

More on *Kotatsu Tables*

from EAST -WEST TEAHOUSE – 805.646.7355 – www.EastWestTeaHouse.net

Adding a *Kotatsu Table* is one of the easiest and most effective ways to make your East-West TeaHouse even more useful, versatile and responsive.



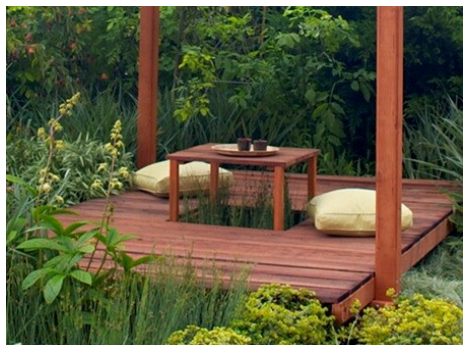
2 x 2 *Kotatus* ...



3 x 2 *Kotatus* ...



4 x 2 *Kotatus* ...



Appearance, Design & Ease of Use

Kotatsu Tables are made with the actual floor boards of the TeaHouse.

In its "down" position, a *Kotatsu* forms an integrated part of the larger deck. In its "up" position, the *Kotatsu* panel rests on four pop-up legs to create an intimate table surface. The transition between the two takes only a few seconds and doesn't require any tools – that way, the level deck and the versatile *Kotatsu Table* are both always there when you need them.



A *Kotatsu Table* in its "down" position, as an integrated part of the larger deck ...



The same *Kotatsu Table* in its "up" position, as an intimate table surface.

How to Use a *Kotatsu Table*

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The most common way to enjoy a *Kotatsu Table* is to sit on the surface of the main deck with your feet in the "well" created by the raised panel.



Top view of a 3 x 2 *Kotatsu*



End view of a 4 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...



Oblique view of a 2 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...

The main deck of a **TeaHouse** rests 16" to 18" above the ground, and the *Kotatsu Table* rises up another 12". Together, these combine to provide a natural sitting height and comfortable table surface.

Many people choose to add cushions or mats to their **TeaHouse** to make the experience of sitting at *Kotatsu Table* even more inviting.

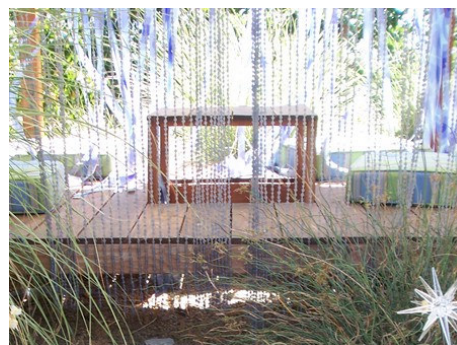


Other Ways to Enjoy a *Kotatsu Table*

In addition to creating an intimate a place to take a meal or providing a convenient work surface, *Kotatsu Tables* can also enhance your **TeaHouse** in other ways – as a coffee table, an altar, even as a pure design element.



Kotatsu Table as a coffee table ...



As a design element ...



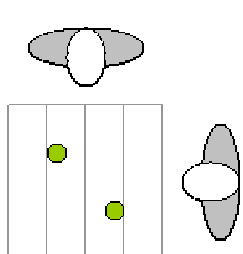
As an altar.

On Choosing the Best Size for Your *Kotatsu Table*

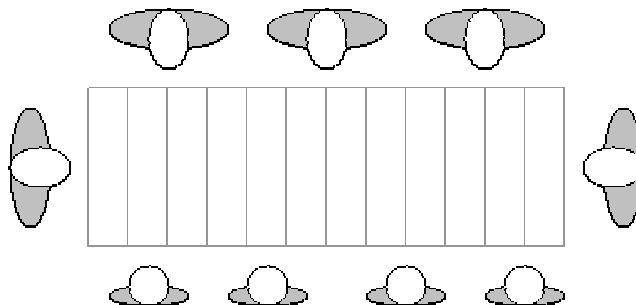
from **EAST -WEST TEAHOUSE** – 805.646.7355 – www.EastWestTeaHouse.net

In deciding on the best size for your *Kotatsu Table*, it can be helpful to consider how you might be using the table in its "up" position.

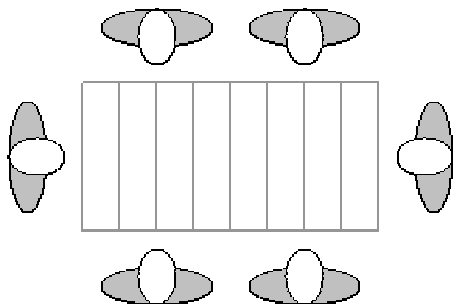
If you anticipate just one or two people taking tea or a sharing a light meal, then a smaller 2' x 2' *Kotatsu* can be a good choice. For several people, a small family, or just to give yourself some extra space, a mid-sized 3' x 2' or 4' x 2' *Kotatsu* will offer more room and flexibility. And for larger families and big gatherings sitting together, a more generous 5' or 6' long *Kotatsu* may be the best option.



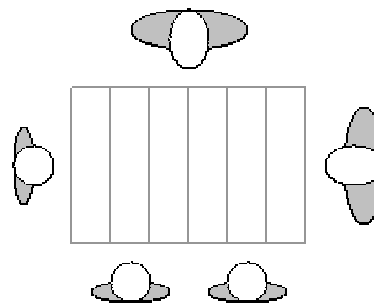
A couple sharing tea at a 2 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...



