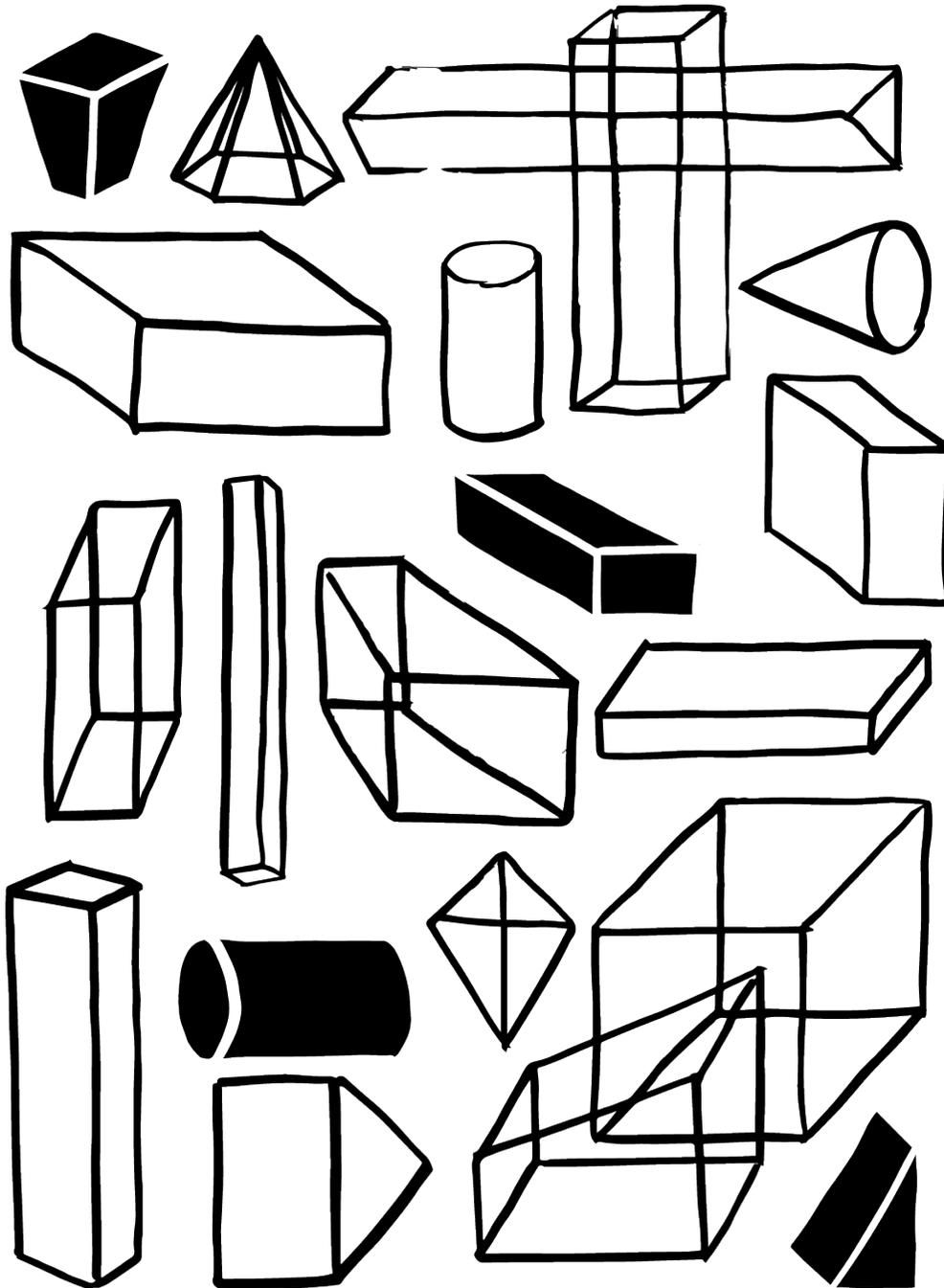




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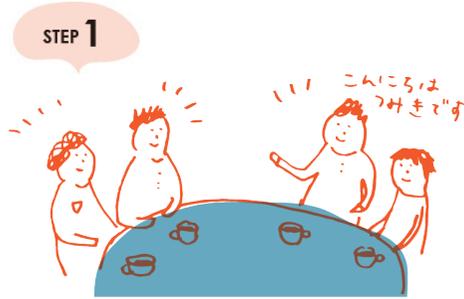
Tsumiki Design & Construction
Ichikawa, Japan



