



Tosa Washi

土佐和紙



Tosa Washi, nurtured by Tosa's nature, represents both the old and new worlds.

"Tosa Washi" paper, which is one of Japan's three major papers, boasts a history of over 1,000 years. Its rich variety and thin-yet-durable quality is highly appreciated, both in Japan and overseas. Tosa Washi has developed thanks to the nature of Kochi and the wisdom of our predecessors. Raw materials such as Tosa kozo (paper mulberry) that grow in rich forests, the pure and clear waters of the Niyodo and Shimanto

rivers, and the paper-making techniques and tools created by our predecessors have all contributed to Tosa Washi's long history. In the past, it was used for daily items like shoji paper screens that supported people's daily lives. Nowadays, Tosa Washi nurtures its charm in various forms, such as restoring cultural artifacts or creating new art work and daily goods.

Handmade Washi Paper Embodies the
Spirit of Japan
I'd like to convey from one person to
another, even for 1000 years!



I devote myself to
making washi all day
long.



● Inoue Washi Handmade Studio
4th Generation Head
Ms. Midori Inoue

A piece of washi paper
that I picked up that day.
I was so fascinated by its
beauty, I quit my
company job and
embarked on the path of
a craftswoman.

○ **Bushiness Establishment**

In this place blessed by the Niyodo River, you can enjoy a Japanese paper-making experience that touches the "heart of Japanese culture" at this storied studio. In addition to the washipaper for the traditional chochin lanterns and shoji screens, in recent years, I'm making sundry items making use of the washi raw materials in collaboration with authors and creators.

○ **What is Ms. Midori's greatest challenge?**

I have a desire to convey the charm of washi paper that embodies the Japanese spirit, using the washi-making experience as a gateway. I hope the fascination of washi paper can be conveyed from one person to another. I will continue to hone my technique, keeping in mind the words of my father-in law, "washi is made with the heart."

Thoroughly Expressing the Elegance and Modesty of Washi Paper

Let these products and experiences be a gateway to the charm of washi paper

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▼The washi-making experience and workshop tour are available to help you "feel the ancient wisdom of our predecessors". You can also touch the "soul of the Japanese" while you are making washi ♪



◀ "Persimmon Tannin Paper" is the signature Japanese paper of Inoue Washi Handmade Studio. It has water-resistant and insect-repellant.

▼We produce small items and miscellaneous goods by making best use of a variety of raw materials and colors, which have a gentle feeling unique to handmade items.



▲The hand-made "indigo-dyed" washi paper was inspired by the Niyodo River. You feel the story how washi paper has been made along with the waters of the Niyodo River.



Inoue Washi Handmade Studio Persistence & Skill

Midori's style of making washi paper involves listening carefully to the request of the person who will use it and how it will be used. As she says, "There is no limit to pursuit of greater techniques, so I'm determined to hone it for the rest of my life". She devotes herself to making washi all day long to improve her techniques. She's also proactive in attempting new things, such as developing washi paper made from discarded vegetables. She's a sincere person and who faces washi paper with sincerity every day.



土佐和紙
Customer
Testimonials



Washi Paper Customer Testimonials

◆Customer in his 40s female.Lives in Kyoto

◆Chochin Lantern Maker which produces chochin lantern for Awa-odori Dancing and the 88 Temples.Lives Tokushima



●Products Taken at the Office

**Traditional handmade washi paper.
We'll deliver you trust and
inspiration!**

◆Customer in his 40s female.Lives in Kyoto

Because handmade washi paper shines purely, our house and fittings are delightful and feel divine.

◆Chochin Lantern Maker which produces chochin lantern for Awa-odori Dancing and the 88 Temples.Lives Tokushima

They're good for making lanterns, because they're made with traditional techniques and without any additives mixed in.

Testimonials from people who experienced washi paper-making

◆A Jr. school student and his parent participated in Washi-making at our studio.

◆A group of high school students participated in a Washi experiment as a part of their extracurricular study.

**An opportunity to touch the charm
of TosaWashi paper....**

◆Jr. High School Student

Through washi-making, I had fantasies about true beauty of washi, and I want to hand it down to future generations.