A larger family gathering at a 6 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...



Six adults sitting at a 4 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...



A smaller family sharing a 3 x 2 *Kotatsu* ...



This large, 6 foot long *Kotatsu Table* at the five-star **Ojai Valley Inn & Spa** creates an elegant dining pavilion in their herb garden, offering generous "picnic table" seating for a number of guests.

Thinking About Space with a *Kotatsu Table*

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When using your *Kotatsu Table* in its "up" position, it's good to keep in mind that the surrounding deck is still available, giving you plenty of room to spread out.

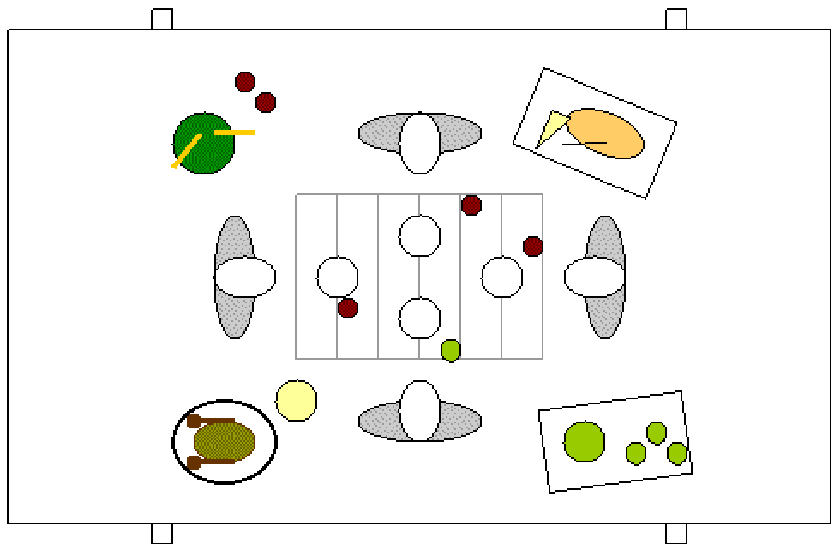
For example, unlike a traditional free-standing table with chairs, in a **TeaHouse** with a *Kotatsu Table*, the many serving dishes for a larger meal can easily stay nearby on the main deck – close at hand, but off to the side – freeing the diners to share and enjoy the intimacy of the food, the company, and the conversation.

This kind of synergy, elegance and design is intentional, a way of "doing more with less." Since the raised *Kotatsu Table* works in harmony with the more generous area of the surrounding deck, you may find that a smaller *Kotatsu* panel will fit your needs even better than a larger one can – with the *Kotatsu* and deck combining to "do the work" of a much larger traditional free-standing table.

Four adults share a meal at a 3' x 2' *Kotatsu Table* ...

Individual plates and glasses rest on the intimate table surface, while the serving trays and larger dishes rest nearby, within easy reach, on the main deck.

Outline: **Original TeaHouse** with a 6' x 10' deck.



Another way to blend the utility and convenience of the main deck and *Kotatsu* is to offset the location of the *Kotatsu Table* rather than placing it in the center of the **TeaHouse** structure.



Placing the *Kotatsu* in an offset position creates a different approach to blending its raised table top with the main deck.

In this example, an offset 2 x 2 *Kotatsu Table* in an **Original TeaHouse** still leaves plenty of room for a yoga pad, without the need to raise and lower the panel.

Dimensions of a *Kotatsu* Table

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Calculating Length and Width

Kotatsu Tables are typically two feet (24") wide. That way, when they are in their "down" position, they can be fully supported by the floor joists of the **TeaHouse** as they blend in with the main deck.

The length of a *Kotatsu Table* is always approximate – as determined by the number and width of the floor boards used to create it. In order to center the *Kotatsu* on the structure, a panel is most often made with an even number of floor boards.



This 3 x 2 *Kotatsu* panel is made from six floor boards, and measures ~ 33" x 24"

<u>Relative Size</u>	<u>Actual Dimensions</u>
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2 x 2	~ 22" x 24"
3 x 2	~ 33" x 24"
4 x 2	~ 44" x 24"
5 x 2	~ 55" x 24"
6 x 2	~ 66" x 24"

Lifting the *Kotatsu* Panel

All *Kotatsu Tables* feature convenient "pull holes," so it's easy to catch a hold of the panel and lift it up from its "down" position.

Most people can readily manage a smaller *Kotatsu* by themselves, but sometimes it's easier to have another person's help when lifting and lowering a larger sized panel. If you're by yourself, or if you anticipate a frequent shift between the level deck and the raised *Kotatsu Table*, you might consider these factors when choosing a size that will work best for your situation.

<u>Size of <i>Kotatsu</i></u>	<u>Approximate Weight of Panel – in pounds</u>	
	<i>- made with 1x6 floor boards - (Original & Micro TeaHouses)</i>	<i>- made with 2x6 floor boards - (Wide TeaHouses & Tea Rooms)</i>

2 x 2	7	18
3 x 2	10	27
4 x 2	14	36
5 x 2	17	45
6 x 2	20	54

