



Inheriting the Craftsmanship of Artisans

HAJIME TINISHIE

Wakasa-nuri chopsticks, which are made in Obama city, Fukui Prefecture.

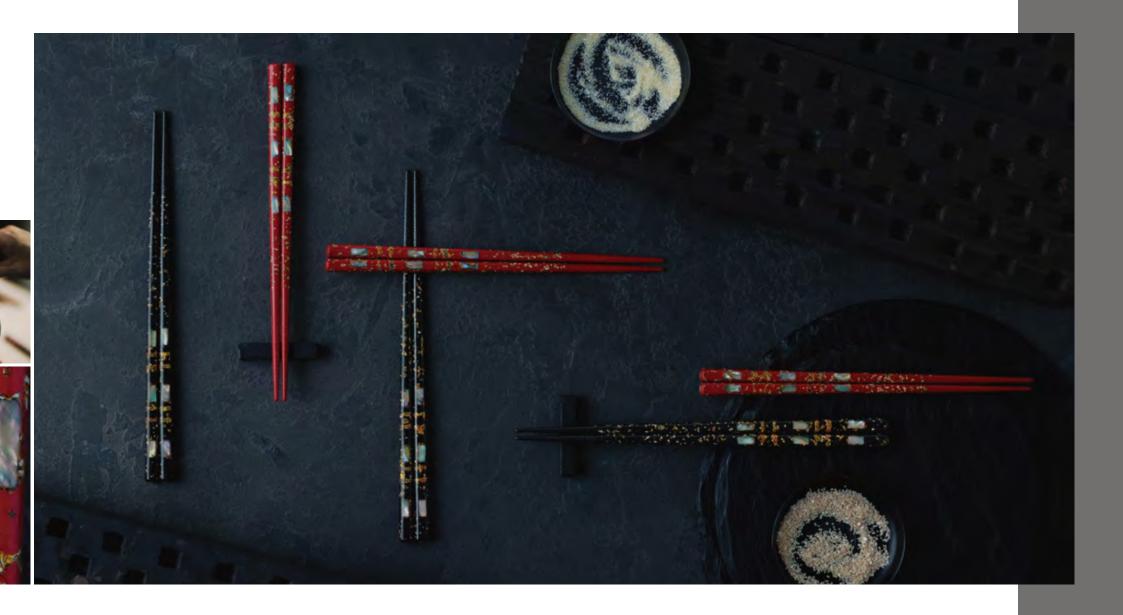
The beautiful lacquering and gorgeous designs are characterized by the layers of colored lacquer applied to the shells and eggshells, which are then painstakingly ground and polished to create the beautiful patterns.

The history of Wakasa lacquerware spans more than 400 years. It has been cultivated in the climate and nature of the Wakasa region since the early Edo period and has been handed down through the years to the present day.

The "HAJIME INISHIE" series is a lineup that brings the technique of Wakasa-nuri chopsticks, a traditional craft started by our predecessors in Wakasa region, into the modern age.

Enjoy the unique texture of one-of-a-kind pieces that can never be created by machine, but only by the handiwork of craftsmen.

