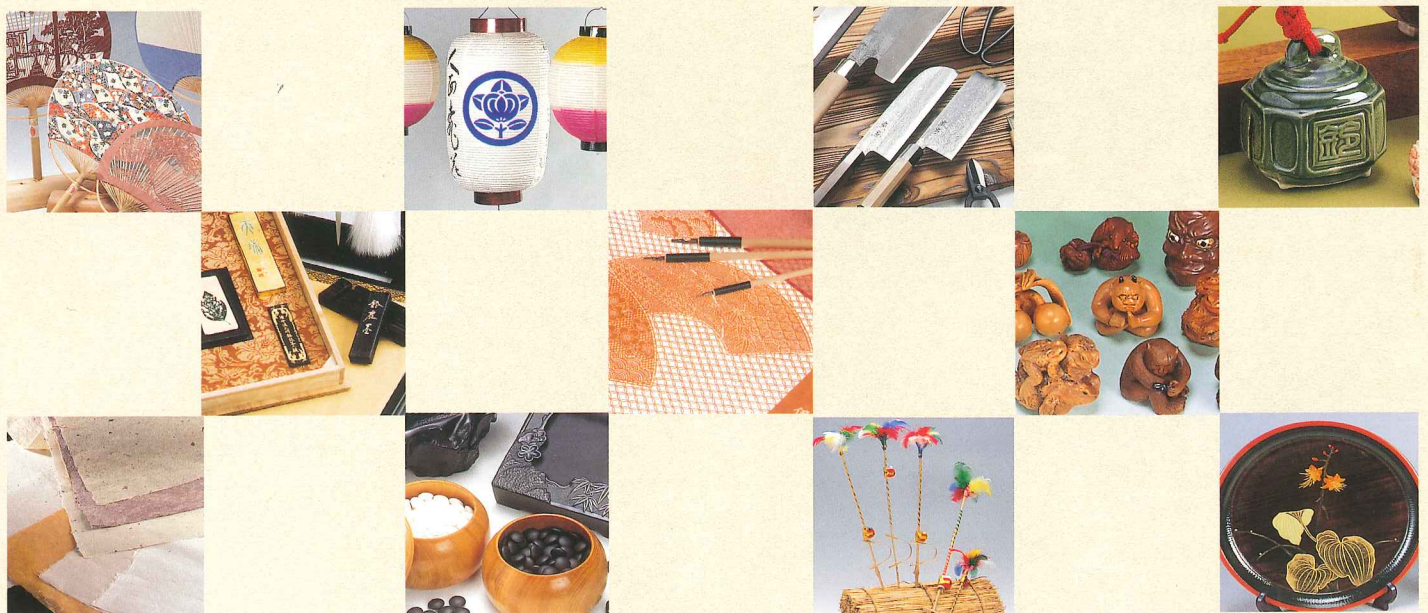


- Local Arts and Pride -

Mie's Traditional Crafts



Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
Designated Traditional Craft



The symbol designed to promote traditional crafts combines the Japanese character 'den' from the word *dentou* (tradition) and a red circle which represents the Japanese spirit.

Mie Prefecture
Designated Traditional Crafts



The "mi" in black hiragana represents Mie Prefecture and traditional folk crafts are represented in the form of a key combined with a red square which brings to mind the figure of a master plying his trade while sitting on the floor.

Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry
Designated Traditional Craft (Craft Tool) Related Facility

Mie Hokusei Region
Local Industry Promotion Center
1-3-18, Yasujima, Yokkaichi City
Tel +81-59-353-8100

Banko no Sato (Banko pottery Hall)
4-8, Toei-cho, Yokkaichi City
Tel+81-59-330-2020

Suzuka City Traditional Industry Hall
3-10-1, Jike, Suzuka City
Tel +81-59-386-7511

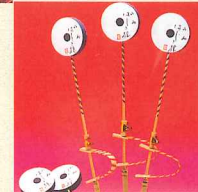
Ise Paper Resource Center
21-30, Shirokohon-machi, Suzuka City
Tel +81-59-368-0240

Iga Ware Traditional Industry Hall
169-2, Marubashira, Iga City
Tel +81-595-44-1701

