Akari Light Sculptures

Isamu Noguchi, 1951



In 1951 the Japanese-American artist Isamu Noguchi began to design the Akari Light Sculptures, a group of works handcrafted out of washi paper that eventually comprised over 100 luminaires – table, floor and ceiling lamps. He chose the name ‚akari' for these objects, a word that means ‚light' in Japanese, connoting both illumination and physical lightness.

‚The harshness of electricity is thus transformed through the magic of paper back to the light of our origin – the sun – so that its warmth may continue to fill our rooms at night.' Isamu Noguchi

Each luminaire is meticulously crafted by hand in the Ozeki workshop, a traditional family-run company based in Gifu. In a first step, bamboo rods are stretched across the original wooden forms designed by Noguchi to make the framework that determines the object's shape. Washi paper, derived from the bark of the mulberry tree, is cut into strips and then glued to the bamboo ribbing. After the glue has dried, the wooden form is removed and the shade can be folded.

The Akari Light Sculptures are marked with a stylised sun-and-moon logo, which also resembles the corresponding Japanese characters. This symbol guarantees the authenticity of each product.

Materials

- **Lampshades:** washi paper, some partially painted. Some models with end pieces in wood/bamboo.
- **Structure:** bamboo/steel wire.
- **Legs:** painted steel wire.
- **Light source:** 4W LED
- **Socket:** E27
- **Dimmability:** not dimmable.
- **Kelvin:** 2700 K (warm white).
- **Plug:** Euro flat, 2-pin (type C plug).
- **Max. watt:** 12 W
- **Energy efficiency:** E
- **Cable length for table lamps:** 150 cm.
- **Cable length for floor lamps:** 300 cm.
- **Cable length for ceiling lamps:** 220 cm.



Akari 1A
430x250x250



Akari 1AD
430x260x260



Akari 1AG
430x260x260



Akari 1AY
430x260x260



Akari 1N
390x250x250



Akari 3X
380x230x230



Akari UF1-H
510x200x200



Akari 24N
580x400x400



Akari 20N
630x420x420



Akari YA2
510x360x360



Akari 3A
560x280x280



Akari 3AD
560x250x250



Akari 9AD
620x440x440



Akari UF3-Q
1450x560x560



Akari 7A
630x300x300



Akari 9A
620x440x440



Akari 10A
1230x530x530



Akari 13A
1360x490x490



Akari 14A
1580x510x510



Akari 25N
1170x830x830



Akari UF4-L8
1880x410x410



Akari UF4-33N
1900x470x470



Akari UF4-L10
1930x480x480



Akari BB3-33S
1700x750x250



Akari BB3-55DD
1850x530x530



Akari 45A
450x450x450



Akari 55A
550x550x550



Akari 75A
750x750x750



Akari 120A
1200x1200x1200



Akari 55D
520x550x550



Akari 75D
690x740x740

Akari 26A
250x450x450



Akari 21A
280x650x650



Akari 15A
330x880x880



Akari 50EN
250x500x500



Akari 70EN
330x700x700



Akari 23A
700x320x320

Akari 45X
430x430x430



Akari 16A
280x520x480

Akari YP1
380x500x500



Akari 33N
1600x470x470



Akari E
2950x480x480