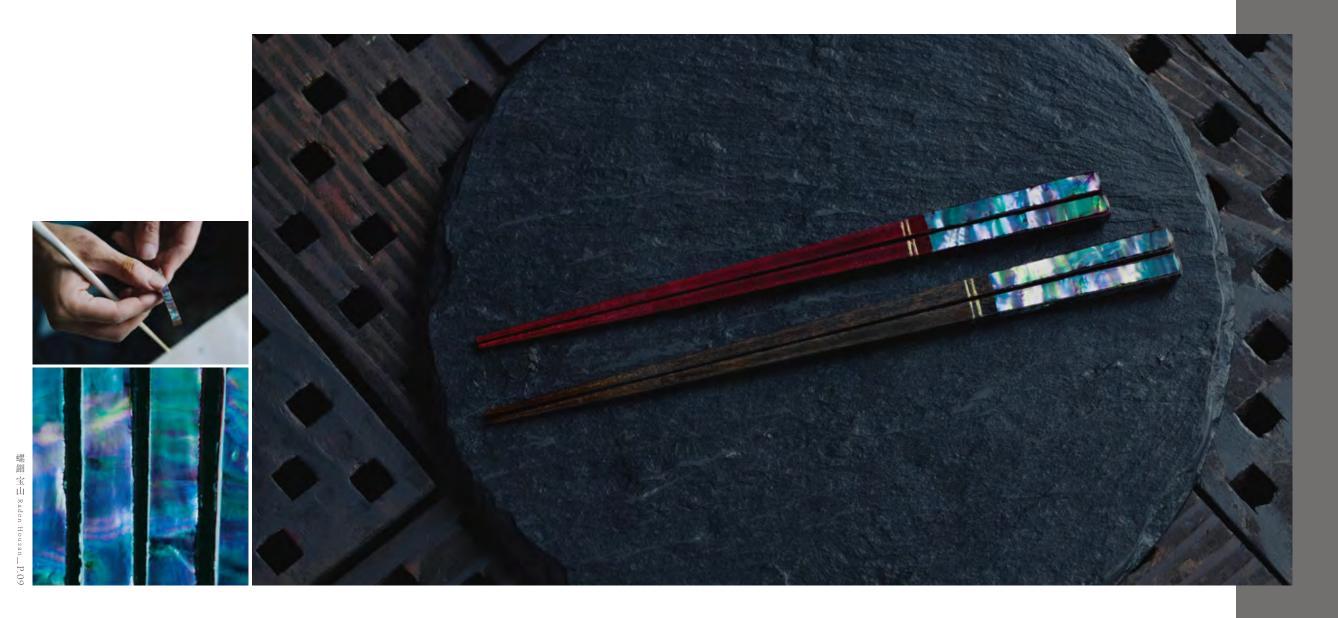
ioneering a New Beginning of Wakasa-Nuri Chopsticks



Traditional Wakasa Lacquerwa

古代若狭塗

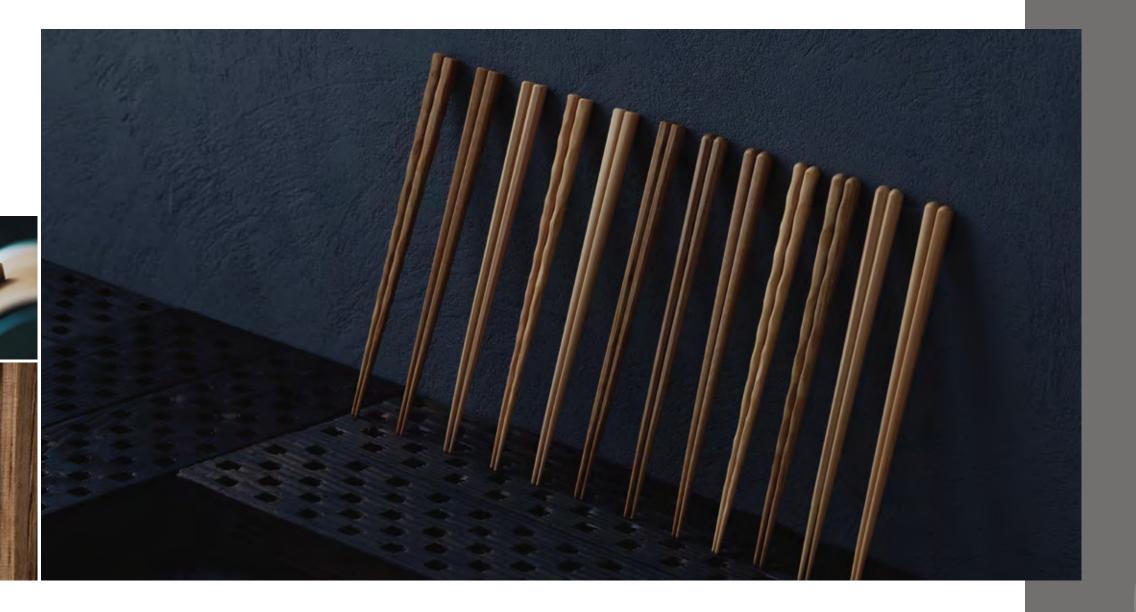
A traditional technique handed down from generation to generation in the Wakasa region of Fukui Prefecture. Shells, foils, eggshells, and other materials are carefully applied to the wood, then painted over and over again before the surface is scraped to reveal a glittering pattern. They are not only practical as chopsticks, but are also valuable masterpieces of traditional craftsmanship that carry on the history and originality of Wakasa-nuri.



