

# Lunar Habitat Table Questions and Answers

In an attempt to keep this table portable, affordable and presentable as you make your prototype, it would be a good idea to keep it within a size that can be shown without taking up space from everyone else. Let's make the table top no bigger than 20"x 20".

1. How much square footage is available for the table to be stored and used?

Good question but I don't think we know that yet. The smaller the storage space when shipping the table, the better. If you have ever bought a table that you had to assemble, you'll have noticed how they try to minimize the packing materials when possible getting pieces to fit together when possible. Once it is set up, I don't think they will be collapsing it down much. I think they may move it around but mostly it will stay set up.

The space it takes up while being used is also not determined yet. Your team needs to show what kind of features are valuable for the table and later NASA can determine how big it will need to be.

2. Is it possible to create smaller tables that could be joined for expansion?

I'm ok with that. Don't try to make multiple tables, just make one and show how it would fit together with another.

3. We have ideas for securing the table to the floor but wonder what material the floor is made of and if we can plan for connections in the floor.

Expect the floor to be kind of like those rubbery mats that you may have had as a kid. They need to be flexible and anti-static yet easy to clean with a Roomba like robot. Whatever you use for your table or chairs needs to not damage the flooring.

4. Would an expanding table that can fold or be pulled out be a viable option for a table?

Expanding is also a fine idea. The dining room table at my house gets used for many things—food, games, computers, repairing stuff, cutting out materials—it also may get moved on occasion as the need arises. I expect the lunar habitat table will get used and moved around for many purposes.

5. Since this is on the moon and the gravity will be  $1/6^{\text{th}}$  of what it is here on Earth, what will be the effect on the things you place on the table?

If you bump your computer sitting on your desk at home, its weight and rubbery feet on the bottom have enough friction that it won't move unless you bump it pretty hard. However, with  $1/6^{\text{th}}$  the weight, there may not be much friction to keep it on your lunar habitat table. Would there be value to having some kind of mechanism (bungees, Velcro, raised edges on the table, D-rings,...) for holding equipment or from sliding off the table? Much less than is needed on the ISS with its microgravity but something that keeps it from sliding off the table while you are trying to work on it.