

SIDE GALLERY

ISAMU KENMOCHI



Sofa

Manufactured by Akita Mokko
Japan, 1970s
Bentwood, upholstered fabric

Measurements

120 × 54 × 68,5h cm
47,2 × 21,3 × 27h in

Details

Manufacturer's Label

Literature

Kenmochi Isamu: Japanese Modern.
Retrospective, 2004

About

The Sofa, designed by **Isamu Kenmochi** during the 1960s, reflects the evolution of Japanese modern furniture through the integration of traditional craftsmanship and international modernist principles. Its restrained proportions and gently curved beechwood structure balance functionality, material sensitivity and sculptural expression.

The sofa's defining feature is the fluid relationship between its armrests and supporting structure, where continuous bentwood curves create a harmonious visual rhythm. Its warm natural finish emphasizes the expressive qualities of wood, while its carefully articulated construction conveys lightness and structural clarity.

Produced in Japan during the postwar period, the sofa forms part of a coordinated living room ensemble that includes an armchair and coffee table. Together, these pieces demonstrate Kenmochi's approach to domestic furniture, combining ergonomic considerations, organic forms and traditional woodworking techniques within a coherent modern design language.

Biography

Designed by **Isamu Kenmochi**, this rare circular desk reflects his exploration of furniture as an integral part of modern architectural and working environments. Its ring-shaped wooden top surrounds an open central core, supported by a cylindrical inner structure and slender chromed-metal legs. The contrast between warm wood and polished metal balances material refinement with functional clarity, while the unusual circular configuration gives the desk a distinctive architectural character. The design reflects Kenmochi's postwar approach to modern furniture, combining rational construction, contemporary materials and a sensitivity to proportion and spatial experience.