Iga Kumihimo Center
1929-10, Sijyuku-cho, Iga City
Tel +81-595-23-8038

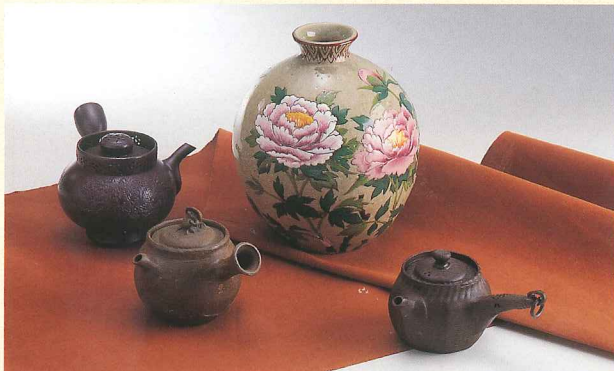
Employment and Economic
Affairs Department, Mie Prefecture
13 Komeicho, Tsu City, Mie Prefecture
514-8570 JAPAN
Tel +81-59-224-2336 Fax +81-59-224-2078
E-mail chishi@pref.mie.jp

Web site for Mie's Traditional Crafts
<http://www.pref.mie.lg.jp/CHISHI/HP/dento/index.htm>



The pride of Mie – Tradition and Expert Technique

With a mild climate and enriched by nature, Mie Prefecture has been nurtured by its abundance of cultural and historical treasures and prides itself on being home to many traditional Japanese arts and crafts.



Yokkaichi Banko Yaki Experience Banko no Sato (Banko Pottery Hall)
Tel +81-59-330-2020

Originating in the middle of the Edo Era these wares were impressed by the “Bankofueki” seal of the craftsman Nunamirozan, who hoped that with it his works would last forever. Banko pottery is known for its fine ceramics and Banko teapots are particularly famous.



Iga Yaki Experience Iga Ware Traditional Industry Hall
Tel +81-595-44-1701

When the tea ceremony began in the Muromachi and Momoyama eras and subsequently gained popularity, Iga Yaki drew attention as being particularly well suited to the tea ceremony. After the mid-Edo period the product line was extended to dishes for daily use and other items which benefited from the characteristic fire-proof quality of Iga clay.



Iga Kumihimo (braid) Experience Iga Kumihimo Center
Tel +81-595-23-8038

The braided rope industry grew substantially from the middle of the Meiji Era onwards. Silken threads are braided with gold and silver strands on a traditional high or round braiding table. Manually braided ropes using the high table are very famous and are the most widely produced braid in the Japanese market.

Contact address:
Banko Ceramic Ware Manufacturers' Association
2-13 Kyo-machi, Yokkaichi City
Tel +81-59-331-7146

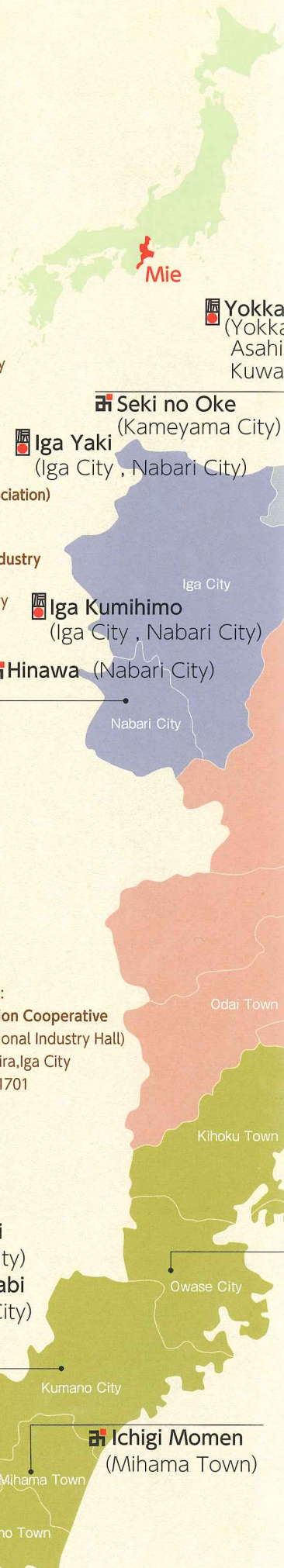
Related facility:
Banko no Sato
(Banko Pottery Hall)
(Banko Ceramic Ware Promotion Cooperative Association)
4-8 Toei-cho, Yokkaichi City
Tel +81-59-330-2020

