



# 東京打刃物

[とうきょううちものはもの]

Hand-Forged Blades

## ●主な製造地

足立区、荒川区、台東区ほか

## ●指定年月日

平成元年7月26日

## ●伝統的な技術・技法

1. 鍛接は、地鉄部分と鋼の間に糊砂ほうしゃを入れ、約900℃で加熱し、速やかに金槌でたたいて接合する。この際、加熱しすぎて、鋼の成分を損なうことのないよう注意する。
2. 焼鈍（なまし）は、火床で加熱した後、炭の粉、又はわら灰の中に入れ、自然に冷却させる。
3. 焼入れは、火床で約800℃に均一に赤めたものを、水中で急冷することにより、刃物に硬度を加える。
4. 焼入れした刃物は、火床の上で低温で加熱し、品物の肌色を見ながら焼戻しを行い、刃物に適当な靱性（ねばり）をもたせる。

## ●伝統的に使用されてきた原材料

鋼はがね、地鉄じがね



## ●沿革と特徴

武士階級が台頭するにつれて刀剣職人が現れ、着鋼法によってソフトでしかも切れ味の鋭い日本独特の刃物が生まれました。

徳川家康が江戸幕府を開くと各地から商人や職人が江戸に移住し、幕府の御用職人の中には、鋳物師や打物鍛冶師の名前も記されています。

江戸時代も中期に入り太平の世が続くと、刀鍛冶の技術を生かして、日常生活に必要な道具や刃物の製作にたずさわる、いわゆる町鍛冶に転向する者も出てきました。

さらに明治4年に廃刀令が公布されると、ほとんどの職人は刀剣から業務用、家庭用刃物づくりに転業せざるをえなくなり、彼らは文明開化とともに伝来した洋風刃物の製作にも取り組みました。

### 連絡先

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# Tokyo Uchihamono

## *Hand-Forged Blades*

### ■ Traditional Technologies and Techniques

1. During forge welding, borax is inserted between the ferrite and steel portions of the workpiece, then the materials are heated to approximately 900°C (1,652°F) and swiftly struck with a hammer in order to combine them. Care must be taken to avoid overheating the materials, as doing so may result in loss of steel content.
2. Following heating in the forge, annealing is achieved by placing the workpiece in coal dust or straw ashes and allowing it to cool naturally.
3. During quenching, a workpiece that has been

heated in the forge to approximately 800°C (1,472°F) until it glows uniformly red is quickly cooled through submersion in water, this increases the blade's hardness.

4. Following quenching, the blade is heated again at a low temperature in the forge to temper it while the craftsman monitors its surface appearance. This imparts suitable toughness to the blade.

### ■ Traditionally Used Raw Materials

Steel, ferrite

### ■ History and Characteristics

Swordsmiths appeared as the samurai class rose to power. These craftsmen steadily improved their skills, eventually devising a method of forming blades with soft iron and attaching steel along the cutting edges. This created the soft yet sharp-cutting blades that are unique to Japan.

After Tokugawa Ieyasu established the Edo Shogunate in 1603, merchants moved to Edo from all over Japan. The names of metal casters and forging experts were also recorded among the lists of craftsmen who served the Shogunate.

Japan enjoyed a period of peace from the mid-Edo Period onward. During this time, an increasing number of swordsmiths changed their production focus, utilizing their smithing techniques to create the implements and blades needed for everyday life. In other words, many of them transformed themselves into town blacksmiths.

Following the fall of the Edo Shogunate and

the Sword Abolishment Act of 1871, which prohibited ordinary people from carrying weapons, most of the remaining swordsmiths were forced to start making commercial and kitchen implements. They responded to the nation's Westernization (known as bunmei kaika, "the civilization and enlightenment movement") by applying their inherited skills to the manufacture of Western-style blades.



### Contact Details

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