Rade

螺鈿

Raden is a decoration in which patterns are drawn using shells. Its jewel-like beauty is characterized by beautiful patterns that emit various colors depending on the angle of light, and has fascinated people since ancient times. It is made mainly by crushing abalone, luminous shells, and other shells into small pieces and embedding the pieces into the surface of the lacquer. Skilled craftsmen carefully place the pieces one by one and polish them repeatedly, resulting in a smooth and shiny finish. Raden chopsticks are a traditional Japanese craft that combines artistry and practicality, and is a gem of craftsmanship and natural beauty.





Chopsticks made from carefully selected domestic wood. These chopsticks are a gem of a product that takes full advantage of the chamfering technique, which only a

You can experience the warmth and gentle texture that

HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND



Wakasa-nuri Raden

127903 [127910] [127927] [127934]

Blue23cm Pink23cm Green23cm Orange23cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating
Tip:Lacquer coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5



Wakasa-nuri Raden

127880 127897

Blue23cm Red 23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating

Tip:Lacquer coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5



Wakasa-nuri Raden

127552 127569

Blue23cm Pink23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tipDishwasher safe

Wakasa-nuri Raden

127477 127484

Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Wakasa-nuri Raden

127453 127460

Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

●Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND

10



Yamanaka-nuri

101521 101538

Black23cm Red 21cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Lacquer coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Square tip



Wakasa-nuri

127941 127958 Blue18cm Pink18cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

•Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Wakasa-nuri

127644 127651 Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

●Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



 Wakasa-nuri
 Marbling

 127620
 127637

 Blue23cm
 Red21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating
Tip:Lacquer coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5



Wakasa-nuri

127743 127750

Blue23cm Red23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

11

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Wakasa-nuri

127729 127736 Brown23cm Red23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Vakasa-nuri

Raden Tsuis

101286 101293 Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Acrylic coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip



Wakasa-nuri

Raden Tsuishu

117553 117560

117553 117560 Navy23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tipDishwasher safe



Traditional Wakasa Lacquerware

Raden

117256 117263 Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Acrylic coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip



Traditional Wakasa Lacquerware

Raden

117515 117522 Blue 23cm Red 21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Acrylic coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip



HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND



0

127835 127842 127828 Octagonal Curving Square 23cm 23cm 23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip Dishwasher safe

NEW

NEW

Japanese Wood Beeswax 127804 127811 127798 Octagonal Curving Square 23cm 23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Beeswax coating Made in Japan MOQ/5



127774 127781 127767 Octagonal Curving Square 23cm 23cm 23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Beeswax coating Made in Japan MOQ/5



118796 118802 118819 Black23cm Red 23cm Brown23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Square tip

Fine tip

118765 118772 118789 Black23cm Red23cm Brown23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Square tip

Fine tip



127866 127873 127859 Octagonal Curving Square 23cm 23cm 23cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip Dishwasher safe

HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND





117591 117607 Silver23cm Gold 21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe





Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe Fine tip



109053 109060

Black23cm Red21cm

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Coating/Polyester urethane coating

Material/Wood

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe







Dishwasher safe

108919 108926 Black Red 23.5cm 23.5cm Material/Wood Coating/Handle:Lacquer coating Tip:Dried lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip



