



竹定商店

TAKESADA BAMBOO ARTISANS  
KYOTO SINCE 1877

Takesada Bamboo Artisans  
Selected Products and Works Vol. 3





# Endless Charm

Green bamboo, caressed by sunlight,  
fades to a pale, silken yellowish hue.

White bamboo, over decades,  
matures into a warm, deep sheen.

Soot bamboo, bathed in a century of smoke,  
takes on a lustrous, amber-brown patina.

Slowly evolving over time,  
bamboo embodies its environment,  
captivating all who gaze upon its quiet beauty.









## Spirit

Since ancient times, the Japanese have lived in close harmony with bamboo. From its presence in traditional homes - both inside and out - to its role in daily life, tea ceremonies, and gardens, bamboo remains an essential part of Japanese culture.

With its remarkable flexibility, strength, delicacy, and natural luster, bamboo takes on new forms in the hands of skilled artisans. Yet, as a material shaped by nature, each piece is unique, presenting challenges such as cracking and discoloration over time.

For nearly 150 years, we have been drawn to bamboo's quiet yet profound beauty. Our role is not just to work with it but to understand it - to preserve its legacy while embracing new possibilities.

With deep respect for tradition, we continue to refine our craft, honor the past, and explore the untapped potential of this extraordinary material.





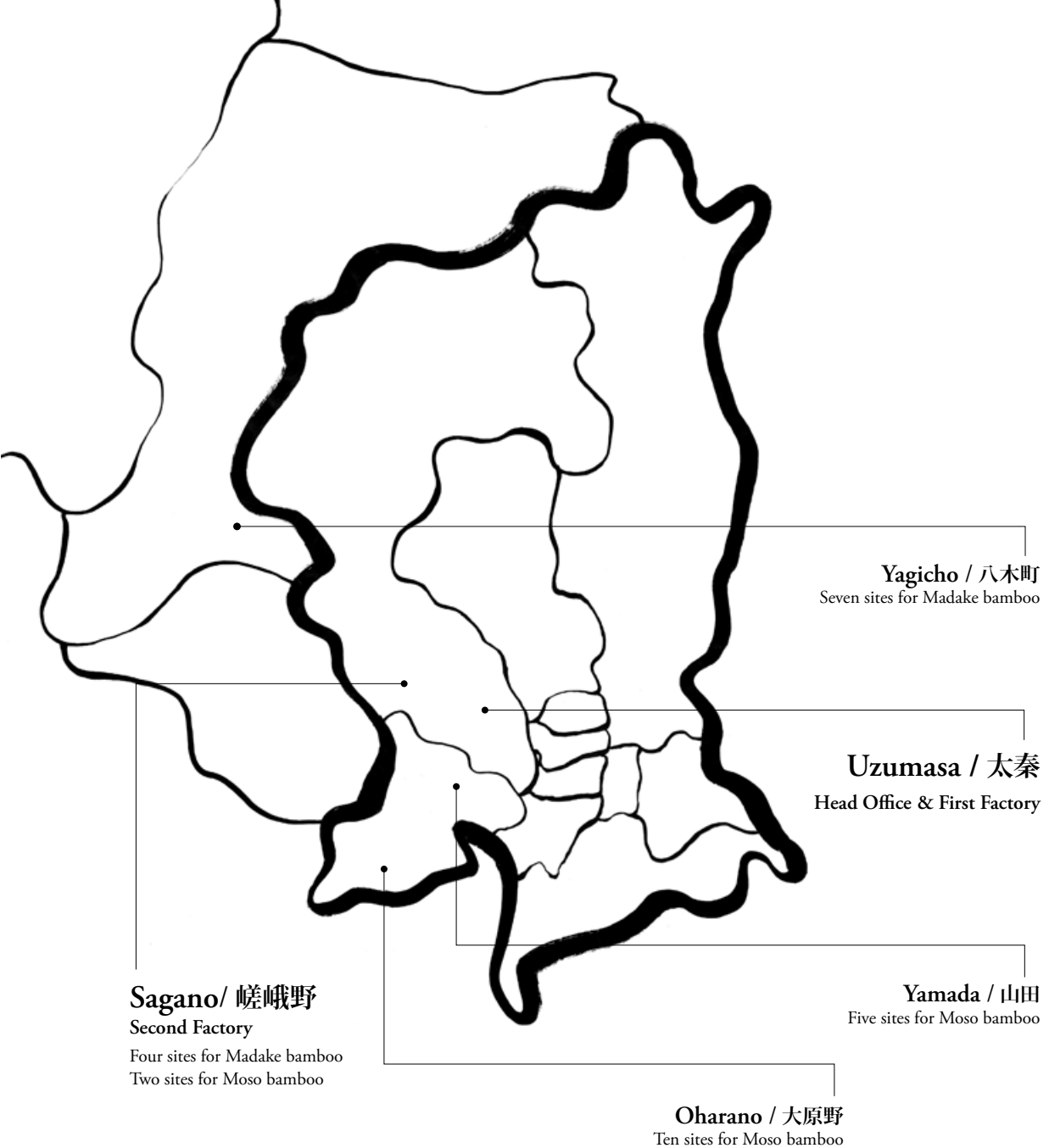




## Our Journey with Bamboo

- 1877** Takesada Shoten was founded by Sadajiro Inoue, the first generation, in Uzumasa, Kyoto, specializing in bamboo cultivation and harvesting.
- 1920** Under Tanekichi Inoue, the second generation, we began producing bamboo rings for sake barrels. Over time, this craft expanded nationwide, becoming one of our core products.
- 1960** In response to the ban on bamboo hoops for sake barrels in the U.S., we adapted by shifting towards the manufacturing of garden materials and products, marking an important turning point for our company.
