



Let me guide you around an ikebana exhibition!

IKENOBO
ikebana
Origin of Ikebana



How to Enjoy Ikebana

Welcome to Our Ikebana Exhibition

Ikenobo Ikebana has three basic styles:

Shoka

Rikka



At ikebana exhibitions, you can enjoy works filled with a sense of the season or else concentrating on a specific topic.



Free Style



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Ikenobo Society of Floral Art

It is said that ikebana started from a monk's offering of flowers before the Buddhist deities in Rokkakudo Temple (aka Chohoji Temple) in Kyoto, which was established by Shotoku Taishi. As the lodging house ("bo" in Japanese) where the monk lived was located beside the pond ("ike" in Japanese) of Rokkakudo, the chief priest of the temple gradually came to be called "Ikenobo." In the 14th century when the Muromachi Era began, ikebana developed as a decoration for the Japanese *zashiki* rooms as the architectural styles in Japan were going through great changes. Ikenobo Sen'no, the Headmaster of that time, then established the principles of ikebana, which have continued, handed down, to this day.

Illustration by Junko Raiko



Ikebana was born from Ikenobo

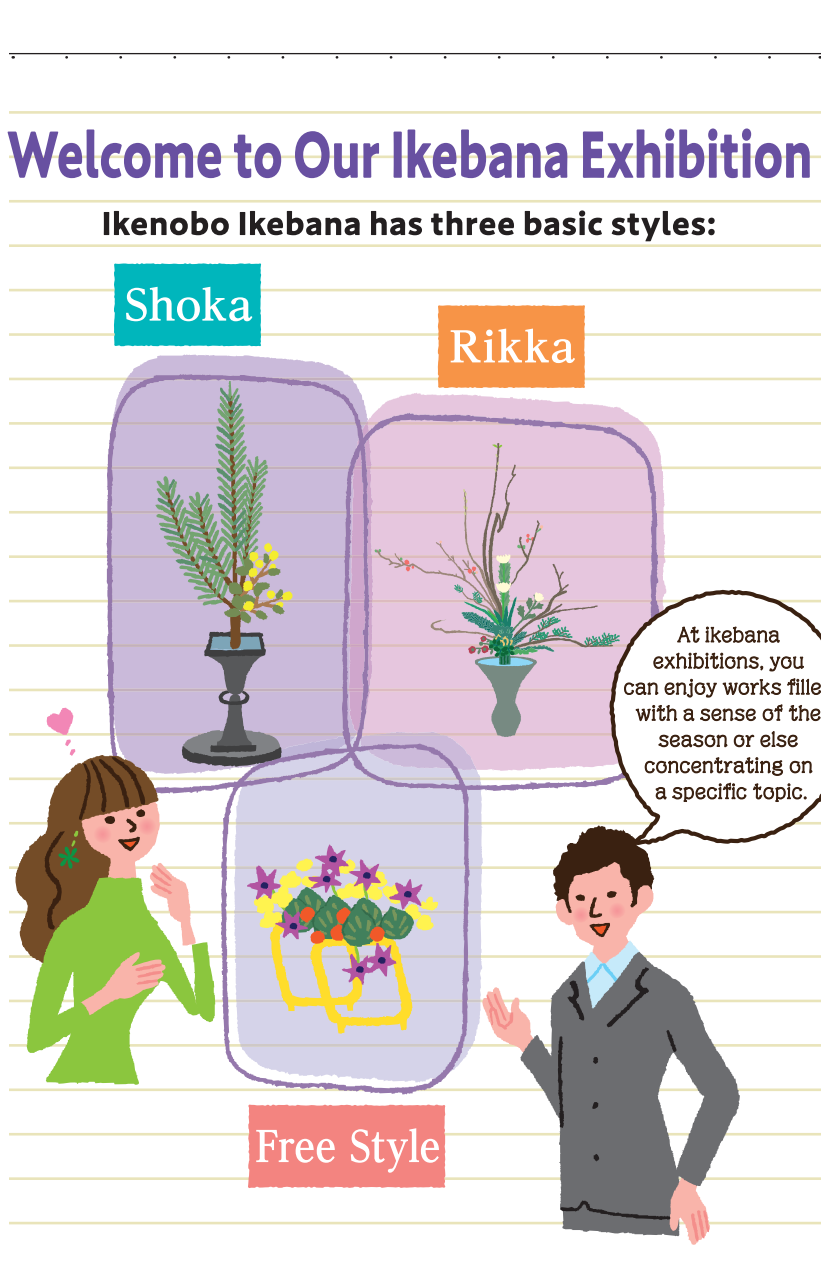
Scan the 2D code to go to Youtube

Please watch our video!

The first point is the "standing posture". 第一個着眼点:「直立姿勢」.

The points on appreciating Rikka 立花の鑑賞ポイント

For More to Learn



Looking at Works

Each work has a name plate carrying the name of its creator.

The name plate is situated on the front of the work.

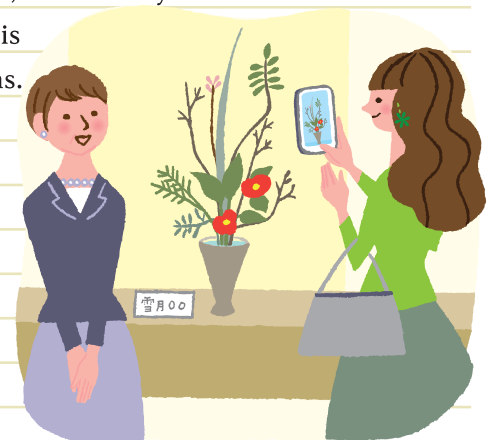


⚠ Please avoid touching the works.