Mie Hokusei Region Local Industry Promotion Center
1-3-18 Yasujima, Yokkaichi City
Tel +81-59-353-8100

Contact address:
Iga Yaki Promotion Cooperative
(Iga Ware Traditional Industry Hall)
169-2 Marubashira, Iga City
Tel +81-595-44-1701

Nachiguroishi
(Kumano City)
Kumano Hanabi
(Kumano City)

Contact address:
Mie Prefecture Kumihimo Cooperative
(Iga Kumihimo Center)
1929-10 Sijyuku-cho, Iga City
Tel +81-595-23-8038



Yokkaichi
(Yokkaichi City)
Asahi
Kuwa

Seki no Oke
(Kameyama City)

Iga Yaki
(Iga City, Nabari City)

Iga Kumihimo
(Iga City, Nabari City)

Hinawa (Nabari City)

Odai Town

Kihoku Town

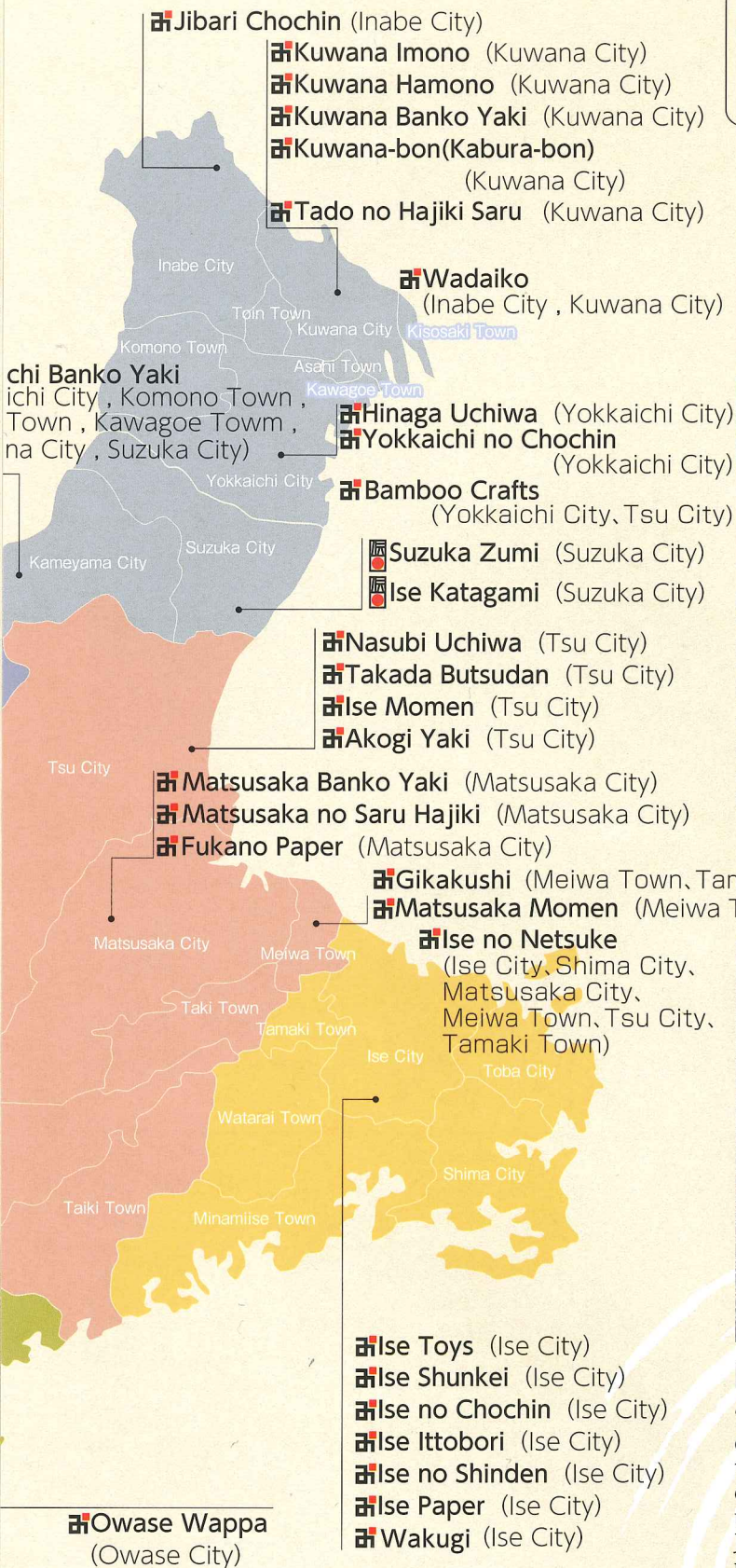
Owase City

Kumano City

Ichigi Momen
(Mihama Town)

Mihama Town

Kiho Town



Experience

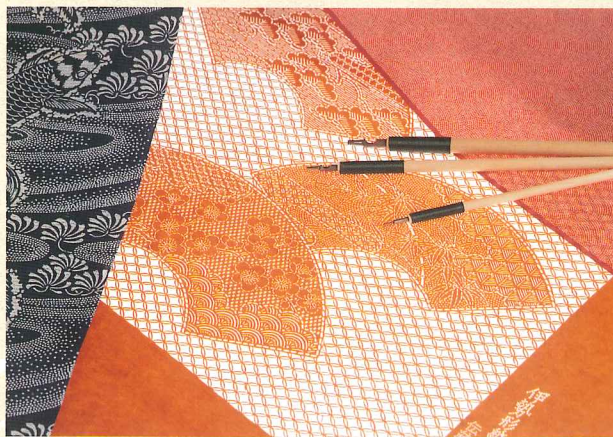
You too can try making this traditional craft. Interested parties should contact us in advance.



Suzuka Zumi (Ink Stick) **Experience** Suzuka Zumi Manufactures Cooperative Tel +81-59-388-4053

Originally made in the early Heian Era, this ink uses pine resin from the Suzuka mountain forests which is then burnt to soot. The ink is used by many calligraphers for its delicate aroma and exuberant black color.

Contact address:
Suzuka Zumi Manufactures Cooperative
 5-5-15 Jike, Suzuka City
 Tel +81-59-388-4053
 Related facility:
Mie Hokusei Region Local Industry Promotion Center
