

Karim Rashid

Karim Rashid is an internationally renowned industrial designer and keynote speaker known for his bold, futuristic approach to design. With over 4,000 designs in production, more than 400 international awards and projects in over 47 countries, he inspires audiences to explore creativity, innovation and the importance of design in everyday life.

KEY TOPICS

- Urbanisation
- Lessons from Design-lead Planning
- Blurring Boundaries
- Innovation & Reinvention

BIOGRAPHY

Karim Rashid is a leading figure in contemporary industrial design, with a career spanning product design, furniture, interior architecture, fashion and brand identity. His distinctive style combines organic forms, vibrant colours and digital influences to create products and experiences that challenge conventional thinking.

Born in Cairo and raised in Canada, Karim studied industrial design at Carleton University in Ottawa before pursuing further studies in Naples and Milan. In 1993, he established his own design studio in New York City, building an international practice recognised for its distinctive approach to creativity and innovation. His design philosophy centres on making good design accessible to everyone, with an emphasis on how everyday objects and environments influence the way people live.

Product Design, Furniture and Global Brand Collaborations

Karim's portfolio includes collaborations with international brands across luxury, technology and consumer products. He has created designs for Alessi, Christofle, Veuve Clicquot, Swarovski and Umbra, alongside furniture collections for Bonaldo, BoConcept, Tonelli and Natuzzi. His work also includes lighting for Artemide and Fontana Arte, packaging for Method and Kenzo, and brand identity projects for Citibank and Hugo Boss. From household objects to luxury products, Karim approaches each project with a focus on functionality, visual identity and user experience. His commitment to democratic design reflects his belief that well-designed products should be part of everyday life rather than reserved for a select audience.

Interior Design, Architecture and Contemporary Spaces

Beyond industrial design, Karim has worked on interior and architectural projects around the world. His portfolio includes hotels, restaurants, residential developments and public spaces that reflect his contemporary approach to form, colour and the human experience. Notable projects include the Università Metro Station in Naples, Temptation Resort in Cancún and hospitality interiors for Radisson. His work also extends to residential developments in Miami and commercial spaces that combine functionality with a distinctive visual identity. Through these projects, Karim explores how physical environments influence human behaviour and how

thoughtful design can transform the experience of a space.

Art, Innovation and International Recognition

Karim's influence extends into contemporary art, with his work represented in 20 permanent collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York, the Centre Pompidou in Paris and the Brooklyn Museum. He was inducted into the Interior Design Hall of Fame in 2010 and received the American Prize for Design in 2020. His numerous international honours also include Red Dot Awards, Good Design Awards and the IDSA Industrial Design Excellence Award. His work has been exhibited internationally, with major retrospectives in São Paulo, Seoul, Milan and Ottawa. He has also published several books exploring design, creativity and personal identity, including *Design Your Self*, *Digipop*, *Sketch* and *XX*.

Karim Rashid's Design Philosophy and Creative Inspiration

Karim believes design plays an essential role in shaping contemporary culture. His approach challenges traditional boundaries between industrial design, art, technology and fashion, encouraging designers to embrace new ideas and respond to the changing needs of society. He explores how digital technology and social behaviour influence the future of design, encouraging creative professionals and business leaders to question established practices and develop products that connect with people. As a keynote speaker, Karim shares insights from his international career, discussing the importance of design in everyday life, the relationship between creativity and business, and how organisations can use design thinking to encourage innovation. He regularly speaks at international design conferences, exhibitions and universities, offering audiences fresh perspectives on creativity and the possibilities of contemporary design.

Book Karim Rashid as Your Next Keynote Speaker

Looking for a **keynote speaker** who can inspire your audience to think differently about design, creativity and innovation? Karim Rashid brings decades of international experience and a distinctive perspective on how design shapes products, brands and everyday experiences. Whether you're organising a design conference, innovation summit, corporate event or creative industry gathering, Karim offers engaging insights into industrial design, emerging trends and the future of creative thinking. **Book Karim Rashid for your next conference, corporate event or innovation summit.** Contact Speaker Ideas today to discuss his availability, speaking topics and how his expertise can bring fresh inspiration to your audience.