

TOTAMI HOUSE

This house is a redesigned Japanese countryside home that mixes tradition and modern adaptability with its innovative use of moveable tatami units. Designed to meet the changing requirements of its people, the house encourages creativity and connection while blending in with its natural surroundings. The inside is designed for flexibility, with lightweight, modular tatami mats that can be simply picked up, rotated, stacked, or rearranged to fit various needs during the day. In the morning, the family sets up a quiet breakfast nook near the windows that let warm sunlight in. This bright and cheerful arrangement sets the tone for the day, offering both comfort and functionality. As the day continues, the tatami units shift to accommodate various activities. By lunchtime, the living room has become an open space for the kids to play or for the family to unwind and spend time together. The design promotes interaction, making the room both lively and functional.

In the evening, the tatami mats alter the house once more, forming private dining areas where the family gathers for meals with the warm glow of lanterns. Following dinnertime, the house transforms into a peaceful shelter with tatami mats transformed into pleasant resting areas for relaxation and sleep. Beyond everyday routines, the house adjusts to seasonal and long-term changes. In the winter, the tatami units are positioned to create warm, enclosed rooms that promote a sense of comfort, whereas in the summer, the layout allows for more airflow and a stronger connection to the outdoors. This ongoing evolution ensures that the house adapts to both the environment and the family's lifestyle. This home blends traditional Japanese elements with modern adaptability, serves as a living space as dynamic and creative as the family that lives in it.