



Black Tame Red Tame

*Selected at Japan's Traditional Craft Competition 2021.

Original Series









Red Side



Black *Tame* - Tsubaki Red *Tame* - Gunbai Black *Tame* - Uchidenokozuchi

Tsuru

Kame

Red Side













Red Tame - Tsubaki

^{*} Miyabi with *Makie* design of Gunbai will be available soon.







Black *Tame* Red *Tame*



^{*}Larger version, Sakiwai, will be released soon.

Others



^{*}Ko-Tsuzumi-V was Selected at J*apan's Traditional Craft Competition 2020.* **Ko-Tsuzumi-V Design Registration No. 1694862

Grain Series



^{*}Red Kijiro without makie will be released soon.

Makie (蒔絵)

All designs used in *makie* on Original Series originated in ancient Japan.

Uchidenokozuchi(打ち出の小槌)

Legendary mallet of luck counted among items of *Takarazukushi*(宝尽くし: Full of Treasuers). Legend has it that swinging it will give you what you want or make your dream come true. This is one of the standard items of *Daikokuten*(大黒天), who is one of *Shichifukujin*(七福神: Seven Lucky Deities), and the symbol of fortune. It also appears in Japanese fairy tales and folklores such as *Issunnboushi*(一寸法師: One-Inch Boy) and *Momotaro*(桃太郎: Peach Boy). Sometimes it is depicted as demon's treasure.





Tsubaki (椿)

Japanese camellia. In Japan, *tsubaki* has been considered auspicious tree because it remains green throughout the year, its oil is good for skin, it was used as medicine as well as oil to light, and all these things have been associated with mysterious power.

Unfortunately, according to one theory, just a small part of people began to take the popular belief in Meiji era for truth. The belief had it that *samurai/bushi* had disliked this flower due to its way of falling. The belief might have led to or brought about the taboo of *tsubaki* as a gift for sick people. However, there was also a counter belief that, hoping to win the battle, some samurai stuck *tsubaki* on the ground of their property before going to the battle field. In addition, it is said that samurai loved *tsubaki* for its nobleness because its flowers fall without scattering petals. In *Edo* period, breed improvement of *tsubaki* among others was carried out in many places including gardens of samurai residences.

Tsubaki has traditionally been a popular design in Japan, and its nobleness is considered to have attracted *samurai*.

Gunbai (軍配)

Military leader's fan counted among items of *Takarazukushi*(宝尽くし: Full of Treasuers). It is short for *gunbaiuchiwa*(軍配団扇)and sometimes called *dansen*(団扇: *fan*). Because 'fan' (verb) in Japanese was associated with deity for its pronunciation, *gunbai* is said to be an object representative of a divine spirit, *yorishiro*(依代). *Samurai* used *gunbai* in a battle as a command tool as well as a kind of shield, while they also used it in camp as an umpire's fan in sumo wrestling. Originated in commander's tool, *gunbai* design is also associated with intellectual powers and decisiveness.





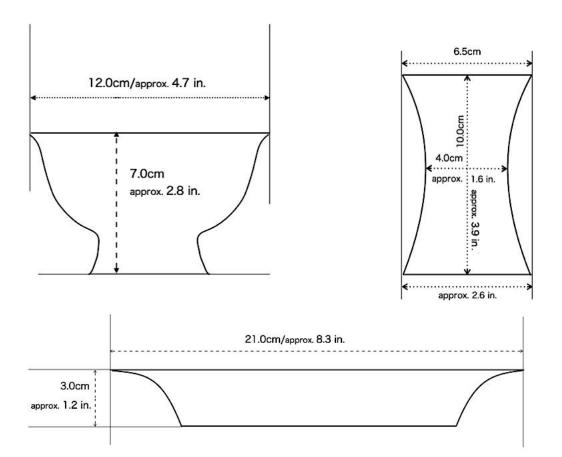




Tsuru(鶴)Click here to see the image of Tsuru design. Japanese Crane.

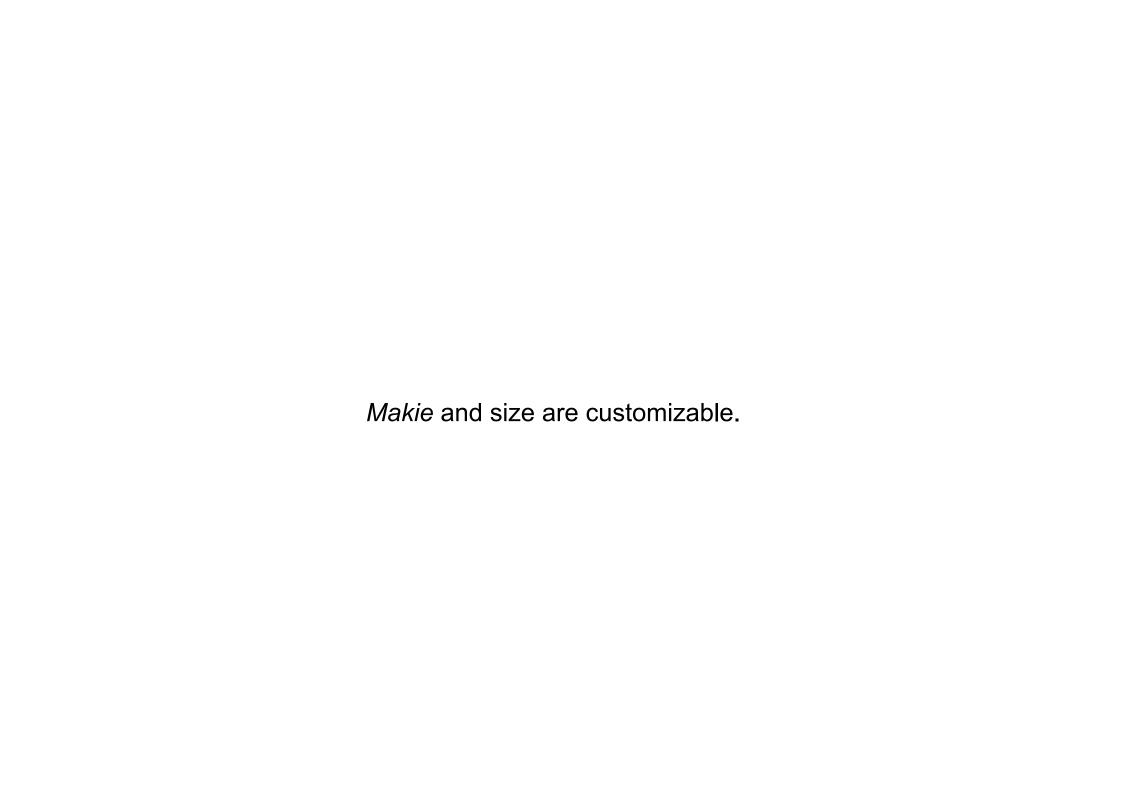
Kame (亀) Click here to see the image of Kame design. Turtle.

"Cranes live for thousand years, and Turtles live for ten thousand years" is an old saying in Japan. However, unlike other *makie* designs in the original series, these two designs, as well as the above saying, were introduced from China in *Aska* period. Since then, they have been regarded as symbols of longevity, solid pledge (in a set of a turtle and crane, or a couple of cranes), cooperation, and the likes.





*Kintsugi**The image is illustrative purposes only.





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