 1-3-18 Yasujima, Yokkaichi City
 Tel +81-59-353-8100
Suzuka City Traditional Industry Hall
 3-10-1, Jike, Suzuka City
 Tel +81-59-386-7511



Ise Katagami (Ise Pattern Paper) **Experience** Suzuka City Traditional Industry Hall Tel +81-59-386-7511

There is disagreement about the origin of this paper but it is said to be some time within the eight century. Ise katagami is a tool used to dye kimono fabric: Japanese paper is processed with persimmon juice then carefully engraved with a kimono design using a carving knife.

Contact address:
Ise Katagami Cooperative
 (Suzuka City Traditional Industry Hall)
 3-10-1 Jike, Suzuka City
 Tel +81-59-386-0026
 Related facility:
Mie Hokusei Region Local Industry Promotion Center
 1-3-18 Yasujima, Yokkaichi City
 Tel +81-59-353-8100



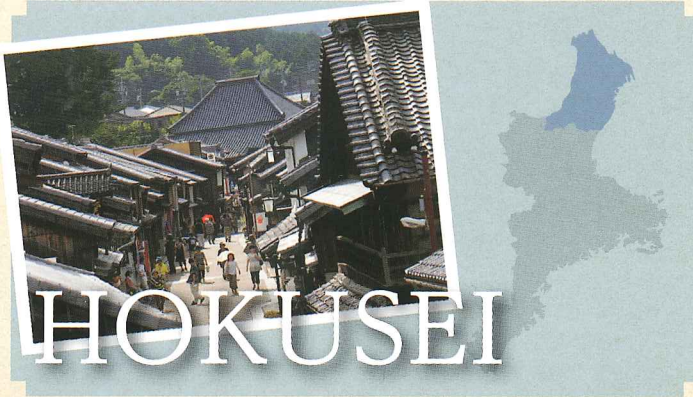
Designated by the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry
Traditional Arts Traditional Crafts

Denotes traditional arts and crafts nurtured by their native climates and history, which have been preserved by the close ties they have to the lives of local people. These crafts have been designated as "National Traditional Arts and Crafts" under the Law Concerning Promotion of the Traditional Arts and Crafts Industry enacted in 1974. Five Traditional crafts from Mie Prefecture have received this distinction.



