

Javanese Traditional Toy Approach in the Interior Design Of Family Café in Surakarta

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Abstract

People's needs for cafes are not just to buy food and gather with friends but are also used to gather with family. People need a place that is easy to visit, has adequate facilities, and can accommodate leisure activities with the family. Apart from that, children have time to get away from gadgets which makes children not want to leave their place. This project aims to meet the need for child-friendly eating places, in terms of interior, facilities, furniture, atmosphere, and colors that are presented according to the needs of children and parents. The research methodology in this project adopts the design process of David K. Ballast. The application of traditional Javanese games is a characteristic of this Family Café. Therefore, Family Café is one solution to what parents and children need. Apart from that, children can hone their motor skills through traditional games as well as a transition period for children to become addicted to gadgets.

Keywords: *Family Café, Surakarta, Traditional Javanese Games*

INTRODUCTION

Interior design is not only concerned with the aesthetic arrangement of spaces, but also with a deep understanding of human needs in space (Kassim et al., 2014). In this paper, we will explain how interior design affects occupants' quality of life, increases productivity, and creates an atmosphere that suits the purpose of the space. Interior design plays an important role in ensuring that a space can be used efficiently according to its function (Sarihati et al., 2023). This involves the selection and placement of furniture, lighting, and other elements that facilitate daily activities. For example, in the design of an office space, interior design should consider work flow, ergonomics, and technological needs in order to increase user productivity and comfort (Kellert, 2022).

Besides functionality, interior design also contributes to the aesthetics of the space (Gaines et al., 2016). The use of colors, textures, and other decorative elements play an important role in creating an atmosphere that suits the preferences of the occupants and the purpose of the space. A good design can evoke a pleasant, calming, or creativity-stimulating atmosphere according to the needs of the occupants. Technological developments also influence interior design practices (Chen, 2011). The use of smart systems, energy-efficient LED lighting, and eco-friendly materials are increasingly common in modern interior design (Dwinanda et al., 2022).

The need in society for cafes or restaurants is not just for buying food and hanging out with friends but for spending time with family. This makes a child-friendly dining place not just about having dining chairs for children, slides, and swings, but more than that. It requires an atmosphere, facilities, furniture, colors, and interior that can meet the needs of children and parents (Mun Ja-Young, 2012). Apart from that, children have time to get away from gadgets which makes children not want to leave their place. Family café is considered to be the right solution to this problem. A family café is a café where the facilities, services, and environment are family-friendly.

The interior design of a family café plays a crucial role in creating a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for visitors of all ages. This paper discusses interior design principles that can be applied in a family café to create an environment that is inviting, comfortable and suits the needs of all family members (Indriyani et al., 2022). Family cafés offer a pleasant dining experience for families and their friends. In the interior design of a family café, it is important to consider the needs of diners of different ages and preferences, and create a space that is inviting and comfortable for the whole family (Wijaya, 2023).

Family Cafe Interior Design Principles: Space Flexibility: The interior design of a family café should accommodate a variety of activities, from dining together to children playing. Flexible spaces with changeable furniture arrangements allow diners to customize the space according to their needs. The use of clear zoning distinguishes dining areas, children's play areas and relaxing areas to keep the space organized and comfortable for all diner (Rahman & Jumino, 2020).

The choice of warm colors and soft lighting creates a friendly and inviting atmosphere. Proper lighting also takes into account safety and comfort aspects, especially in children's play areas. Family cafés should be equipped with facilities such as baby changing rooms, high chairs, and safe and well-maintained children's play areas. This ensures comfort and safety for family visitors. **Eco-Friendly Design:** Integrating eco-friendly elements in the interior design of a family café, such as the use of recycled materials and responsible waste management practices, reflects an awareness of environmental sustainability (Sulaiman et al., 2022).

The family café in this project focuses more on facilities for children aged 5-12 years. At this age, today's children prefer playing with gadgets rather than playing outside with friends. One way to overcome children's detachment from gadgets is to introduce traditional games. Traditional games can also help children hone their brains and become more creative by carrying out various activities that have an impact on them (M. Husein MR, 2021). Traditional games help early childhood development in various ways, including shaping children's

character (Adi et al., 2020). Playing outside, such as playing traditional games with friends, can also help avoid phubbing (Sherlin Windana Saputri et al., 2022). Outdoor games develop gross motor skills, while indoor games develop fine motor skills (Sutini, 2013). Traditional games have many benefits that can help children's growth and development. It has been proven that traditional games can build children's character, such as patience, honesty, sportsmanship, discipline, persistence, independence, self-confidence, and cooperation (Adi et al., 2020). Apart from that, it is also able to improve motor skills, socialization skills, intellectual intelligence, and emotional intelligence.