◆High School Student

I've felt the importance of nature in Tosa Washi, and learned that I could convey it. I was made to think of the connection between the environment and craft activities.



●Products Taken at the Office

I'd like to live
in my own world

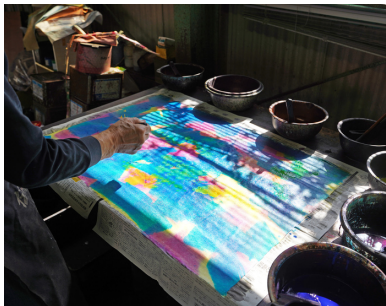
The imagination that
swirls in my head is
drawn onto washi paper.



● Tamura Washi Paper Studio

Mr. Haruhiko Tamura

Born in Ino Town in 1947. He has participated in the family's paper manufacturing business since he was in elementary school, and has been a craftsman for over 50 years!



○ Business Establishment

"Tamura Washi Paper Studio" was founded in the Meiji era, and the atmosphere from over 100 years ago still lingers in the workshop. For many years, we focused on making industrial paper, but due to the changing times, we're focused on "dyeing work". This workshop is a colorful space, where art paper and artworks are lined up.

○ What is Mr. Haruhiko's greatest challenge?

"From now on, I will continue to draw my imagination while having fun." When faced with Japanese paper, my imagination runs wild with things like color schemes, brush movements, and color combinations. It's a lot of fun to immerse myself in it, while thinking of who will use it. In addition to "dyeing" washi paper for writers I also make my own artwork in recent years.

Beautiful dyeing and art which attract many people

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▼This is a "Mugenzome brush dyeing" which was dyed with a running brush. You can feel the dynamic force and sensitive colors.



◀Arts which produces a three-dimensional effect by using non-crushed kozo as raw material.

▼"Mugenzome Dyeing" is Mr. Haruhiko's signature dyeing technique. It features pale and delicate colors. Is is used in many scenes such as for chigiri-e paper collage, wrapping, and calligraphy.



▲"Kawari Hikizome" is like a geometric pattern. These patterns are produced using with pieces of washi paper and a brush.



Tamura Washi Paper Studio Persistence and Skill

Mr. Haruhiko inherited the historical paper manufacturer and continues making Japanese paper. Due to change in paper industry, from around the age of 30, he gradually began focusing on "dyeing work" and delivered to the authors. After becoming 60 years old, he started his own creative activities in earnest. The dyeing technique called "Mugenzome Dyeing" never produces the same pattern twice. His wife described the pale and delicate colors as if from a "dream and illusion," which eventually became its nickname. The unique colors, produced from Mr. Haruhiko's experience and imagination, have garnered many fans.



土佐和紙
Customer
Testimonials



Customer in her 60s • Writer "Mugenzome Dyeing Paper"

Live in Kochi Prefecture



● Provided by the Office

Attracting the writer's mind by changing expressions depending viewing angles.

I've used it for over 10 years because I was attracted by its texture and beauty when I held it, and wanted to use for my works. I use it for putting on my bags and re-making baskets and tubs that are no longer used. I'd like to continue using it, because it has good characteristics that change depending on the viewing angle.

Customer in her 70s • Writer "Using Mugenzome Dyeing Paper"

Live in Kochi Prefecture

It appeals to me that no two patterns is the same.

I use it for crafts such as pasting onto bamboo baskets, and so on. It appeals to me that no two patterns is the same. I'm enjoying making works with a feeling that various stories can be seen because Mr. Tamura's washi paper has unique texture and softness.



● Provided by the Office

I'd like to expand the possibility of expressions with washi paper.

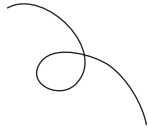
●Washi Studio Kamikoya

Mr. Rogier Uitenboogaart

Born in The Hague, Netherlands in 1955. He was fascinated by a piece of washi paper he encountered in his hometown in the Netherlands, and moved to Kochi Prefecture.



I'd like to convey the beauty of mountain villages through washi paper



○Business Establishment

The workshop is located on the hillside of Shikoku Karst, which is one of the Three Major Karsts. He cultivates his own raw materials and sticks to traditional methods that have been highly evaluated, both from home and abroad. He makes and sells goods including art paper, art work, interior goods, interior paper.

