ordered in a large range of fabrics.

And, like all King Furniture sofas, the Strata has a solid galvanised metal frame that comes with a 15-year guarantee.

The Strata is available from King Furniture in Annandale and Chatswood, from \$4500 for the three-seater in leather.

Visit the company's website, www.kingfurniture.com.au.



Relax: The Strata sofa can be adjusted to support all your postures