Mie Prefecture Designated Traditional Crafts

Crafts which are too small in scale to receive national status have been designated "Mie Prefecture Crafts" and our prefecture endeavors to both maintain and develop these traditional crafts, which we view as being owned by the people themselves. Currently 33 items have been recognized.



Kuwana-bon (Turnip Tray) (Kabura-bon)



A Kuwana-bon is finished using the kijiro-nuri lacquer coating method and edged with red; various designs such as flowers are used to decorate these trays. Another characteristic of the Kuwana-bon is that the edge of the tray is processed using seishitsu Ijiji-nuri, one of the kawari-nuri decoration techniques. The Kuwana-bon

gets its name from the late Edo era, when Sadanobu Matsudaira ordered the writer and painter Tani Buncho to illustrate turnips on a tray as a gift to the shogun.

Kuwana Hamono (Kuwana Cutting Knives)



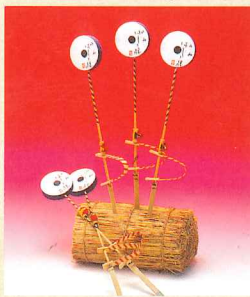
The vegetable cutting knife in particular has a good reputation and actually has a longer history than knives produced in either the Banshu or Echizen regions.

Kuwana Banko Yaki



The kiln producing this pottery was founded by Kumezo Sato, a potter who had learned the Yusetubanko teapot wood molding technique. Many new potters before and after the Meiji restoration learned the technique from Sato and Kuwana Banko Yaki wares flourished as souvenirs.

Tado no Hajiki Saru



Sold as a souvenir of the Tado Shrine since the mid Meiji era this item is beloved as a bringer of good fortune and is said to ward off evil or danger.

Wadaiko (Japanese drum)



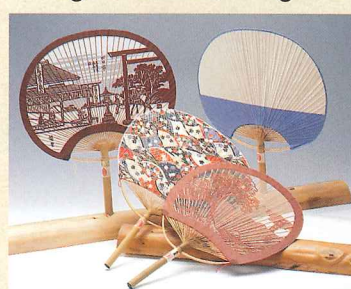
The Hokusei Region became a production center for drums thanks to the abundance of good zelkova elm timber in the northern part of the Suzuka mountains and the lumber available from the Inabe River.

Jibari Chochin (Jibari lantern)



This lantern is said to have been prevalent throughout the Inabe Region during the mid Edo era. However, currently only a few craft centers produce Jibari Lanterns and only one craft center maintains the original technique.

Hinaga Uchiwa (Hinaga Fan)



Famous since the Edo era throughout Japan as a post station souvenir thanks to its quality and beauty, these fans are round in shape and are characteristically both easy to hold and use.

Yokkaichi no Chochin (Yokkaichi Lantern)



The Tomida district of Yokkaichi used to be a distinctive residential and commercial area and these lanterns, essential for festive ceremonies, have been manufactured there in the same way since the fifth year of the Meiji era (1872).

Seki no Oke (Seki Pail)

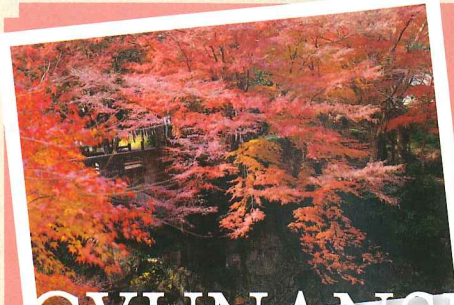


Seki-cho developed as a huge post station town of the Tokaido region and had easy access to large amounts of timber with which to supply the high demand. The material used, called 'sawara', is highly resistant to water damage and rot, it is also characteristically light.

Kuwana Imono



This metal is said to have its origins in the manufacture of weapons such as rifles under the orders of a feudal lord. It has a thin, beautiful texture and as it can be produced using very accurate dimensions it is used for numerous industrial goods.