○What is Mr. Rogier's greatest challenge?

"To expand the possibility of expressions with Tosa washi." The origins of making washi were found in everything, from living surrounded by the nature of Kochi to the tools and materials handed down over generations. I'm trying various expressions using washi paper, such as staying and experiencing the charm of washi paper, and combining washi and European traditional paper.

Expressing the beauty of nature in washi paper.

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▼An artwork made using what's called the "pulp painting" technique. The unique patterns and textures are just like an oil painting.



◀This cutlery rest and napkin ring are made from washi paper. Rustic colors add warmth to dining tables.

▼A lampshade with a gentle faint light, as if it were packed with "beauty of washi". Various types are available.



▲Traditional handmade washi made using home-grown raw materials and without machines or chemicals. Proposing various types of washi paper with different colors, textures, and patterns.



Washi Studio Kamikoya Persistence & Skill

The raw materials are grown without chemicals and fertilizer, using water from upstream of Shimanto River, and handmaking washi paper. It conveys the message, "I'd like you to touch washi paper and witness the beauty of nature." He is in harmony with nature, both when making washi paper and in his own lifestyle. He's wanted to express the beauty of the nature through art paper, work of art, lodging and experiences. His range of activities is expanding, such as collaborations with architects and craftspeople of traditional industries.



土佐和紙
Customer
Testimonials



Customer in his 60s • Takuhon Craftsperson "Using Art Paper

Live in Tokyo



● Provided by a User

He is in charge of handing history down to the future generations, and also uses it for his artwork.

I use this art paper for "making work" and "Ink Rubbing" which copies the inscriptions on stelae. It all began when I tried some different kinds of art paper while I was staying overnight on my journey. I like this paper because it catches ink bleeding properly and can create attractive light ink expressions different from Japanese senshi or gasen paper.

Customer in her 40s • Accommodation Business " Using Wall Paper "

Live in Kochi Prefecture

The beauty of traditional washi paper can be enjoyed even at hotels

We use Mr. Rogier's delicate works at our hotel, because we'd like our guests to enjoy them.

It's durable and looks good, and is very popular among customers. We also sell washi paper and interior goods.



● Taken at the Office

Add Washi Paper into Your Daily Scenery Closer to you.

I'm in the world of
washi paper myself. I'm
happy to be involved.



●Tosa Washi Papier

Ms. Maki Morisawa

Born in Tosa City. She's loved paper-making since she was a child, when she watched her grandmother make paper.



○Business Establishment

Along the Niyodo River in Tosa City, there is a hand-made studio that's existed for four generations. Maki wished, "I'd like people to pick up washi paper freely," and so she started the "Tosa Washi Paper Studio Papier" in Kochi City, where her original Japanese washi paper goods are available.

○What is Ms. Maki's greatest challenge?

"To make washi feel closer to you". Washi paper might have an expensive reputation, but I'm making washi goods you'll want to include in your daily life, such as sundry items or wrapping paper, etc. Nowadays, our number of young customers is increasing. I'd like you to become familiar with washi paper through Papier.

These wonderful Japanese paper goods are simply irresistible.

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▼Many items making the best use of washi materials, such as sundry goods, letters, noshibukuro envelopes, etc. are available for purchase. They add a little accent to everyday items.



◀The washi paper items on display were handmade by washi craftswoman Maki. We also accept custom orders, many people come up with new ideas from Papier's Japanese paper.

▼A bottle wrapping kit with the muted texture of washi paper. Comes in a wide variety of textures and colors.



▲"MY chopsticks case (comes w/ chopsticks)" made of washi paper. They are colorful and stylish items which are useful on many occasions, such as going out.



Tosa Washi Papier **Persistence & Skill**

As a handmade craftswoman and owner of Papier, she's managed this place since her 20s. She makes the washi used for making these original products all by herself. Among them, the "Washi Board", with its rough texture and extra thickness, is good for walls, doors and interiors. There are also reasonably-priced products that can easily be used in everyday life, which is filled with her desire to "bring washi closer to your daily life".