Children's traditional games are a way to learn about cultural elements and are considered a tool for maintaining local identity. One example of a traditional game that is rarely played by children is traditional Javanese games (Ghaluh Wilis Trihanningrum, 2020). Seeing the many positive impacts generated by traditional games, it is necessary to have a place as a place for children to switch from gadgets to traditional games, so a café design with traditional Javanese game characters is made. It is known that traditional games are now rarely played by children. Traditional games can help children develop various characters. Children can gain characteristics such as cooperation, assistance, communication, and interaction, as well as a sense of community. Traditional games can also provide many other character traits. Teaching children traditional games can also help preserve traditional games in Indonesia (Tyas & Widyasari, 2023). The design of this family café project takes the concept of traditional children's toys by presenting several traditional Javanese games such as *Congklak*, *Engklek*, *Layang-layang*, *Kelereng*, and *Bekel*. In addition, the characters in traditional games are taken and transformed as ideas in making interior elements.

METHOD

The design method used adopts David K. Ballast's design process, there are three processes, the first is programming, the second is data analysis, and the last is the development of ideas (Mulyadi & Alimin, 2019). The programming process goes through a process of observing the phenomena that occur in the current environment and then the data collection process is carried out as follows: A survey is conducted to find out the needs related to the design process and planning of the Family Café Interior Design project, literature studies from existing journals, books, and websites as a reference in the literature review.

Observation is carried out as an observation of places related to this project to obtain information about the facilities or facilities that will be presented in the Family Café project (Zevalkink, 2021). Documentation is done by taking pictures and videos as references related to the process of making the Family Café project. Data analysis is carried out which is then examined and processed to become a conceptual arrangement that will be used to determine zoning, grouping, circulation flow, and relationships between spaces. The development of ideas uses the shape transformation of several traditional Javanese toys. The form transformation used is the visual character of traditional Javanese games which is then applied to traditional modern styles. Furthermore, the ideas obtained are then applied to interior design through manual and digital media.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A café is a coffee shop to enjoy food and drinks while enjoying entertainment. However, as time goes by, the café is increasingly developing into a place not only to enjoy food and drinks but also to socialize and make new friends. Therefore, every café design should create an intimate atmosphere by considering whether the café allows the expected social interaction (Hidayat & Setiawan, 2015). Traditional games that have been played since ancient times are one of the nation's cultural heritages. Traditional games can improve children's development. In reality, current cultural developments are starting to disrupt the existence of traditional games. Some children enjoy virtual games that make them passive. Some children only spend time at home playing games available on their smartphones. Undoubtedly, this culture does not support government programs related to character education (Adi et al., 2020). Therefore, the concept of ideas in the design of this café

project is to apply traditional games. The selection of this concept is in line with the theme and purpose of the café project. The application of traditional games was chosen because it became the main topic on the issue of the problem in addition to the café which became a place to accommodate these activities. The concept of traditional games in this family café project presents several traditional Javanese games such as include *Congklak*, *Layang-layang*, *Engklek*, *Kelereng*, and *Bekel*.

In addition, the use of traditional game concepts also takes conceptual characters and visual characters that will be applied to interior elements. Traditional games have conceptual character values, namely religiosity, cooperation, nationalism, and integrity. The visual character of traditional games is all kinds of things that can be seen in these traditional games, such as tools, players, and places to play. Not only that, the visual character and elements of traditional games that have characteristics can later be applied to interior elements. Traditional games have many benefits for those who play them besides functioning as entertainment. One of the benefits obtained is the increase in individual capacity through the activities of thinking, feeling, and exercising. In addition, traditional games contain character values such as integrity, nationalism, religiosity, and cooperation (Direktorat Sekolah Menengah Pertama, 2022). The application of religiosity in the interior can be presented with religious nuances in the space. First, the walls and floors should be colored to give a religious impression. Choose colors that are calm and soothing. These types of colors include neutral white, beige, light blue, green, or pastel [Figure 1]. By using pastel blue (light blue) in the interior, it can create a calm and warm atmosphere (Hadiansyah & Hendrawan, 2020). As well as the use of wood with wood lacquer makes the wood color still has its original color.



Figure 1. Neutral color palette
(Source : Marella Zahra Olala, 2024)

In addition to the application of conceptual character values, namely religiosity, visual character and elements in traditional games can be applied to the interior, such as tools and procedures for playing, using the transformation of the shape of traditional Indonesian game tools is one of the applications into furniture and interior elements (Eko Mahendra Cahya, 2017). In the tool, some materials or materials can be used in the application of interior elements such as wood and bamboo.

Ideas taken from traditional games include *Congklak*, *Layang-layang*, *Engklek*, *Kelereng*, and *Bekel*. From these games, not all aspects are applied to the interior elements, therefore a table is made to see the suitability of the visual characters that will be applied to the interior elements. The visual character is taken based on the suitability of the type, character, and elements in its application.

