

## Japanese Architecture Seen from the Roof, the Relation Between the Roof Design and the Space Under It



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<b>Keywords</b>	architectural history, theory and design
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<b>Technical Support Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•History of Architecture</li> <li>•Graphic Design</li> <li>•Communication (Fluent in English, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese)</li> </ul>
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### Research Contents

The form and complexity of the roofs is an interesting point in Japanese traditional architecture. In my research I try to understand and find a relation between the complex form and different materials used on the roof design of Japanese traditional architecture. For example when we analyzed the roof typology of Edo Castle's Honmaru Palace Ohiroma audience hall, we saw that it is possible to establish a relation between the design of the roof and the space under it. For these analysis we used old drawings of the palace, such as the Kora (carpenters) drawings of the Man'en reconstruction of the Honmaru palace and studies about what kind of ceremonies were held in the rooms of Ohiroma.

We have got to the conclusion that the form of the roof is directly connected to the floor plan and, to the way it was used had a strong influence on the design of the roof. We found that more elaborated form of roofs, such as the hipped-gabled roofs or chidorihafu, were as important as the tokonoma, chigaidana, tsukeshoin and chodaigamae are to form the shoin style. Therefore the roof design and is related directly related to the social importance of the space under it, and that the roof was designed to express hierarchical status of the different parts of the building in traditional Japanese architecture.

By developing this study maybe in the future it will be possible to use it to help to reconstruct the roof design of buildings that no long exist, but from which we have information on the organization of the floor plan and how those spaces were used and their social importance.

### Available Facilities and Equipment
