

Ikenobo Glossary of Terms
Prepared by Naples Ikenobo Chapter Teachers
With assistance from other chapters

The following terms are used often in the definitions below and are provided here for your better understanding of all of the terms used in Ikebana Ikenobo

Kenzan	Similar to a pin frog; device with needles/pins to hold flowers
Shoka	Traditional composition of three lines that form a scalene triangle; Shin, Soe and Tai
Rikka	Originally a temple decoration and offered to Buddha; the oldest style of Ikenobo
Yakueda	Principal parts or insertions of an arrangement; e.g. Shin, Soe and Tai are the three principal yakueda of a Shoka Shofutai

Ashirai	Additional lines of material that support or compliment a yakueda in any Shoka or Rikka Shofutai or Shoka or Rikka Shimputai arrangement.
Betsuden	Special variations or studies of Shoka Shofutai
Chabana	Floral arrangements for the tea ceremony; literally “tea flowers”
Chudan	Mid-level of a Shoka or Rikka design
Chudan Nagashi	Refers to a nagashi branch in a Shoka Shofutai at the mid-area of the arrangement
De	The height or point from which main branches emerge from the center of a rikka arrangement
Debune	Outbound hanging boat arrangement; with prow and sail facing left and oar trailing to right
Denka	A traditionally classified variation of shoka and rikka
Do	The body or center of a rikka; needed to provide visual strength
Futakabu-ike	Two group traditional style Shoka. Two styles: Gyoda-ike consisting of two groups of water plants and Suirika-ike --one land and one water group.
Gedan	Lower level of a Shoka or Rikka
Gedan Nagashi	Refers to a nagashi branch at the lower level of a Shoka
Ginza	Shopping or store
Gyakugatte	Reverse or left handed arrangement that would be placed on Buddha’s left; from the viewer’s perspective the sun or soe is on the viewer’s right
Gyodo-ike	Two groups of water plants in a Futakabu-ike arrangement
Gyo Style	More relaxed style of a Shoka or Rikka arrangement where branches extend more outwardly from front, sides and rear
Hamono	Materials arranged for the beauty of their leaves
Hasami	Special scissors used in creating Ikebana arrangements
Hongatte	An arrangement that would be placed at the right hand of Buddha; from the viewer’s perspective the sun or soe is on the viewer’s left
Hikae	One of nine basic yakueda in a Rikka arrangement; roughly 1/5 height of Do; balances uke and is smaller than uke
Iemoto	Headmaster of a school of Ikebana
Ikebana	Art of Japanese flower arranging

Ikenobo	Original school of Japanese flower arranging
In	The shady side of an arrangement; back side of material
Iribune	Inbound hanging boat arrangement with prow and sail facing right and oar trailing to left
Irogiri	A placement used in rikka to separate two materials of the same color; usually used to separate do and maeoki materials of the same color
Ishobana	Designed Sanshuike as compared to a Naturalistic Sanshuike arrangement
Isshuike	One material Shoka Shofutai (traditional) arrangement
Jiyuka	Free Style design
Jodan	Upper level of Shoka or Rikka Shofutai
Jodan Nagashi	Refers to a nagashi branch on the upper level of a shoka
Kadai	Stand upon which to place your arrangement
Kado	The way of flowers
Keishobana	Naturalistic Sanshuike
Kenzan	Similar to a pin frog; device with needles/pins to hold flowers
Kimono	Woody tree, shrub or bush material
Kome	Slender stick placed across kubari behind stems to keep materials in place in classical Rikka or Shoka Shofutai arrangements
Komiwara	Bunch of straw sheaves used to hold flowers in a classical Rikka or Shoka Shofutai arrangement; replaces kenzan
Koshi	The hip or bend in a shin of a Shoka or Rikka
Kubari	Forked stick used in Shoka Shofutai arrangements to hold flowers in place; usually in bronzes; replaces kenzan
Kusamono	Grasses and flowers with soft stalks; e.g. no woody parts
Mae	A term for an ashirai meaning front – as is Shin mae
Maeoki	One of nine basic yakueda in Rikka. Smaller mass in front of Do.
Mae Zoe	Soe inserted in front of shin in a shoka design; a betsuden teaching
Maze-ike	Variation of a nishuike shoka using two materials of differing quality and form; often a mix of grasses and flowers like those seen growing in fields
Mekabu	Small group position in divided Shoka. This female group consists of the tai group (nejime of Tai Shin, Tai Tani, Tai Saki and Soe za)
Mikoshi	A rikka shofutai yakueda; light in feeling; in back of arrangement
Mizugiwa	Neckline and water's edge of a Shoka or Rikka design; areas must be clean cut, neat and slender.
Moribana	Piled up flowers; naturalistic arrangements often in flat container or suiban. This style is now part of Jiyuka and no longer referred to as Moribana.
Nagashi	One of nine basic yakueda in Rikka Shofutai.
Nageire	Thrown in arrangement in tall container; this style is now part of Jiyuka and no longer referred to as Nageire
Nejime	Flowers in tai group of a Nishuike Shoka; consists of Tai Shin, Tai Tani and Tai Saki
Niju-ike	An arrangement in a two part container consisting of an upper and lower level; usually a bamboo container
Nishuike	Two material Shoka Shofutai
Oha	Large leaves used in Rikka that are placed in front of shoshin to serve as liaison between various branches.