Table 1. Visual Characterization of Traditional Games into Interiors

No.	Name Of The Game	Tool (Shape)	How to Play	Materials
1.	<i>Congklak</i>	✓	-	✓
2.	<i>Engklek</i>	✓	✓	-
3.	<i>Layang-layang</i>	✓	-	-
4.	<i>Kelereng</i>	✓	-	-
5.	<i>Bekel</i>	✓	-	-

As in the table above [Table 1], the application of the 5 kinds of traditional games is taken based on the visual characters that have been selected. The first one, the *Congklak* game, uses the visual character of its shape and material, so the exploration of the shape adjusts the shape of the *Congklak* tool. The shape of the *Congklak* is a flat and oval-shaped board with 16 holes. Each side of the board consists of 8 holes, namely 7 small holes and 1 large hole (Andreas Supiyono, 2018). Meanwhile, the material used to make the *Congklak* board usually uses wood. The transformation of the *Congklak* game is applied to the placement pattern of tables and chairs. The tables and chairs are arranged to resemble the shape of a *Congklak*. Not only that, the transformation of the *Congklak* shape is also used in wall decorations as a sweetener in the room [Figure 2].



Figure 2. Exploration of the shape and application of *Congklak*
(Source : Marella Zahra Olala, 2024)

One example of a traditional game that can build character is the *Engklek* game. This is because, in the traditional *Engklek* game, players can form characters, such as cooperation, where they clean up the equipment after use, independence when looking for stones or called *kacu* to play, and the character of responsibility, where children are responsible for what they do if they lose the game. This *Engklek* game is usually played by girls. But not a few boys are also interested in playing *Engklek*. Usually playing *Engklek* is done in a large yard with sandy soil (Andreas Supiyono, 2018). *Engklek* is one of the easiest games to play. Because the game only uses floor patterns drawn with chalk. This is interesting because it can be used in floor patterns in a room. The shape transformation of the game is only taken from its shape. The application of this shape transformation is applied to the floor pattern on the second floor, from the gallery room to the children's workshop room. The application of this floor pattern is not only an aesthetic enhancer but can also be played by children to play *Engklek* [Figure 3].

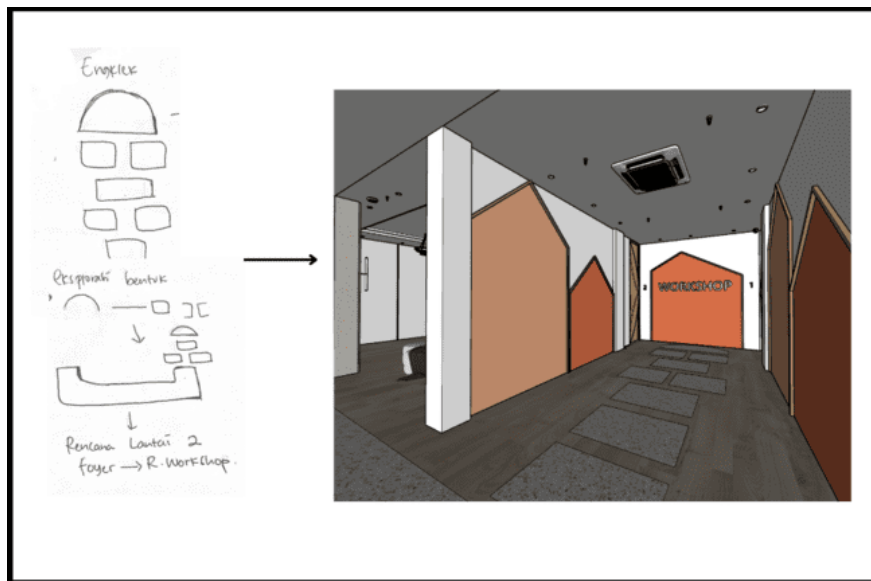


Figure 3. Exploration of the shape and application of *Engklek*
(Source : Marella Zahra Olala, 2024)

History shows that *Layang-layang* has existed in China since 2500 BC and later spread to Europe. In Indonesia, *Layang-layang* dates back to the 17th century, as indicated by Malay historical records showing that royalty participated in *Layang-layang* festivals. And in the early 21st century, the game began to become very popular (Andreas Supiyono, 2018). Therefore, *Layang-layang* was chosen as one of the traditional Javanese games to be explored. The process of form exploration helps to create ideas that will later be applied to interior elements such as providing unique and diverse decorations that add to the aesthetic value of the room. As in the *Layang-layang* game, the shape of this tool is used as a form transformation into a wall decoration. In addition to being a wall decoration, the exploration of the kite shape is also used as an idea for making a meeting table [Figure 4].

