

Workshop Descriptions

Beginners Workshop

In this workshop, Jiro will start by teaching a hexagonal weave, for the first layer of the basket, which will be overlaid (next layer) with a random weave, resulting in a small wall hanging. In addition to above, he will teach Rinko weave to make a small round basket.



Basket for beginners - Random weave over hexagonal weave



Rinko Weave

Bamboo Accessory Workshop

Students will make pieces of bamboo using random weaves (*midare-ami*) and create pendants. Students have an option to use thin *higo* (bamboo strips) or a bit wider and then decide their own shape.



Advanced Workshop

For experienced basket makers, Jiro will teach a 4-layer hexagonal weave in a cylinder shape, finishing with various cane wrapping techniques for the top edge and feet, different cane wrapping techniques will be demonstrated.

Workshop Descriptions



Advanced techniques on basket

Materials

Samples of the material participants will be using in the workshop called *higo* (meaning strips of bamboo, cane or in some cases, wood). On the left, is the round *maru higo*, and on the right is the flat, *hira higo*. The *higo* will be made by Jiro and carried from Japan.

Students will not be preparing their own materials. Jiro will demonstrate how he makes the strips of “higo” and will provide resource information in the US where you may obtain prepared “higo”. For the beginners class, most students will be able to make 2 pieces, \$25 per basket.



About Higo

Jiro prepares most of the strips (*higo*) himself, although sometimes a friend in Beppu helps him out. The *higo* are prepared by splitting the bamboo, and separating the outer layer from the rest of the bamboo pole. Then each strip is trimmed to the same width and thickness and then bevelled. He selects higo without blemishes and without nodes (cut to length from node to node).

Experience

For the advanced workshop it isn't necessary to have worked with bamboo before, but students should have some experience with basketry weaving techniques.