CYUNANSEI

Akogi Yaki (Akogi Ceramic Ware)



This kiln was opened towards the end of the Edo period by Kyuhachi Kurata in an effort to redevelop the style of Ando ceramic ware in Tsu, which was a sister style to the mid-Edo era produced Banko ware. This style has died out and been reborn many times.

Ise Momen (Ise Cotton)



Cotton production was encouraged by Lord Takatora Todo of Tsu during the Edo period and merchants transported the cotton to the city of Edo under the label 'Ise Cotton'. The yarn is usually dyed before weaving, a characteristic unique to Ise Cotton, and thus it also carries the name 'dyed yarn cotton'.

Nasubi Uchiwa (Egg Plant Fan)



This style of fan was created by Yasutatsu Bessho, a lord and warrior of Tsu Todo who wanted to produce a light and graceful fan suitable for use by the upper classes. The unique characteristic of this fan is that the handgrip is made to look like the stem of an eggplant.

Bamboo Crafts



These baskets are said to have been created by Minminsai Kobayashi, a basket maker who started his business in Daimoncho. Only hand made baskets were allowed using his method and even now flower baskets and other items are all made manually.

Matsusaka no Saru Hajiki



This is called a lucky monkey or an exorcism monkey as it drives away bad luck. As Okaderasankeisho Temple is known as a temple which wards its visitors against bad luck it is often sold as a souvenir at fairs.

Matsusaka Banko Yaki (Matsusaka Ceramic Wares)



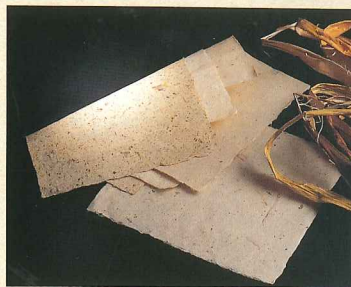
This kiln was opened by Kichirobei Nobuharu Sakuma in the late Edo period and its wares evolved into three styles of pottery: Shimomura Ware, Tokuwa Kinkazan and Matsusaka Banko Yaki. Its signature products are its tea ceremony items and bells which are associated with the Japanese literature researcher Norinaga Motori.

Matsusaka Momen (Matsusaka Cotton)



Cotton production flourished as a side business for farmers in the early Edo period and Matsusaka cotton was carried to Edo itself by Ise merchants, becoming very popular thanks to its durability, new designs and low cost.

Fukano Paper



This paper had such good reputation and quality that it was given manufacturing approval to be used for currency production by Lord Kishu at the end of the Edo era.

Takada Butsudan (Takada Buddhist Altar)



The Takada altar originated in the area around Senshu Temple, the head temple of the Takada School of Jodoshinshu, located in Isshinden, Tsu City. Both elaborate and tall at waist height, the 'ascending dragon' and 'descending dragon' on its left and right columns are its key characteristics.



ISESHIMA

Ise Ittobori (Ise Carving)



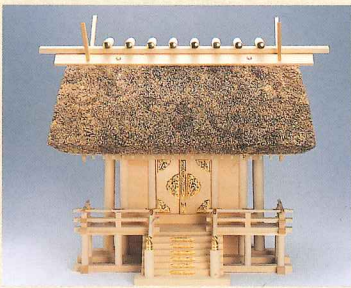
This type of carving is said to have begun when a carpenter used left over wood from one of the ceremonial rebuildings of Ise Shrine to make an engraving. Wood is chipped away bluntly at angles to carve out zodiac animals, Ebisu and other designs thought to bring good luck.

Ise Shunkei (Ise Shunkei Lacquer Ware)



It is thought that this lacquer ware originated in the sale of spare timber originally meant for using to build shrines, with boxes being manufactured and coated with Shunkei lacquer. These durable boxes are each made from a single piece of Japanese cypress.

Ise no Shinden (Ise Shrine Miniature)



These miniatures used to be made as a side-job by shrine carpenters until the Second World War but have since been turned into a fully fledged industry. The miniatures are modeled after Ise Shrine and are made of cypress wood with a thatched roof.

