

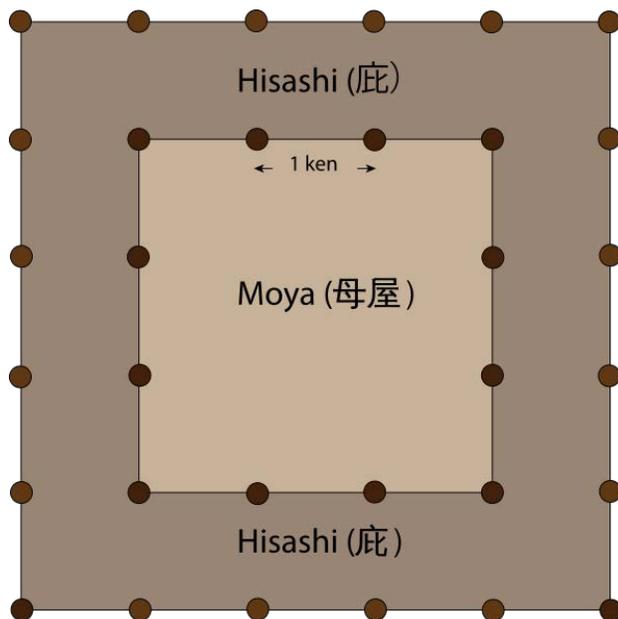
ARCHITECTURAL EXAMPLES

Historical

During the Kamakura period (1185 - 1333) in Japan. Japanese temple buildings used ken proportions in planning for their main halls.

The first image displays the general BUTSUDEN floor plan which is composed of a 3 by 3 central core; this is known as the MOYA. Around the MOYA is the HISASHI, which is a one ken wide area that wraps around the core.

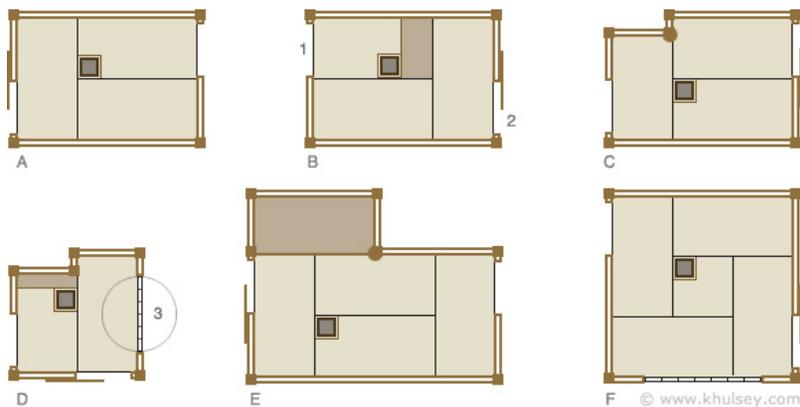
The image on the right outlines the general look of this floor plan which labels yellow as the MOYA, white as the HISASHI, and red as the MOKOSHI which is decorative sub-roof surrounding the building below the actual roof.



More examples of ken proportions can be illustrated in the design of Japanese tea houses (CHASHITSU). Ideal small tea houses were composed of 4.5 tatami (YOJOUHAN); the floor plan which can be seen in the image labeled F.

Although tea houses could drastically be 10 mat rooms as well. The use of tatami is synonymous with ken proportions, since the tatami mats are measured 1 by 2 in kens.

Style known as Shinden-zukuri also used ken proportions for floor plan guidelines. The bottom two images display general mansion layouts for the Heian period (794 – 1185).



Contemporary

Tatami matting is still used in many small homes such as apartments in Japan.

Although numerous homes in Japan have adopted western styles, most don't have tatami mat flooring. Most contemporary Japanese homes are still building with the ken measurements in mind for general spacing purposes.

If looking at bare proportions you can see the example images of modern Japanese buildings provided below. Although lacking in the traditional elements usually present from the historical examples. These buildings retain a visual look similar to the traditional structures. These modern buildings follow equally proportioned bay sections similar to BUSTEDEN.



Ichikudo Building – Tokyo



Himeji City Piping Worker's Center – Himeji City

RESOURCES

Library Publications

- **architecture : form, space, and order third edition pg. 322**
- **Japan Style : architecture + interiors + design**

Online Resources

These are things online for me to remember.

- <http://www.slideshare.net/muyora/unit-2-7765215> link displays slideshow that covers basic principles of design.
- <http://www.aisf.or.jp/~jaanus/> Japanese Architecture and Art Net Users System.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ken_\(architecture\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ken_(architecture)) Article covers basic idea of Ken measurement.
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shaku_\(unit\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shaku_(unit)) Article covers basic idea of Shaku measurement.
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tatami> Tatami mats.
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_architecture

Briefly goes through different periods of Japanese architecture design.

- http://photoinf.com/General/Robert_Berdan/Composition_and_the_Elements_of_Visual_Design.htm

Overview of compositions and elements for visual design. Lines shape, form, colors etc.