- 1974** Takesada Shoten Co., Ltd. was established with a capital of 10 million yen.  
The early adoption of machinery allowed us to expand production, ensuring a stable supply and strengthening our presence in the bamboo industry.
- 1985** Under Shuzo Inoue, the fourth generation, we began producing interior materials and Kyo-meichiku (Kyoto bamboo). Recognizing both the growing demand for bamboo as a building material and its limited availability, we developed our infrastructure and expertise to manage the entire process in-house - from cultivation to manufacturing and delivery.
- 1996** The fifth-generation head, Sadanobu Inoue, was appointed as President and Representative Director.
- 2000** Sadanobu Inoue begins teaching bamboo craftsmanship at the Kyoto College of Traditional Crafts .
- 2017** Sadanobu Inoue's achievements were acknowledged, and was named a "Master Craftsman of Kyoto".
- 2021** We launched the "Bamboo Community Initiative" in collaboration with local governments, chambers of commerce, and forestry cooperatives in Kyoto, establishing a long-term sustainable frameworks for bamboo supply, addressing both, its environmental and social impacts of the industry.





**Today** The 5th and 6th generations, along with our dedicated team of craftsmen and craftswomen, we continue to cultivate strong relationships with bamboo merchants and landscaping businesses in Kyoto, while expanding our reach nationwide and gradually stepping into international markets. Though much has changed, our deep respect for bamboo and commitment to craftsmanship remain at the heart of everything we do.





## Sustainable Bamboo Supply - A Community-Based Approach

At Takesada Shoten, we believe that the future of bamboo lies not only in how we use it, but in how we care for its source. That's why we launched the Bamboo Community Initiative - a circular, community-rooted system designed to ensure the sustainable supply of bamboo while restoring neglected groves and revitalizing local livelihoods.

