

SIDE GALLERY

KATSUO MATSUMURA



Set of 4 “T-5110” Easy Chairs

Manufactured by Tendo Mokko
Japan, 1970s
Oak, Bentwood, Molded Plywood

Measurements (each chair)

53 × 70 × 64h cm (Seat 32h cm)
20,9 × 27,6 × 25,2h in (Seat 12,6h in)

Provenance

Private collection, Japan

Details

Each T-5110 easy chair features a gently reclined frame with six elegantly curved bentwood back slats and a molded plywood seat. The clear or natural lacquer finish enhances the oak's natural warmth, while the proportions balance comfort, visual lightness, and traditional Japanese seating considerations.

Notes

Designed by Katsuo Matsumura and produced by Tendo Mokko in the 1970s, the T-5110 chair exemplifies postwar Japanese modernism. It fuses minimalist functionalism with Japanese sensibilities, emphasizing human scale, craftsmanship, and material integrity. With its bentwood back and molded plywood seat, the design negotiates tradition and modernity, accommodating both tatami-based living and contemporary interiors. This set of four, now discontinued, remains a rare and highly collectible example of Japan's modernist design legacy.

Biography

Katsuo Matsumura (1913–2002) was a Japanese designer and craftsman celebrated for his refined sense of proportion and his ability to merge traditional woodworking techniques with modernist ideals. Active during the postwar decades, Matsumura contributed to the development of a distinctly Japanese design language that valued simplicity, structure, and the natural beauty of materials.

Collaborating with manufacturers such as Tendo Mokko, he explored new possibilities in bentwood construction and functional design, producing furniture that was both architectural and deeply human in scale. His work reflects a quiet elegance —a dialogue between material, process, and daily life— that continues to influence contemporary designers in Japan and beyond.