

# HAPPY JAPANESE GAMES

DISCUSSION OF THREE JAPANESE GAMES: EASY TO LEARN & FUN TO PLAY

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## HANETSUKI | JAPANESE BADMINTON



*Similar to Badminton but without a net. Objective is to keep the shuttlecock in air as long as possible. Played by males and females, either by one or multiple people.*

- ∴ Introduced from China, initially played by court class (1433).
- ∴ Became a "girl's game" after Edo Period, played mainly during the New Year celebration.
- ∴ Decorated vs. Non-Decorated

### ACCOUTERMENTS

**Hagoita:** A paddle generally carved from paulownia, cryptomeria, or other light wood.

**Hane:** A shuttlecock made of sapindus seeds (commonly soapnut or soapberry) and feathers.

## KAIOOI \ KAIWASE | SHELL MATCHING GAME

*Game most popular during Heian period, played by upper class woman. Purpose of the game is similar to the game "concentration" or "memory".*

- ∴ Kaiooi vs. Kaiawase

### ACCOUTERMENTS

**Kai:** "Shell," each whole shell having matching images on the inside.

**Kaioke:** Container. Shape of the container varies: cylinder, square & octagon, either multi-tiered or simple bucket-like in design.



## TŌKO | PITCH POT

*Originated in China (8th Century BC) and imported to Japan in 8th Century AD. Game was inspired by the sport of archery. Objective is to successfully throw arrows into the neck of a vase.*

- ∴ Game played mainly by adults, often as a "drinking" game.
- ∴ Still played today by children & families during New Year celebration.

### ACCOUTERMENTS

**Tōko:** Vase which acts as target made out of metal, ceramic, and or wood.

**Ya:** Arrows made from Mulberry, Zizyphus, and or Bamboo.



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