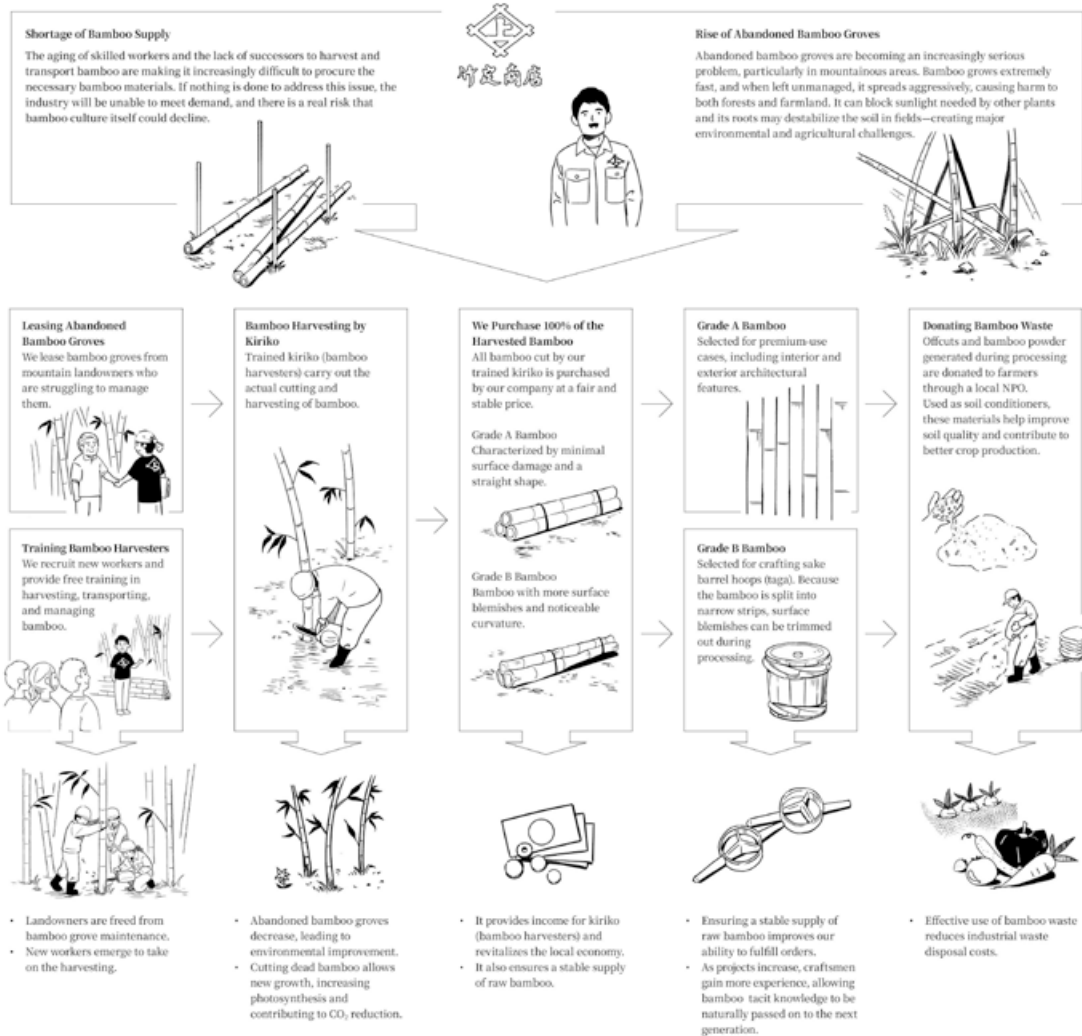
In recent years, Japan's bamboo industry has faced mounting challenges. The aging population of skilled harvesters and a lack of successors have made supply increasingly unstable. At the same time, unmanaged bamboo forests have been spreading across mountainous areas, damaging ecosystems and farmland due to uncontrolled growth.

In response, we developed a model that connects people, land, and material in a regenerative cycle. We begin by partnering with landowners who have overgrown or unmanaged bamboo groves. These groves are leased and carefully assessed. We then invite individuals interested in working with bamboo - regardless of background - to become kirikos, or bamboo cutters. Under the direct guidance of our master craftsmen, these new stewards learn traditional harvesting methods and forest management skills.

Every culm harvested through this process is purchased at a fair price and used in our production - transforming neglected groves into sources of high-quality material. But the cycle doesn't end there. Bamboo offcuts from our workshops are ground into powder and shared with local farmers via a nonprofit organization, where they serve as a natural soil amendment - returning nutrients to the earth and closing the loop.

