



SHOJI
LIGHT + SPACE


SHOJI DEFINED

Though often thought of in the West as free-standing folding screens, Japanese shoji more commonly consist of wood and translucent paper panels traditionally used as sliding doors, room dividers and window coverings. Simple in construction, elegant in execution, they provide privacy and adjustable access while optimizing light diffusion. Fusuma screens are a sturdier alternative covered in layers of paper, the last layer being opaque and usually handmade, in a variety of patterns, textures and colors.

OLD AND NEW, EAST AND WEST

Shoji and fusuma screens evolved during the Heian Period in Japan, 794-1185, when they were used to create flexible living environments for the court nobility by dividing large rooms into smaller ones.

Today Berkeley Mills designs shoji to cover electronic equipment, replace traditional sliding closet doors, and provide an alternative to curtains and blinds.

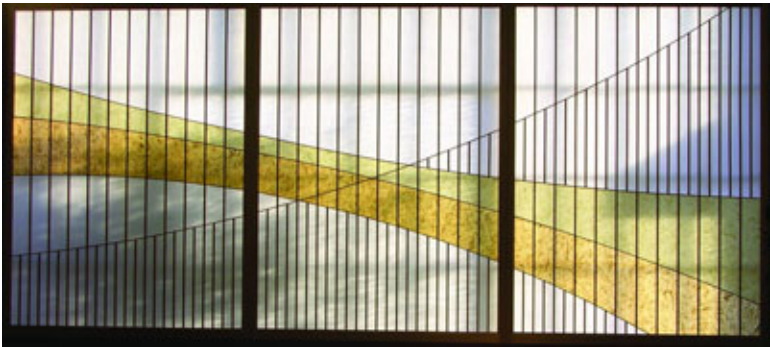


Timeless and simple, the ancient tradition of shoji screens is comfortably at home in this contemporary setting. These shoji and fusuma panels line a limestone hallway that opens into a home office. The owners of this home chose different patterns and colors for each side of the fusuma panels, allowing them to be reversed for a different look.

DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF JAPANESE SHOJI SCREENS



Working with Japanese craftsmen in Ishikawa, whose artists made shoji for the shogun, Berkeley Mills is pleased to offer custom measured, made and installed shoji and fusuma screens. Winner of Japan's national award for Best Shoji Makers, our craftsmen create screens of elegant simplicity or stunning complexity from Berkeley Mills designs.



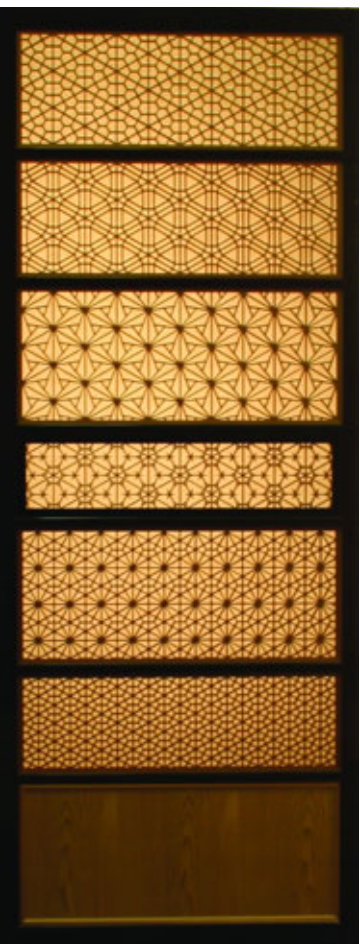
Shoji can be designed using an infinite combination of papers and patterns. These three-paneled shoji cover what were nondescript windows. Changing light throughout the day transforms the shoji's color and translucency.

Though simple in concept, grid patterns and paper combinations are infinite: translucent or opaque, plain or patterned, smooth or textured. Even fabric, such as natural linen, can be used to beautiful effect.



Byobu is the Japanese word for stand-alone screens. They are usually opaque and can be made of two, four, or six panels. Traditionally adorned with showy paintings that reflected a samurai's status, *byobu* today are more commonly used to provide privacy or as a backdrop for artwork.

BEAUTY AND UTILITY SHOJI SCREENS—800 YEARS NEW



Above: Kumiko shoji describe a craft that is only practiced by master craftsmen. Delicate pieces of wood are interlocked to form intricate patterns evocative of snowflakes. They are held in place only by the tension of the wood—no glue or other fastening methods are used.

Right: Shoji are a practical and beautiful alternative to common closet doors. Back-lit, they emit a glow like a warm lantern. Wooden panels on the lower portion of the shoji add sturdiness and assure that the shoji paper is protected in high-usage areas.

Screens are custom-measured and made to order, using traditional materials such as Alaskan spruce or red cedar, even kiso hinoki, a fragrant cedar often used in temples and tea houses. Because the screens are traditionally made of soft wood, they are lightweight and require no wheels or metal tracks. Super-surfacing techniques plane the frame to a glass-like smoothness that allows it to glide easily along wood tracks.





Yukimi shoji offer the best of both worlds—privacy and a view.

Yukimi shoji are made with movable sections within the shoji frame itself. They were originally designed to provide an outside view, usually to a garden.



Berkeley Mills recommends *yukimi shoji* as a simple and attractive way to hide electronic equipment.



THE ART OF SHOJI AT BERKELEY MILLS

Berkeley Mills can help you design shoji
uniquely suited for your home or office,
wherever it is in the world.

Let us show you how an 800-year-old craft
can add beauty and functionality
to your surroundings.

A close-up of kumiko shoji.
Delicate pieces of interlocking
wood are held in place only by
the tension of the wood. Kumiko
can be made to form a myriad
of patterns.





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