Ise no Chochin (Ise Lantern)



Lantern production has been a prosperous business in the Ise region, popular due to its proximity to Ise Shrine, since the Edo period. Even after oil lamps became popular in the Meiji era and became the norm, various types of lanterns have continued to be produced for shrines, temples, ceremonies and other more commercial uses.

Ise Toys



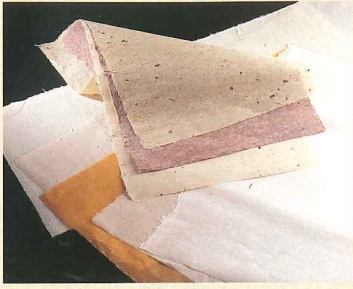
These toys have been produced as souvenirs for visitors praying at Ise Shrine for hundreds of years and are classified into three different types: colorful "nerimono" rattles; "kurimono," such as daruma-otoshi tumbling dolls; and bamboo whistles which emit a sweet, simple sound when blown.

Ise no Netsuke



This clamp attaches the string of a fabric wallet or cigarette box to the waist and was very popular during the Edo period. The rigid local wood Asamatsuge is used for its durability against wear and tear.

Ise Paper



This paper has been popular since the middle of Meiji Era for producing good-luck amulets and the Ise calendar. Even now the paper is used at various shrines including the Ise Shrine itself.

Gikakushi



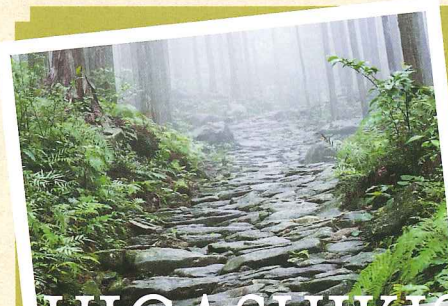
This paper is made to look and feel similar to leather. In the Edo era, cigarette cases made with this 'leather paper' became popular as an Ise souvenir. The technique died out in the early Showa era due to a variety of reasons including the introduction of new fabrics and materials, but in 2013 the technique was revived.

Wakugi



Wakugi were used for building until Western-style nails were imported from the west in the early Meiji Era. The town of Minato in Ise was a prosperous port for hundreds of years and its growth was based on metal work such as Wakugi nails.

The nails are currently used for the repair and reconstruction of old buildings such as temples and shrines and castles.



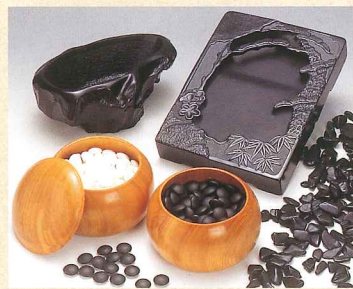
HIGASHIKISYU

Owase Wappa



Since the early Edo period the Wappa, made of Japanese cypress in the Owase region, has been popular as a bento box thanks to its ability to keep food both warm and prevent it from going off. The longer it is used, the more the wood's unique colors and grains can be seen.

Nachiguroishi



The rough stone for Nachiguroishi is made of very fine grained clay plate rock found on the riverbed of the river running through Kamikawa-cho, Kumano City. The stone is favored by many people as Go pieces, ink stones and decorative stones in gardens.

Kumano Hanabi (Kumano Fireworks)



These fireworks are said to have their origins in the simple pinwheel fireworks produced for the Bon festival during the Edo era. The traditional 'consecutive stars' firework shoots several dozen fireworks out at once to look like stars in the night sky.

Ichigi Momen (Ichigi Cotton)

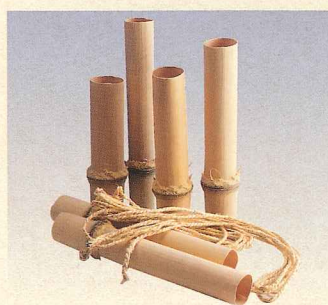


The origin of this cotton goes back to the start of the Yamato Region loom weaving technique and its proliferation. Ichigi Momen adjusts to the wearer's skin the more it is worn and becomes more comfortable.



IGA

Hinawa (slow match)



Originally used on early firearms as a matchlock, the hinawa is now mainly used at Yasaka Shrine in Kyoto for its Okera fire. Production of the hinawa is said to have begun around the year of Kanbun 8 (1668).