This initiative not only secures a stable bamboo supply, but also contributes to the health of regional forests, supports local employment, and helps absorb CO<sub>2</sub> through the revitalization of properly managed groves.

Rooted in generations of bamboo expertise, this is our way of linking traditional craft with ecological responsibility - and of carrying bamboo, thoughtfully and sustainably, into the future.





MASA WARI  
杵割



# Parallel-Split



Masawari (Parallel-Split Bamboo) is a processing method in which both sides of the bamboo culm are sawn off to expose its inner cross-section. This technique allows you to appreciate both the smooth outer skin and the delicate internal structure of the bamboo simultaneously. The organic shape of the nodes adds

natural character and movement to any space. While ideal for partitions and screens, it can also be applied to sliding doors, wall cladding, and other types of joinery. When backlit, the subtle interplay of light and shadow across the split surface enhances the bamboo's depth and texture.

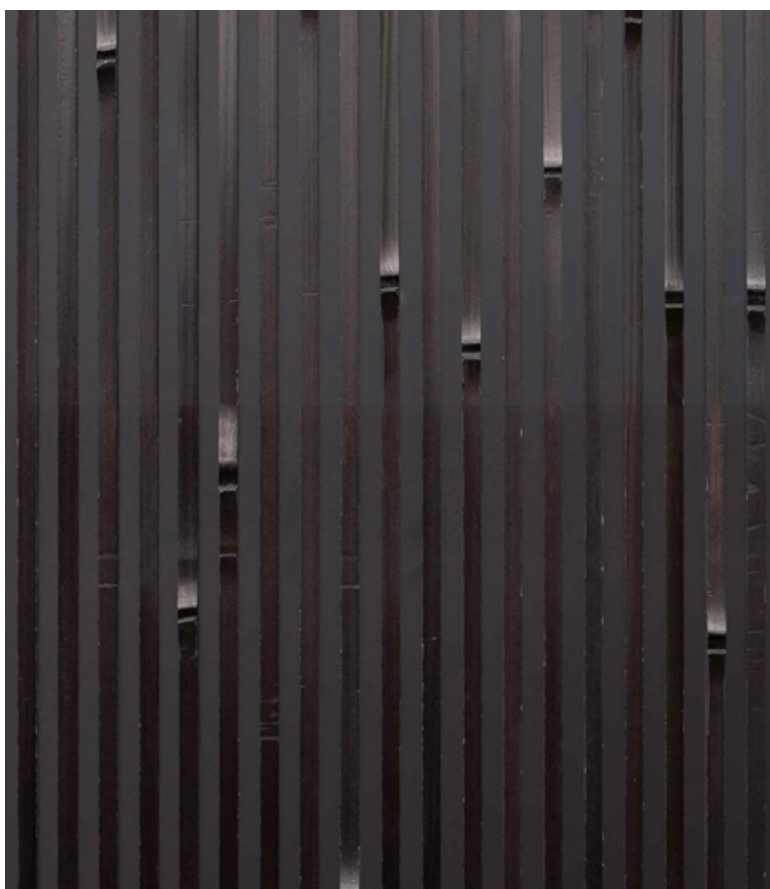


すむしろ  
SUMUSHIKO





# Sumushiko



Sumushiko is a latticework made from 5 mm-thin flat-split bamboo strips, assembled at regular intervals. The uniform spacing creates a refined pattern of light and shadow, lending visual depth and a sense of lightness to interiors. Each strip is precisely and carefully hand-split in-house to ensure consistent width and

even spacing. Inspired by traditional sudare slats and sugaki bamboo fences, Sumushiko harmonizes beautifully with both Japanese and Western aesthetics, making it ideal for hanging ceilings, retail wall features, hotel accent panels, and residential spaces seeking a modern, rhythmic bamboo texture.