Yamanaka-nuri MR Lacquer 101460 101477 Black23cm Red21cm Material/Wood Coating/MR lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5 Dishwasher safe Square tip

17

HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND





117744 117751 BR23cm RD21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Acrylic coating

Anti-slip tip Fine tip

HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip Dishwasher safe

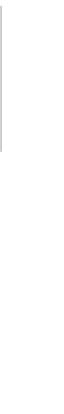
117812 117829

Green23cm Red21cm

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Coating/Polyester urethane coating

Material/Wood





Wakasa-nuri

Material/Wood

Anti-slip tip

20

Dishwasher safe Fine tip

109091 109107

Black 23cm Red 21cm

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Coating/Polyester urethane coating





Made in Japan MOQ/5





Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Dishwasher safe







Wakasa-nuri Raden

Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Tip:Lacquer coating

118475 118482

Black23cm Red23cm

Material/Wood

19





Material/Wood Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating Tip:Lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5



22

Wakasa-nuri

 [117652]
 [117669]
 [117676]
 [117683]
 [117690]

 Black 23cm
 Navy 23cm
 Red 23cm
 Green 23cm
 Yellow 23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Wakasa-nuri Ukie

101224 101231

Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating
Tip:Lacquer coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5



Wakasa-nur

101156 101163 Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating
Tip:Lacquer coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5



Wakasa-nuri

109138 109145 Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



HAJIME_KAWAI FLAGSHIP BRAND









INDEX

- 03 Brand Concept
- 05 HAJIME Creaters
 - 1.Planning and development
 - 2.Craftsman
 - 3.Sales
 - 4.Customer
- 15 Tips on how to select your best chopsticks
- 17 About KAWAI CO., LTD.

Pioneering a New Beginning of Wakasa-Nuri Chopsticks

While paying homage to the traditional chopstick-making techniques handed down in Obama City, Fukui Prefecture, including the ancient Wakasa-nuri and Raden, we reconsider and create a new interpretation of what chopsticks should be to suit modern lifestyles and values.

"HAJIME" is KAWAI's flagship brand, which starts a new future beyond the 400-year history of Wakasa lacquered chopsticks.













HAJIME is derived from Kanji "—"(Ichi). This name implies that the product is completed only when it is connected from the production area to the dining table in a single line.

Many people are involved in KAWAI chopsticks maufacturing.

Those who plans attractive products that have not yet been seen from scratch. Those who put their hearts and souls into giving shape to their plans. Those who convey the value of the completed product to the world and deliver it. And those who use the products with care on their daily tables. A single piece of wood, is passed from hand to hand, carefully nurtured, and eventually transformed into a pair of chopsticks. The "creaters" who are indispensable to HAJIME's chopsticks share their thoughts on the process.

企画開発 Planning a n d Development

We want everyone to feel the skill and heart that goes into every single chopsticks.

When people hear of traditional crafts, they tend to hesitate using them in daily life because they are expensive. We are trying to breathe life into Wakasa lacquered chopsticks, which tend to have such a high profile image, by making them more enjoyable and accessible cutlery that people will want to pick up and use in their daily lives. Through the creation of HAJIME chopsticks, our goal is to reconstruct traditional techniques.

As represented by "Tsuishu Shikisai," while the lacquering and polishing techniques themselves are classic, the bold use of pastel colors and other vivid hues challenges new expressions that overturn the stereotypes of lacquered chopsticks. The handiwork of a craftsman backed by experience is indispensable in creating delicate layers of color on the small surface of chopsticks. Since the actual finish could not be confirmed until it went through all processes, we repeatedly made samples, verified and improved