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Tsumiki Architects offers clients the opportunity for meaningful participation in the design and renovation of their home or business. Our mission is to share the joy and learning experiences involved in “tomoni tsukuru” (making together) with all the stakeholders of a project. We specialize in creating a workflow that balances timely project completion, diverse skill-building for participants, high-quality craftwork, and fresh contemporary aesthetics.



first meeting

Interested in DIY renovation? We invite you to come and talk with us, free of charge, regarding renovation possibilities for your home or business. We'll get to know each other, introduce you to our previous projects, and learn about your lifestyle and business practices.



design proposal

After our initial conversation, we'll develop a proposal for you. In our second meeting, we'll look at these initial drawings and talk about the labor involved. You'll have the chance to take our proposal home with you and give it some thought. If you decide to proceed with our services, we'll draw up a contract and start designing.



DIY construction

After we arrive at the right design for your budget, we'll draw up a construction contract, and the renovation will begin. We'll distribute renovation tasks between you and our team of professionals depending on your schedule, interests, and skills. Through participating in carpentry, painting, plastering and cleaning, you'll be connected to the renovation process.



continuing our relationship

After the renovation is complete, you'll be part of the Tsumiki DIY alumni community! We like to keep in touch with our past clients and hear about how the renovation has improved their lives. We hold events for the small business owners in our community to showcase their beautiful new spaces.

とものつくる

tomoni tsukuru

making together

This concept is the gravity that drew the members of Tsumiki Design & Construction into orbit around each other, and it continues to attract both local clients and international colleagues to their office. Each member of Tsumiki has had their own formative experience in the world of design, through which they defined their intention to pursue a design career that celebrates and promotes the joyful human interaction that can occur around the act of making. For each member of Tsumiki, this began first as a feeling, and grew into a concept and finally a philosophy of practice.

Prioritizing a joyful, meaningful making experience at every step in the process of renovating a building results in a complex set of constraints that must be applied to labor management, as well as to design details. As *tomoni tsukuru* is both process and product for Tsumiki, they have developed a unique project management system to manage experiential and learning outcomes for each DIY renovation participant.

Tsumiki believes that, in the same way as the *tomoni tsukuru* ethic has drawn them together as an architecture office, it has the power to bring people together within neighborhoods and cities.



Philosophy & pedagogy

Tsumiki is quietly emphatic that the process of making something together with others is often as valuable - if not more valuable - than the product that is made. This philosophy lies at the heart of their proposition to clients. Tsumiki attracts clients who want to get their hands dirty. A Tsumiki client comes to understand that renovation is an opportunity to de-alienate themselves from their home or storefront, to experience how all the bits come together. They come to Tsumiki because they're seeking a partner and guide in the act of getting to know their own building and changing it for the better.

Tsumiki views the process of residential and commercial renovation as one that, if carefully and thoughtfully managed, can provide the client with an improved environment, a new and useful set of skills, and a third, harder to define benefit: the happiness found in the act of *tomoni tsukuru*, or "making together." To this end, Tsumiki continues to refine their unique method of project management, organizing the construction process to serve a more complex conception of excellence - excellence in the finished product, and also excellence in the process of executing the product, so that an unskilled laborer can participate in many phases of construction without reducing the level of craft or slowing the work down to a crawl.

Drawing sets for each project are augmented to orchestrate the different phases and zones of client participation. Renovation projects also serve as a site for hands-on workshops, open to the public, which serves the double benefit of expanding the amount of people able to develop skills, as well as providing a burst of labor to help the project along.

Due to the time spent making things together, Tsumiki remains in close contact with past clients. Strong relationships are formed during the renovation process, and, once complete, clients become Tsumiki "alumni." For some, this association is in the form of a regional collective of small businesses that may offer each other mutual aid. The homes and businesses of Tsumiki alumni also serve as a showcase of what's possible through a DIY-centered process.