土佐和紙 Customer Testimonials



Customer in her 40s • Restaurant Owner "Using for Calendars"

Live in Kochi Prefecture



●Products Taken at the Office

The calendars made of unique washi paper blend right into the space.

I've used these calendars to decorate my store for about 20 years. The gentle texture unique to Tosa washi paper is fantastic, and the letter shapes also fit nicely onto the paper. I'm satisfied because the calendars fit with the atmosphere of the shop. I also give them as gifts to those who have taken care of me.

Customer in her 40s • Restaurant Owner "Using for Calendars"

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Customer in his 70s • Restaurant Owner "Using it for Name Cards"

Live in Kochi Prefecture



●Products Taken at the Office

Washi-made namecards make people smile when given. It's very useful on business.

It's been 20 years since I started using business cards made by Papier. Those who receive my cards are pleased with their soft color and the atmosphere of washi paper. There are many variations of washi paper at Papier's shop, so I'd recommend making a visit.

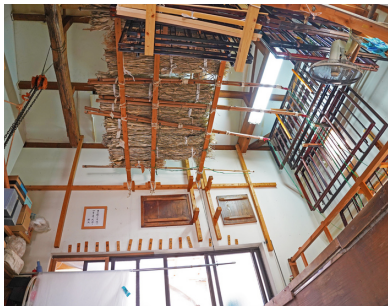
I would like to continue making washi paper that stands the test of time.

The simple beauty of washi paper makes you feel relieved.



Mr. Ryoji Tamura

Born in Shimanto City in 1966. He desired to "craft things derived from nature", so he took the path of a craftsman.



○Business Establishment

He started his workshop in Ino Town in 2008. He preserves traditional techniques and makes washi with simple texture. It's a daily occurrence to see many large boards pasted with washi paper left to sun-dry in his garden. In addition to restoration paper and shoji screen paper, he also produces shades of washi for interior decoration.

○What is Mr. Ryoji's greatest challenge?

"To continue making Japanese paper that can stand the test of time." Shortly after I decided to become a craftsman, I felt the "simple beauty" of washi paper when I held it up to the sunlight. This was my origin. Made with traditional techniques, washi paper is beautiful and very strong. I continue making washi with the thought that they can remain for future generations.

Simple and beautiful washi paper, crafted with natural methods.

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▼ Natural washi paper is carefully made by taking advantage of the characteristics of the material accompanying the authors' work.



◀ "Rakusuishi" is made by dropping water on the surface of the washi paper to create patterns. It's a masterpiece born from delicate techniques.

▼ Washi paper is made while consulting with clients. Clients who know Ryoji's craftsmanship make orders for his traditional formula that doesn't use chemicals.



▲ The interior shade made of washi paper. You can feel the simple beauty of washi paper as it sways in the wind.



Mr. Ryoji Tamura Persistence & Skill

Ryoji says that "it's a little difficult, but I try to finish it carefully". He's particular about burdensome tasks such as raw material processing without using chemicals or sun-drying being affected by weather. In recent years, he has cultivated raw materials himself. He says the moment he felt the "simpleness and beauty of the washi paper" was his origin. His mentality towards washi paper seemingly continues to embody that moment.



土佐和紙 Customer Testimonials



Customer in her 50s • Writer • Female • "Uses thin Ganpishi Japanese paper"

Lives in Canada



● Provided by a User

The craftsman's personality and passion is evident in the paper itself.

Mr. Tamura's paper has good quality and embodies his honesty and love for his craft. In recent years, I've used it for large-sized work. I always bring Mr. Tamura's paper to exhibitions, residence programs, and workshops overseas.

Customer in her 50s • Female • Cultural Property Restoration Technician "Using custom paper for cultural property restoration"

Lives in Kochi Prefecture

The paper is very useful at sites where valuable historical materials are restored!

In order to meet my requests, they devise and finish the paper, such as how to wash the fibers, make the paper, and dry it. It can adapt smoothly with great feel to any materials, including Japanese paper, western paper, leather, and wood. It is outstandingly helpful in the field of preservation and restoration, both at home and overseas.



● Provided by a User