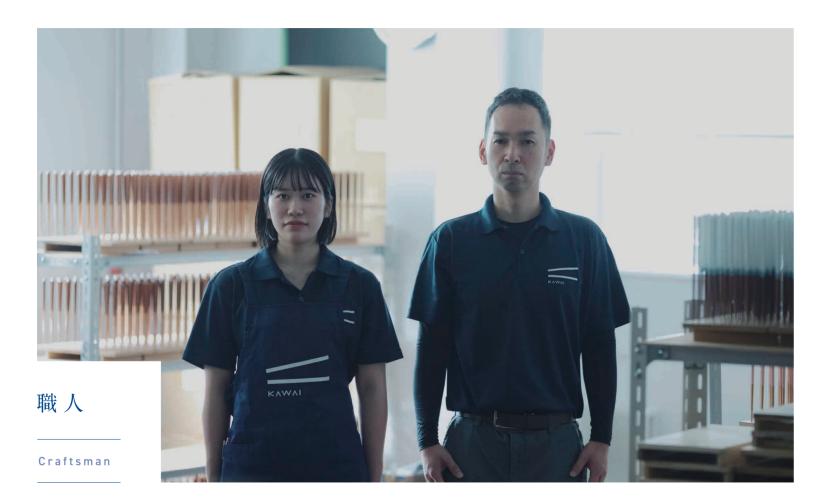
them, and finally reached completion after half a year's work. Why do we care so much about chopsticks? It is because we believe that chopsticks are not just a tool, but play an important role to enrich a dining table. Just as you feel a taste of sake better when served in a delicate glass, tableware has the power to enhance both the flavors and feelings we experience By changing chopsticks, we hope that the daily routine of eating will become a little richer. It is precisely because of this desire that we put our sincerity and passion into our chopsticks.

Nothing would make us happier than if you could pick up HAJIME and feel the passion of the chopstick creators who live and breathe for the art of chopstick making.









For chopsticks that will be on the table every day for the next 100 years.

Finally, we can deliver our best workmanship to you. The joy of completing a pair of chopsticks that you have worked so hard on is irreplaceable. As the name HAJIME implies, the brand has many ambitious products that we have tried to produce for the first time. One of them is "Raden Kousai". This chopsticks have a one-of-a-kind, fantastic shimmer that is released by scattering powdered abalone shells.

At first glance, this process may seem simple, but it requires a perfect balance of shells and paints to express unique luster. The finer the shell is crushed, the finer the powder becomes. However, it tends to sink when immersed in the paint. On the other hand, if the shell is roughly granulated, it looks rough and uncomfortable to hold. In addition, the process of lacquering and polishing can basically be done only once a day, thus taking several months to complete in some cases. Because of the time-consuming nature of the production process, the number of





craftsmen who manufacture these products has been decreasing recently. Nevertheless, we consist on chopsticks manufacturing because they push us beyond our own limits. Wakasa lacquered chopsticks are a proud traditional craft that our predecessors have built. But if we stop making technological progress by resting on our laurels, there will be no future for us.

To be the continuous choice of customers 100 years from now, and to be a part of the daily dining table, we must constantly break out of the status quo and update our products. I believe this is the role of the bearers living in the present. Through the creation of HAJIME, a highly challenging chopstick-making process, KAWAI's skills have been raised to a new level. We hope that the chopsticks made with all our hearts will be used by our customers with love and care for many years to come. This is our earnest wish as a craftsman.



Bring the joy of living to tables around the world through chopsticks.

Chopsticks play a prominent role at the dining table. It is not something that make a big difference in your daily life, but it enhances your meals, which are the star of the show, and slightly improve the quality of your life. We want to deliver the charm and the value of the handiwork behind it to as many people as possible. HAJIME was born from this desire. The appeal of this brand, which consists of two series, "INISHIE" and "ISAI", under the theme of the tradition and future of Wakasa lacquered chopsticks, lies in the craftsmanship that goes to the great effort of making each pair of chopsticks one by one in an industry that is becoming increasingly mechanized.