Okabu	The larger or male group position in a divided Shoka (Futukabu-ike) consists of Shin, Soe Group and Tai za.
Rikka	Originally a temple decoration and offered to Buddha; the oldest style of Ikenobo
Sabitori	Eraser style cleaner used to clean bacteria and debris from hasami
Sanshuike	Three material Shoka Shofutai dating from post World War II
Sashiguchi	Placement or stem insertion points of the various yakueda in a kenzan for Shoka and Rikka Shofutai arrangements
Sensei	Teacher or master
Shimputai	A modern Shoka (1977) or Rikka (1999) design with different rules from Shofutai designs
Shin	Main line of a Shoka or Rikka design
Shin Style	Style of Shoka or Rikka referring to quiet, dignified upward movement with a slight curvature
Shin Mae	Ashirai in Front of shin
Shin Ushiro	Ashirai in back of Shin
Shiun	Style of container used for formal Shoka
Shoka	Traditional composition of three lines that form a scalene triangle; Shin, Soe and Tai
Shoka Betsuden	Variations and special teachings of Shoka Shofutai designs
Shofutai	Traditional style – e.g. Shoka Shofutai and Rikka Shofutai
Shoshin	One of nine basic yakueda in Rikka. Usually a straight flower placed in front of Shin. Faces forward, one half to two thirds height of Shin
Shu	The main position or yakueda in a Shoka Shimputai and also a feature of Rikka Shimputai designs
Shussho	The inherent quality of a plant which is express as the form or character of the growing plant
So	Container for an informal traditional Shoka
So Style	A style of Shoka and or Rikka that shows the most movement. Often cascading materials are used in so style.
Soe	Secondary line, represents heaven; on the sunny side and represents the past; in Shoka and Rikka Shofutai designs
Soe Mae	An ashirai in front of soe in Shoka Shofutai
Soe Shita	Line in Rikka; the branch under the Soe
Suiriku-ike	Style of traditional Shoka Futakabu 2 groups; one land and one water
Suiban	Low flat container; usually ceramic or pottery
Sunabachi	Low flat bronze container
Tai	The earth line; usually the most front yakueda; signifies promise of new life and is generally a grouping of flowers with full and partial blooms as well as buds.
Tai ashirai	A helper to the tai group in a Shoka
Tai Oku	Behind Tai in Sanshuike (cut at angle and wormed or weathered)
Tai Shin, Tai Saki, Tai Tani	Nejime of tai in Nishuike Shoka
Tokonoma	Alcove in a traditional Japanese style room; used for placement of Shoka or Rikka arrangements

Tomaribune	Stationary boat arrangement (in harbor) placed on table or floor
Tsuyomono	Materials having qualities of both grasses and trees such as bamboo and fern.
Uchi	Yakueda meaning inside or within as in Soe ushi or do uchi
Uke	A yakueda of Rikka Shofutai; generally supports shin
Ushiro	In back of any other major yakueda in a Shoka or Rikka
Ushira Gakoi	Yakueda in Rikka; finishing plant material placed in back of a Rikka
Ushira Soe	In back of Soe
Usubata	Traditional bronze container used for classical arrangements
Yakueda	Principal parts or insertions of an arrangement; e.g. Shin, Soe and Tai are the three principal yakueda of a Shoka Shofutai
Yo	Front or sunny side of material or arrangement. Also refers to the secondary line or position in a Shoka Shimputai or Rikka Shimputai design
Za	When a yakueda is not put in its normal position; then a place marker (za) is put in its place to signify the original position. The za is smaller than the yakueda that it is representing.