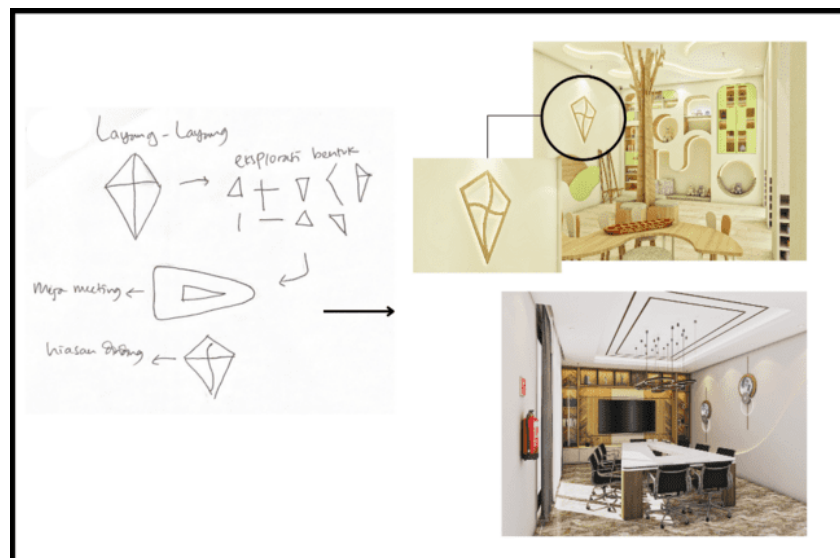


Figure 4. Exploration of the shape and application of *Layang-layang*
(Source : Marella Zahra Olala, 2024)

One traditional game that children, especially boys, love to play is *Kelereng*. This game is very popular in Indonesia and in many other countries (Andreas Supiyono, 2018). While the game *Bekel* is usually much in demand by girls. The game of *Kelereng* and *Bekel* has the same tool shape, which is round. So that the exploration of shapes on *Kelereng* and *Bekel* takes a curved shape which will later be applied to interior elements such as ceilings, walls, floor patterns, decoration elements, and furniture. This curved shape is widely

applied especially in the dining area. One of them is on the table and sofa. In addition, the application of curved shapes is also applied to the reception desk [Figure 5]. The application of curved shapes is also applied to the reception ceiling, dining area ceiling, walls, storage shelves, floor patterns, and cashier desk.

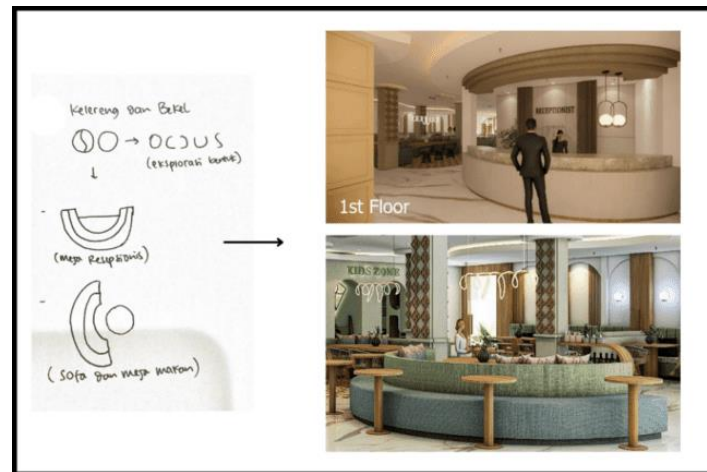


Figure 5. Exploration of the shape and application of Kelereng and Bekel
(Source : Marella Zahra Olala, 2024)

CONCLUSION

The interior design of a family café with a Javanese traditional game approach in Surakarta is a project that presents commercial space, education, with entertainment. This family café is designed with a traditional modern concept by applying conceptual and visual characters to traditional Javanese games with various facilities such as a dining area, nursery room, kids zone, workshop for children, and gallery. This project aims to meet the needs of child-friendly dining places, in terms of interior, facilities, furniture, atmosphere, and colors that are presented according to the needs of children and parents. Then the application of traditional Javanese games can arouse a sense of enthusiasm for children to play traditional games, in addition to children being distracted from gadgets which are currently very attached to children today, traditional Javanese games can be preserved and maintained so that they do not disappear. Interior Design of Family Café with Javanese Traditional Toy Approach in Surakarta should pay more attention to the application of traditional modern concepts with children's appeal and consider facilities with functions that are by what is needed so that the purpose of this project can be conveyed properly and more sustainable between the facilities presented, with interior aspects. The Interior Design project of Family Café with Javanese Traditional Toy Approach in Surakarta can be useful as a solution in answering the problems that occur in the community, especially the needs of parents and children. In addition, as a means of diversion against gadgets in children and help preserve Javanese Traditional Games.

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