While ordinary chopsticks are completed in about 10 processes, many HAJIME chopsticks, which craftsmen repeatedly apply the lacquer, require more than 100 processes to manufacture. For example, "Rinka," a pair of chopsticks I was involved in planning, is characterized by the pretty flowers on the handles. For the

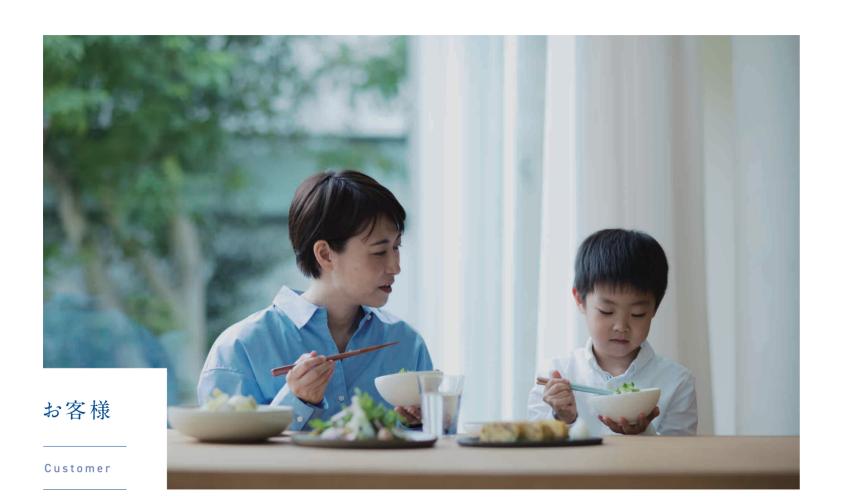
warmth and texture that only handmade products can provide, all the leaf painting and petal patterning is done by hand. How can we express the beautiful floral patterns and the plush texture that fits comfortably on the finger? Through repeated dialogues with craftsmen and repeated prototyping, we realized our ideal. Although it is said that almost all of the techniques of expression have been tried and tested in the 400-year history of Wakasa-nuri chopsticks, there is still room for evolution by applying originality and ingenuity in this way. That is why we would like to take on the challenge of creating chopsticks that have never been seen before, and propose new joys to people's lives. Through HAJIME, the circle of people who choose chopsticks with particular care and attachment will grow and eventually spread to dining tables around the world. We are seriously dreaming of such a future.





The

77



It is exciting to encounter new charms of traditional crafts.

When choosing chopsticks or tableware, it is of course important that they are easy to use and wash. However, it is also important that they feel comfortable when it held in one's hand and they look good enough to be used with affection for every day use.

For example, they may have a simple but attractive texture that blends well with the table and food, or they may have a design that is stylish and uplifting just by placing them on the table. We are happy when we encounter such attractive items that are not only practical as objects, but also make our daily lives a little better.

Wakasa lacquered chopsticks have the image of quality chopsticks made by hand by craftsmen. On the other hand, the term "traditional crafts" gives the impression that they were somewhat difficult to reach. What I felt when I saw HAJIME at the first time was a sense of newness and expectation that overturned such preconceptions.





I was surprised that the sparkle of "Raden" was expressed by using shells, and I like the gradation of the design of the chopsticks, which even looks very current.

There are so many ways to make the same chopsticks, from those that are truly traditional and historical to those with innovative colors that are hard to believe they are chopsticks. We can have different colors for each family member, or choose chic colored chopsticks for our parents' generation and send them as a gift.

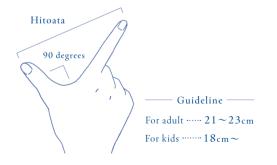
I am somewhat excited the enjoyment of living will expand through chopsticks. We look forward to continuing to encounter chopsticks that will make us aware of new charms of the traditional crafts.

A chopstick expert teaches you how to make the best choice for your chopsticks

- Q Short chopsticks or long chopsticks, which size is better?
- A First, find out what size fits you best.

The length of the thumb and index finger when spread at 90 degrees is called "Hitoata". Generally speaking, "1.5 times the length of Hitoata" is the most comfortable to hold. As a guideline, adults are typically 21-23 cm, and children are usually 18 cm and up.

