

Japan: Artefacts

Code	Name	Description	Notes
JAP01	Koma	A wooden spinning top	In Japan, koma asobi (top spinning) is a simple game that has been enjoyed by children and adults since as early as the 10th century. It is especially popular during the New Year holidays. The tops have metal in them. Experts can make the tops spin in amazing ways. Children can try to knock one another's Koma over. It is especially popular at New Year.
JAP02	Origami (folding paper)	Samples of origami, paper sheets and instructions	Orgami originated in China but has been practiced in Japan for over a 1000 years. A small number of folds are used in a huge variety of ways to make intricate and amazing sculptures. Ori (folding) and gami (paper).
JAP03	2 small dolls and 2 small lorries	Plastic toys	Typical cheap toys made in Japan
JAP04	Daruma doll - Good luck talisman	Small wooden 'roly poly' figure	These are thought to bring good luck and are sold mainly within shrine grounds. People buy them in the hope of better fortune. When the Japanese want to make a wish come true, they often buy a Daruma doll and paint in one of the eyes (traditionally the right). If the wish comes true, they paint in the other eye as a sign of gratitude. Some Daruma dolls return to the upright position after being tilted to one side. they have

			<p>therefore become symbolic of optimism, persistence, and determination. The dolls are based on an older 'self-righting' doll known as a little roly poly priest.</p> <p>Hi ni! Fu ni! Fundan Daruma ga Akai zukin kaburi sunmaita!</p> <p>(Once! Twice! Ever the red-hooded Daruma Heedlessly sits up again!)</p>
JAP05	Sensu	A folding fan	<p>The first folding fans were made more than a thousand years ago. They were made from strips of wood threaded together. The more pieces of wood - the more important the person who owned it!</p> <p>A few people still use them in summer, when wearing formal costume or dancing - they might even collect them because they are beautiful. Most people keep cool with air-conditioning and electric fans!</p>
JAP06	Syuji set - also known as Shodou	Ink stick and ink stone	<p>The ink for Japanese calligraphy is not a liquid. It is a solid mixture of soot and glue that the calligrapher grinds with some water on a special ink stone to produce liquid ink.</p> <p>Until recently Chinese and Japanese calligraphers never had liquid ink, they had to make it fresh. Serious calligraphers will still make their own ink.</p> <p>Good ink is made out of fine</p>

			<p>soot and a small proportion of natural glue. The surface should feel smooth.</p> <p>To make ink you pour water on the stone, hold the ink stick with the thumb on one side and the index and middle finger on the other side, press it lightly into the stone and make circular movements with the stick. After a while the ink becomes blacker and thicker.</p>
JAP07	Wallet	Cloth wallet with Japanese design	Typical design
JAP08	2 handkerchiefs	Hankies of typical Japanese design	It is thought to be bad-mannered to blow your nose in front of other people. Some people will sniff constantly rather than blow their nose.
JAP09	magazines 1 newspaper		General information about Japan -a good example of Japanese writing
JAP10	1 pair of chopsticks and how to use them		<p>Knives and forks are generally only used for eating western food. Many families eat sitting at low tables on cushions.</p> <p>Here are a few table manners to remember:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never point with your chopsticks • Don't blow your nose at the table • Do not spear your food with your chopsticks • Finish all of your food • Leave your plates and

			<p>chopsticks as they were laid for you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlike in some East Asian countries - it is rude to burp at the table!
JAP11	2 saucers	ceramic saucers	Typical Japanese design - good for display
JAP12	Hanabi (fireworks)	Packet of fire works	<p>'Hanabi' can also be translated as 'flower fire'. This flower image comes from beautiful spherical shaped blossoms such as the peony or the chrysanthemum, the symbol of Japan's Royal Family.</p> <p>During the summer - especially August, there are firework festivals all over Japan. Making the hanabi is considered to be an art.</p>
JAP13	Cotton wrap	Typical Japanese design	This wrap could have many uses - a shawl or cloth to put over a small table.
JAP14	Seven gods	Paper hanging picture	<p>These Gods of fortune are from Japanese folklore. Their faces are often used in decorations Each has a traditional attribute:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ebisu, god of fishers or merchants, often depicted carrying a sea bream. 2. Daikokuten (Daikoku), god of wealth, commerce and trade. Ebisu and Daikoku are often paired and represented as carvings or masks on the walls of small retail shops.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Bishamonten, god of warriors. 4. Benzaiten (Benten-sama), goddess of knowledge, art and beauty, especially Music. 5. Fukurokuju, god of happiness, wealth and longevity. 6. Hotei, the fat and happy god of abundance and good health. 7. Jurōjin, god of wisdom and artwork.
JAP15	Three brooches	Flower shaped and made from Japanese newspaper	These brooches have been made using cuts and folds from recycled paper.
JAP16	6 Coasters	set of coasters in a box -	These everyday objects show examples of Japanese artwork.
JAP17	Photo frame	Small decorated frame	
JAP18	Girls' Day Card <i>hina ningyo</i>	Layered pink fold up card	Girls' Day Festival is a Japanese celebration of spring which takes place on March 3rd. Traditionally, grandparents or other relatives give dolls (called <i>hina ningyo</i>) to girls who are celebrating their first Girls' Day. These dolls have been handed down from mother to daughter for many generations in most Japanese families, and have become treasured family heirlooms.
JAP19	Boys' Day card	Currently missing	Tango no Sekku: This day is celebrated on May fifth, when carp flags and kites (one for each son in a family) fly outside homes all over

			<p>Japan.</p> <p>The carp is the symbol associated with this day because the Japanese consider it to be the most spirited of fish. Children should learn to have this determination.</p> <p>Boys are given samurai (Japanese soldier) dolls to reflect the strength they should try to display.</p>
JAP20	Seilogan	Bottle of pills	<p>Medicine for stomach-ache.</p> <p>Charcoal has been used for hundreds of years for poisoned and upset stomachs. Charcoal binds to the 'bad' microbes and prevents them spreading.</p>
JAP21	Japanese green tea	Box of tea (Currently missing)	<p>Tea drinking is an important part of Japanese culture. Tea is a very popular drink in Japan. There are many different qualities of tea, and each is prepared in a different way. Some fine teas are very expensive.</p> <p>Many people believe that drinking green tea is very good for your health.</p>
JAP22	1 wild bird sanctuary badge	Cloth badge	Souvenir
JAP23	26 photos about Japanese culture, famous views etc	(Currently missing)	
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