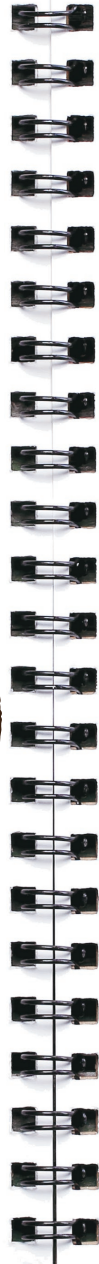
Photography

You don't want to pass by a beautiful work without taking a picture of it do you? Well, don't worry too much because generally picture-taking is allowed in the exhibitions.

(Just to be sure, please confirm at the reception.)



⚠ When posting a picture on your SNS, please be careful not to reveal the identity of its creator.



Free Style



Free from traditional set patterns
Flowers arranged based on the creator's unique ideas



Arranged in cloth
draped on a wall

Swaying, suspended
from the ceiling

Arranged to be hung on
a wall just like a painting

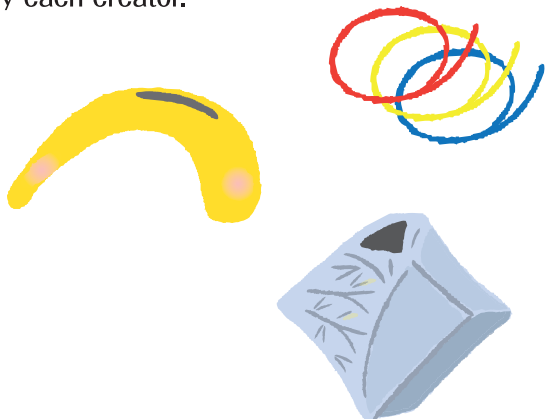
Without a specific pattern or set of rules, Free Style freely conveys its creator's inspiration.

Points to Appreciate

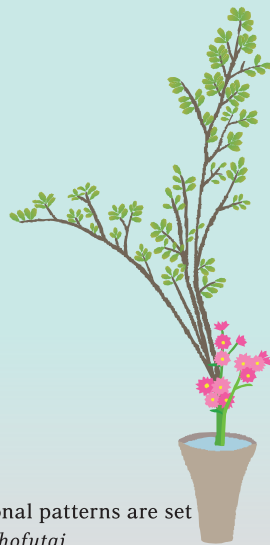
- No rules for floral materials or quantities to use
- Materials other than plants can be included
- Check out the wide variety of ingenious ideas of the creators! (Combinations, display, and how the flowers are fixed.)

See if you can catch the creator's intention

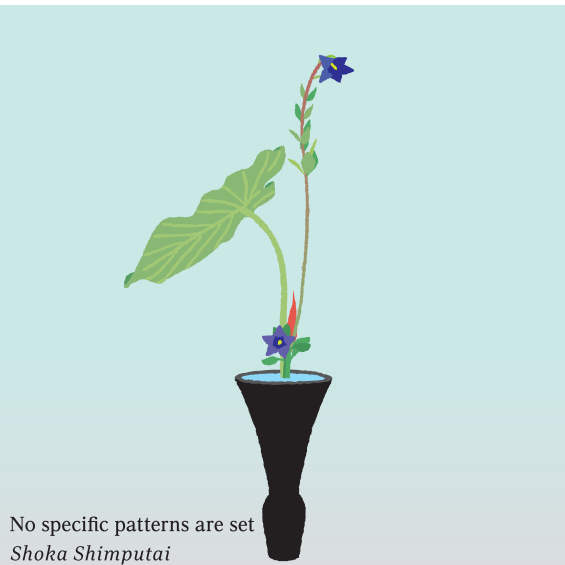
Every Free Style ikebana work has a topic to express. To express such topics, creators use various augmenting methods in their works, such as colored wires or uniquely shaped vases. Please enjoy the world demonstrated by each creator.



Shoka



Traditional patterns are set
Shoka Shofutai



No specific patterns are set
Shoka Shimputai

Only a few kinds of floral materials are used to emphasize the characteristics of each material, to eventually express the joy of life or the vigor of the plants.

Points to Appreciate

- No more than three kinds of floral materials are used
- Spontaneous, pure depiction of each plant
- Simple structure to make the plants appear to be growing or arising from the *mizugiwa**

*Mizugiwa: The source of life for plants

Mizugiwa is the part of the water surface connecting the plants and water in the vase. When imagining the water in the vase as the ground, you can see the plants appearing to grow from it, as though given life from the water source. Ikenobo follows the tradition of "*Mizugiwa Hosoku Suguyakani* (*mizugiwa* should be slender, clean, and straight)," in which all the plants in the work should look as if they are a single plant at *mizugiwa* from the front side.



Rikka



Traditional patterns are set
Rikka Shofutai



No specific patterns are set
Rikka Shimputai

The most traditional style handed down from the Muromachi Era (the 16th century). Characterized with its dignified style where plants grow upright from the *mizugiwa*.

Points to Appreciate

- The beauty of an asymmetrical, seemingly imbalanced structure
- Expressing time and space with height difference (tall means far, short means close)
- Harmony of various plants conveying the grandness of Nature

In ikebana, we use not only fully-bloomed flowers but also buds, withered leaves, and even worm-eaten leaves. There is such variety, and the naturally changing shapes of plants, the glory of a plant's life at various stages of its life is celebrated. Watch and feel each plant as it lives for the moment!