Many people choose the length they prefer, and one way to enjoy it is to try different sizes.



- Q There are many different forms, how are they different?
- A The shape of the chopsticks determines how comfortable they are to hold.

Chopsticks come in many shapes and sizes, and they vary in feel and comfort. Learn the differences and choose your favorite Chopsticks.



Most common shape. The flat surface allows the fingers to be placed on, so force can be transmitted easily and stability is achieved. It doesn't roll around on the table.



Being close to round shape, it fits well in the hand to hold. The number "eight" is considered to be auspicious in Japan and good for a gift on a special day.



Its fine and stylish shape is appealing. Its light weight makes it easy to use for long time without getting tired, and it beautifully accentuates the hand.



The material texture and its curve fit the fingers well.

It is characterized by its stable holding comfort and elegant appearance.

- Q I like chopsticks that make it easy to pick up food.
- The ease of picking up food is determined by the chopstick tips.

The tip of the chopstick is an important part that determines the ease of gripping and mouthfeel. It is recommended to have several types available and use them for different occasions and purposes.



Round tip —	Soft feeling to the touch a mouth, and soft foods such as tofu can be brought to a mouth without crumbling.
Square tip —	The surface and corners of the chopsticks tip enable to grip food firmly. Perfect for slippery foods such as noodles.
Fine tip —	The tip is thin and good at fine work. No stress when loosening fish or picking up beans.
Anti-slip _	Anti-slip coating on the tip for enhanced gripping. Especially useful for oily foods.

How to take care of chopsticks

- Wash gently and wipe thoroughly after use. Prolonged soaking in water can cause damage.
- If a grain of rice gets on it and cannot be removed, it can be rinsed off by soaking it in warm water for a few minutes.
- If the paint is peeling or the tip is cracking, it is time to replace it to new one.

JAN Code(POS code)



Material/Wood Coating/Acrylic coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Important notes

- When placing an order, please ensure to provide the product code, product name, color pattern, and quantity. The product code will be prioritized in the ordering process.
- The design of chopsticks might be changed in order to enhance quality without a notification.
- There might be some differences on colors or shapes between a picture on catalogue and an actual product.
- The products on the catalogue might be changed or discontinued without a notification.
- Reposting and replication of the products or designs on the catalogue without our permission are not allowed.

This catalogue is valid until August 31, 2026.

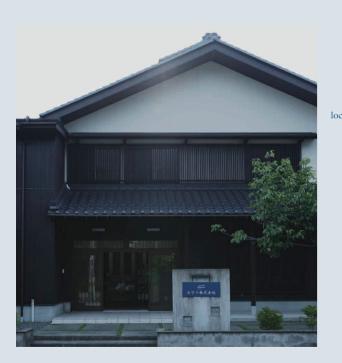


mountains.

Life _ #01

everyday life





About KAWAI CO., LTD.

location of headquarters

location of company-owned factory

affiliate company

0770-53-2465

foundation

TEL

FAX

incorporation

location of Tokyo office

CEO

capital stock

banking partner

Business Description

17

Planning, manufacturing, and selling Wakasa lacquered chopsticks, lacquerware, and other tableware-related products.

KAWAI CO., LTD.

16-2 Kitashioya, Obama city, Fukui

1-23-2 Igomori, Obama city, Fukui

2F M.BALANCE+UENO EAST 1-11-7 Higashiueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0015

KAWAI Holding Company, Inc.

0770-53-1354

https://kawai-ohashi.co.jp

1943 May

1985 January

Koichi Kawai

10,000,000 ven

Fukui bank Obama branch

Life Cutlery.

We, KAWAI, define such items and experiences that have various life backgrounds

Life _ #03

the essence

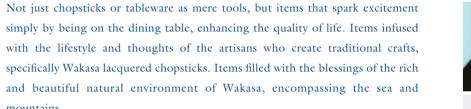
of nature

as 'life cutlery' and will share them with the world and the future.

