



# What's EDO KIRIKO?

It is said the first EDO KIRIKO was a carving on the surface of glass using emery by the glassware craftsman, Kyubei Kagaya of Edo Odenmachi in 1834. In 1873 the Shinagawa Glass Factory (*modern day Kita Shinagawa 4-chome, Shinagawa-ku*) was established, and an English glass-cutting expert, Emanuel Hauptmann, was invited as a glass-cutting advisor in 1881. Over ten Japanese craftsmen learned from him and this is when the traditional glassware craft technique still used to this day was developed. The popularity of Kiriko began to grow around this period along with the progress of cutting techniques as well as the popularization of glassware. In the Taisho period, researches regarding glass materials used for cutting glass were conducted while polishing techniques for crystal glass were developed, and this helped to further raise the quality of EDO KIRIKO. "Cut Glass" rapidly developed to become a high-level craft and was the representation of glass crafts from the Taisho period to the early Showa period, which also became its first golden period. In 1985 EDO KIRIKO was designated as a traditional craft industry of Tokyo, and it also became designated as a traditional craft product of the country in 2002.

The future goal of EDO KIRIKO is to develop glass crafts that pursue beauty as well as quality in a time when glass crafts are developing in ways never seen before, and also continue to preserve and develop the traditions of EDO KIRIKO.



### Waridashi

Vertical and horizontal marks are placed as guidelines for the cuts to be made.



### Arazuri

The glass is cut using a wet diamond wheel to decide the rough outline of the design.



### Sanbangake

More detailed, smooth cuts are done based on the rough outline performed at the Arazuri stage.



## Manufacturing process

### Ishikake

Artificial whetstones and natural stones are processed while applying water, and the surface with cuts are made smoother.



### Migaki

The cut surface is polished by applying dissolved abrasives on a rotating wooden disk or resin-type pad. There is another method where luster is given by soaking the glass in a chemical (acid polishing).



### Bafugake

The glass is polished by applying dissolved cerium oxide as an abrasive onto the rotating disk of textile such as felt and cotton.



## July 5th is the day of EDO KIRIKO

There are over ten types of representative symbols used for the traditional craft of Edo Kiriko. Among them is the "Nanako", which represents fish eggs. The Nanako is an extremely simple pattern, but for that very reason it is one of the most difficult cutting designs that test the skill of the craftsman. For this reason this particular day was chosen as the memorial day since this pattern represents the soul of craftsmen who put such effort into the smallest details of their works.

## Kohnosuke SAKAZAKI

EDO KIRIKO  
Goodwill Ambassador

Vocalist and guitarist of the rock band, "THE ALFEE". Born in Sumida-ku, where EDO KIRIKO is the local industry of the district. Also known as a collector of Japanese glassware.



## EDO KIRIKO COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

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The product with "Mark of Tradition" (quality certification label) is the Traditional crafts product officially designed by the Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry, that has passed the standard of the EDO KIRIKO COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.

