

姫路黒棧

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“Himeji-Kurozangawa”, known as “Black Diamond of Leather”



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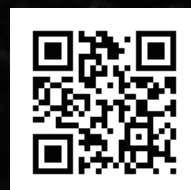
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• kurozan net
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English

About Himeji Kurozan

Himeji Kurozan leather, made from Japanese Kuroge Wagyu cattle, combines the traditional Japanese techniques of tanning and lacquering.

Kurozan, also known as the “Black Diamond of Leather,” is a beautiful type of leather that appears to be strewn with a countless number of small diamonds.

Today it is utilized in martial arts equipment such as chest and trunk protectors for Kendo.

It is said that this leather was used to make armor and helmets for generals during the Sengoku (Warring States) Period.

Himeji Kurozan brand concept

Based on Kurozan leather’ s historical background and the unique qualities of this material, we intend to showcase the concept of “The Japanese Leather” and increase recognition via a proactive approach that includes industries in which this brand—which has been developed together with the products—has not been handled before.

In this way, we will explore new possibilities for leather and leather goods.

We will dedicate efforts to making Himeji Kurozan into a Japanese brand that can be shared with the world, hoping to create a brand that is highly evaluated in the market and inspires people to want to own it.

Sakamoto Corporation’s dedication to craftsmanship

All processes are completed in house!

To create the ideal Kurozan leather, it is necessary to produce a leather base that matches well with lacquer and allows for the best lacquer application.

The ideal Kurozan can only be manufactured with thorough knowledge of the special characteristics and physical properties of both the leather and lacquer.

Eco Leather Certification

We have produced leather that is kind to people and nature via environmentally friendlytanning techniques that use as few chemicals as possible.



Production of Kurozan leather

SAKAMOTO CORPORATION carries out the entire production process spanning from tanning to processing.

All fur is removed from rawhide of Kuroge Wagyu, which is then tanned to a white color and soaked in plant tannins.

We have used this tanning technique for nearly 10 years.

Next, the leather is soaked in liquid iron.

The liquid itself is not black, but the tannins and iron have a chemical reaction that dyes the light-brown leather to a black shade.

The texture of Kurozan leather includes embossed, hand-rubbed and KIWAMI types.

Lacquer is repeatedly applied to the bumpy texture by hand and then dried.

These multiple layers of lacquer create a sense of luster and volume, and also enhance the glossiness of the black color.

Only a small amount of rare Kurozan leather can be completed via labor of this sort.

Even a dedicated craftsman can only make around 20 pieces per month.

◎ Exhibition and Awards History ◎

- 2004 Outstanding Award in Hyogo New Leather Contest
- 2008 First participation in Tokyo Leather Fair
Chief Juror’ s Award in Hyogo New Leather Contest
- 2010 Governor’ s Award in Hyogo New Leather Contest
- 2012 Director’ s Award from Manufacturing Industries Bureau of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Japan Eco-Leather Award in Hyogo New Leather Contest
- 2013 Director’ s Award from Kinki Bureau of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Japan Eco-Leather Award in Hyogo New Leather Contest
- 2014 First participation in APLF in Hong Kong
The Best New Leather prize at the Best of APLF Awards of APLF- MM&T
- 2016 In Paris Premiere Vision
Handle Prize Winner
- 2018 Hyogo New Leather Competition
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Award & Received the Japan Eco Leather Award

2008 ~ 2011
World-Class Standard Oeko-Tex Standard Class 2 Certified
7 Japan Eco-Leather Certified Products
(Maintaining this standard till now)

About Himeji Kurozan leather KIWAMI

At the 2014 Hong Kong Asia Pacific Leather Fair –Materials, Manufacturing & Technology Exhibition (APLF –MM&T), Himeji Kurozan leather KIWAMI was the first Japanese product to win the Best New Leather Prize.

In this tanning technique, the leather is not only kneaded by hand but also processed in other ways to create a bumpy texture.

To make this Japanese leather—based on the principle of “fluidity and immutability”—we utilize the lacquer’ s characteristic drying and hardening properties and leverageour tanning and lacquering techniques to draw out the leather’ s charm to the maximum degree. The judges praised the usage of traditional leather, which has existed since the time of Samurai, in the realm of contemporary fashion such as bags, shoes, etc.

The world’s best fashion material fair "Premiere Vision"

At the textile award hosted by "PV Award"

I received the first "handle award" as a Japanese company in the leather sector.

To fuse domestic Japanese Wagyu leather, tanning and lacquer technology,

Japan's unique leather processing technology was highly appreciated.



Himeji Kurozan Leather