Life #02

the lifestyle of

the artisans













Sasameyuki 細雪



Wakasa-nuri 109111

Blue23cm Pink21cm

Material/Wood Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe

Rinka 凛花



 Wakasa-nuri
 Ukie

 118697
 118703
 118710

 Black
 Light blue
 Yellow

 23cm
 23cm
 23cm

23cm 23cm 23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Dishwasher safe

Airy Clover エアリークローバー



Wakasa-nuri Ukie

118741 118758

Blue23cm Pink21cm

Material (Weed

14

Material/Wood Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating Tip:Lacquer coating Made in Japan MOQ/5 Hishibori Aurora 菱彫オーロラ



Wakasa-nuri

117706 117713 Blue23cm Red23cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe

Square tip





Wakasa-nuri

| 127668 | 127675 | 127682 | 127699 | Cobalt blue | Ruby | Salmon | Lavender | 23cm |

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe



Haruhi 春陽

Wakasa-nuri

Material/Wood

Anti-slip tip

11

Dishwasher safe

127965 127972

Blue18cm Pink18cm

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Coating/Polyester urethane coating



Kanazawa Gold Leaf

107394
107400
Silver23cm Gold21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Urethane coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5

Genkou 眩光



Kanazawa Gold Leaf

107370 107387

Large23cm Medium21cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Urethane coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Hananoito 華の糸



Wakasa-nuri

118437 118444
Black23cm Red21cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating

Tip:Lacquer coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Omomuki 趣き



Wakasa-nuri

103488 103495

Yellow23cm Pink21cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating

Tip:Lacquer coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Santa Fe サンタフェ



Wakasa-nuri
101194 101200
Blue23cm Pink23cm
Material/Wood

Material/Wood
Coating/Handle:Acrylic coating
Tip:Lacquer coating
Made in Japan MOQ/5





Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe





- Anti-slip tip
- Dishwasher safeSquare tip



Wakasa-nuri Raden

127576 127583 127590

Gray 23cm Blue 23cm Pink 21cm

Material/Wood

Coating/Polyester urethane coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tipDishwasher safe

Mikumo 海雲



Wakasa-nuri Marbling

[127606] [127613]

Blue 23cm Pink 23cm

Material/Wood
Coating/Polyester urethane coating

Made in Japan MOQ/5

Anti-slip tip

Dishwasher safe

Ukie

浮絵

How beautiful color pattern can be drawn in a space of only a few centimeters? The "Ukie" series challenges new expressions that overturn the concept of Wakasa-nuri chopsticks.

It is characterized by the delicate patterns created by artisans hand-applying tiny petals in three dimensions. The three-dimensional floral design looks like a sculpture and is a delight to the eye at the dining table.



Tsuishu

堆朱

As the word "Tsui" means to pile up in Japanese, this technique involves applying layers of paint and grinding them to create a gradation with each other.

It has a beautiful, refined texture that looks great on the table. In addition to their design, they boast superior durability compared to ordinary lacquered chopsticks due to their thicker coating.



堆朱 四季彩 Tsuishu Shikisai_P.09

Marbling

マーブリング

A unique technique in which special paint is dripped into water to copy the patterns created on the surface of the water. The name "marbling" comes from the marble-like coloring of the patterns that are formed. Each face has a different pattern and design, and no two chopsticks have the same pattern. You can enjoy the colorful expression of one and only pair of chopsticks in the world.

03







雲 Mikumo_P.10

Pioneering a New Beginning of Wakasa-Nuri Chopsticks

Adding a new color to tradition

HAJIME 異彩 ISAI

KAWAI, who believes that "chopsticks can be more interesting," has reinterpreted Wakasa-nuri chopsticks with a modern sensibility and created the "HAJIME ISAI" series, a lineup of free and bold ideas.

While preserving the tradition of chopstick making, the modern colors and patterns created by incorporating innovative techniques and a playful spirit will add color to your daily dining table and make your life with chopsticks more enjoyable and higher quality.







