



江戸指物

[えどさしもの]

Wood Joinery

●主な製造地

台東区、荒川区、江東区ほか

●指定年月日

昭和58年8月1日

平成9年5月14日(国)

●伝統的な技術・技法

1. 板の接合は、はぎつぎ 刳接、はしぼめ 端嵌接、平打接、組手接又は留接による。
2. 框(棒)の接合は、あいかきつぎ 相欠接、つぎ ほぞ接(原文は「ほぞ」は漢字)又は留接による。
3. 塗りは、ふきうるし 拭漆、ろいろ塗り、塗り立て又は目弾き塗りによる。加飾をする場合には、ときえ 時絵、めいすい 螺鈿等による。

●伝統的に使用されてきた原材料

木地は、クワ、ケヤキ、キリ、スギ又はこれらと同等の材質を持つ用材とする。

漆は、天然漆とする。

●沿革と特徴

江戸時代、徳川幕府は多くの職人を全国から呼び寄せ、江戸の神田・日本橋界限に大工町・鍛冶町・紺屋町などといった職人町を造りました。江戸時代の中頃には消費生活の発達につれて、大工職の仕事は戸障子(建具職)、宮殿師みやし(宮大工)、ひものし 桧物師などに細分化されて行き、その一つとして指物師も生まれました。

江戸で発展した江戸指物は、武家や町人・商人に用いられることが多く、その風土ゆえに華美な細工は好まれず、淡泊な木目に渋味をもつ漆塗りを施して素材の木目の美しさを活かしたものが好まれてきました。

桑、櫟、桐など木目のきれいな原材料を生かし、外からは見えないところほど技術を駆使し、金釘打を施さないで作られる江戸指物には、職人の心意気が感じられます。

切る、削る、突く、彫るという四つに集約される指物の技には、頑固なまでの職人の個性が感じられます。



連絡先

- 産地組合名／江戸指物協同組合
- 所在地／〒116-0002 荒川区荒川 3-26-1
- TEL／03-3801-8506



Edo Sashimono

Wood Joinery

Traditional Technologies and Techniques

1. Furniture joinery techniques used in the production of Edo Sashimono include hagitsugi (buted joints), hashibame (tongue and groove joints), hirauchitsugi (flat braid joints), kumitetsugi (box joints) and tometetsugi (wedge joints).
2. The jointing of furniture frames involves aikakitsugi (halving joints), hozotsugi (tenon joints) and tometetsugi (wedge joints).
3. When Edo Sashimono is lacquered, the following techniques are used:
 - Fuki-urushi: Raw lacquer is rubbed into the wood with a cotton cloth or brush and immediately wiped off before hardening. Repetition results in a coating that protects and strengthens the wood and highlights the beauty of its grain.
 - Roiro-nuri: A polishing technique giving a high gloss. It is carried out by rubbing with a very fine

abrasive such as pulverized deer horn applied to a cloth moistened with lacquer.

- Nuritate: A technique of applying a finishing coat of lacquer and allowing it to harden without subsequent polishing.
 - Mehajiki-nuri: The application of lacquer to open-grained wood like Paulownia or Zelkova in such a manner that it is repelled by the grain, which thus remains visible.
4. If decorated, techniques such as maki-e (sprinkled pictures) and raden (mother-of-pearl inlays) are used.

Traditionally Used Raw Materials

The following types of wood are used in the manufacture of Edo Sashimono: Mulberry, Zelkova, Paulownia and Cypress. Other timbers with similar properties may also be used. Natural lacquers are used.

History and Characteristics

"Sashimono" is a term derived from the traditional practice of using a woodwork ruler (or a "monosashi" in Japanese) to carefully measure timber materials in order to create box-shaped items of furniture, such being equipped with precise-fitting lids and drawers.

In Kyoto, the "sashimono" tradition enjoys a very long history, it being possible to trace the associated joinery skills back to the court culture of the Heian Period (approx. 794-1185). In those days, such furniture was made by hand by carpenters. The "sashimono" skills of dedicated "sashimonoshi" (specialized furniture joiners) evolved from the Muromachi Period (1337-1573) onwards, as furniture such as shelving, chests of drawers and desks all saw greater usage in samurai households. Furthermore, in accordance with the development of the tea-ceremony culture, it is said there was an increased demand for box-shaped items of furniture such as "sashimono". Thus, the craft of the "sashimonoshi" diverged from the carpentry profession along with a number of other artisan trades including "toshoji" (craftsmen of doors and shoji screens), "kudenshimiyashi" (craftsmen specializing in temple and shrine work) and "himonoshi" or "magemonoshi" (craftsmen of

bentwood products).

Edo Sashimono saw service with samurai families such as those of the Shogun and of the various daimyo (the feudal lords). Furthermore, much "sashimono" was made for the merchant class that rose from the middle of the Edo Period (1603-1868), and also for the use of Edo's Kabuki actors (in the form of theatrical chests).

There is an almost total absence of nails in the construction of "sashimono".



Contact Details

Manufacturing Area Cooperative Name: Edo Sashimono Cooperative Association
 Address: 3-26-1 Arakawa, Arakawa Ward, Tokyo 116-0002
 Telephone No.: 03(3801)8506