# 平割パネル

HIRAWARI PANEL



# Flat-Split Panel



Flat-split bamboo panels are crafted by carefully adhering individually flat-split bamboo strips onto a wooden baseboard. The natural texture and subtle sheen of the bamboo are brought to the forefront, adding warmth and a refined atmosphere to any space. These panels are commonly used in traditional sukiya-

style architecture and Kyoto machiya townhouses, where they have long been valued for enhancing Japanese interior aesthetics. Suitable for application on walls and ceilings, the panels' soft, organic finish integrates beautifully into both traditional and modern environments.



# 半割パネル

HIRAWARI PANEL



# Half-Split Panel



Half-Split Bamboo Panels are made by splitting round bamboo culms longitudinally into halves and mounting them side-by-side onto a wooden baseboard. Compared to flat-split panels, they feature a more three-dimensional finish - shadows cast by the bamboo's natural curvature add depth to the space.

Suitable for a wide range of applications, from traditional aesthetics to modern designs, these panels are ideal for wall and ceiling installations. With a rich texture that combines bamboo's rustic strength and organic rhythm, this material brings natural expression and presence to any environment.



# ひしぎパネル

HISHIGI PANEL



# Hammer-Split Panel



Hammer-split bamboo panels are created by first back-splitting a round bamboo culm, then carefully hammering it along the grain with a specialized hammer to flatten it into a board-like shape. The naturally occurring irregular cracks, combined with the contrast between the glossy inner fibers and the outer

skin, create a uniquely textured surface. Primarily used for wall decorations in traditional Kyoto townhouses (machiya), Hishigi adds a rustic yet elegant presence that brings depth to any space. As a design material that balances the strength and delicacy of bamboo, it is well suited for a variety of interior applications.

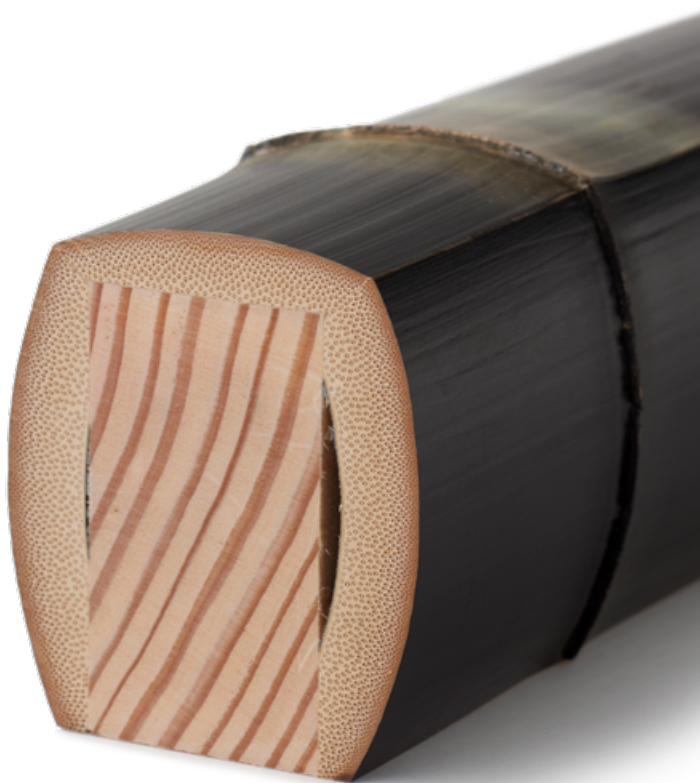


# 銘竹貼物

MEICHIKU HARIMONO



# Cornered Bamboo



Cornered Bamboo is made by precisely reassembling bamboo pieces split from the same culm, with the nodes carefully aligned. Unlike round bamboo, it features sharp-edged, angular forms that bring a refined, contemporary accent to the space. While various standard cross-sections and shapes are available, Cornered Bamboo

can be customized in both size and the number of veneered sides - ranging from one to five. Though traditionally used in Japanese architecture, its regular geometry allows for easy integration into modern interiors. This material is ideal for spaces where tradition and modernity intersect.



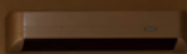
# 作











肉料理  
ふたご  
紅印





















































































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