

# SIDE GALLERY

KATSUHEI TOYOGUCHI



## Armchair Model "Toyo-San's"

Manufactured by Tendo Mokko  
Japan, 1980s  
Wood, upholstered seat and backrest

### Measurements

60 × 62 × 73h cm  
23,6 × 24,4 × 28,7h in

Seat height: 37 cm  
Seat height: 14,6 in

### Provenance

Private collection, Japan

### Literature

Japanese Design from 1945. Published by Thames & Hudson. By Naomi Pollock. London, 2020.  
Japanese Wooden Chairs. Published by Shotenkenchiku-Sha. Japan. Pages 64, 65.

Eight decades of masterful designs from leading Japanese furniture maker Tendo Mokko. Published by Tendo Mokko. Japan, 2020.

## Biography

**Katsuhei Toyoguchi** was born in Kemanai of Kazuno city, Akita, Japan. After graduating from the Department of Machinery at Akita Prefectural Industrial School, he became an assistant at the Secondary Industrial School in Yokohama. He was one of the most promising future engineers, but he suffered through the Great Kanto Earthquake. Luckily, he was not killed by it, so returned back to Akita. While working as a substitute teacher, he took the entrance examinations and was admitted to the Tokyo Advanced Crafts School, Department of Craft Design. At this school, he studied under Kurata Munechika who was strongly drawn to German furniture and architecture. Kurata had just returned from studying at Bauhaus. Toyoguchi became a member of the Keiji kobo which was led by Kurata. Instead of the original idea of metaphysics, they put more emphasis on design and shape. After working with the Keiji Kobo, he started to work at the Crafts Institute (later called Industrial Arts Institute) with a recommendation from Kunii Kitaro. He then became an independent designer as well as a professor at Musashino Art University, Department of Industrial Design.