



## CONDITIONING OF IKEBANA MATERIAL

The list below represents many of the materials used in ikebana arrangements around our vast North & Central American region. The majority of this list came from a very early issue of *Hana Kagami* (Vol 33/Issue 2) which was included in the I.I. Magazine for many of the early years of Ikebana International. We thank the Sarasota chapter for providing this *Hana Kagami* list!

It is recommended that you add your own local materials to this list.

### EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Hasami or garden shears
- Small bowl of water
- A match or lighter to burn stem/branch ends
- Rubbing alcohol
- Household vinegar
- Alum (found in spice area of grocery store)
- Mint oil
- Table salt
- Small hammer or tool for crushing ends
- Flower preservative

### GENERAL CARE

- Ikebana students should have the knowledge to take proper care of their materials.
- It is best to condition your materials soon after purchasing them and preferably overnight.
- Stand all materials in a plastic bucket with water in it. Do not have your material lay on your table. It will get an air pocket and will not drink water.
- All flowers should be cut under water. Bring a small plastic bowl with you for this.
- If you take your design home in the kenzan (recommended) make sure it is standing in water. Otherwise take it apart and place the materials in your bucket of water.
- Use a preservative in your water.
- If an item looks wilted, cut it under water and stand it in hot water for 10-20 minutes.
- Remember every time you take material in and out of the kenzan it creates air pockets which reduces the life of the material.

ENGLISH	JAPANESE	METHOD
Acacia	Akashia	Cut branch under water
Allium	Aryumu	Rub cut stem in salt, then place in deep water
Althea	Mukuge	Cut branch in early morning, then place in deep water
Amaranthus	Hageito	Rub stem in salt, keep in dark, cool place in deep water
Anemone	Anemone	Cut stem under water
Apricot	Ume	No special treatment
Aster	Asuta	Crush stem end, dip in mint oil, then place in deep water
Astilbe	Asuchirube	Dip stem in hot water or burn
Azalea	Tsutsuji	Cut stem under water
Baby's Breath	Kasumiso	No special treatment
Brilliant lily	Sukashi-yuri	No special treatment
Broom	Enishida	Cut stem under water
Caladium	Karajumu	Rub cut stem in salt, then place in deep water
Calla Lily	Kara	Rub stem in salt, and trim discolored parts
Camellia	Tsubaki	No special treatment
Carnation	Kanesion	Cut stem under water
Cat-tail	Gama	Cut stem under water
Cattleya	Katorca	No special treatment
Cherry Blossom	Sakura	No special treatment
Chrysanthemum	Kiku	No special treatment; but if weak, dip stem in hot water
Clematis	Kuremachisu	Crush stem end, then place in deep water
Cockscomb	Keito	Boil stem end, then place in deep water
Cosmos	Kosumosu	Crush stem end and rub in salt
Crabapple	Kaido	Dip cut branch in alcohol
Crape Myrtle	Sarusuberi	Burn branch end, then place in deep water
Cyclamen	Shikuramen	Dip cut stem in alcohol, then place in warm water
Daisy	Hinagiku	Cut stem under water
Dahlia	Daria	Dip cut stem in hot water, then place in deep water
Dogwood	Hannamizuki	Cut branch end with vertical cuts, then dip in alcohol
Eucalyptus	Yukari	No special treatment
Fennel	Uikyo	No special treatment
Forsythia	Rengyo	No special treatment
Freesia	Frijia	Cut stem under water
Fringed Iris	Shaga	Cut stem under water
Gardenia	Kuchinashi	Burn stem end or dip in alcohol
Gentian	Kikyo	Dip stem end in alcohol or mint oil
Gerbera	Gabera	Dip stem end in hot water
Geranium	Zeranyumu	Burn stem, then place in deep water
Gladiolus	Gurajorasu	Cut stem under water

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Gloriosa	Guroriosa	Cut stem under water
Heather	Erika	Cut stem under water
Honeysuckle	Nindo	Crush the end, then dip in vinegar
Hydrangea	Ajisai	Burn stem end then rub in alum
Iris	Airisu	No special treatment
Lilac	Rairakku	Cut branch end with vertical cuts, then dip in alcohol
Lotus	Hasu	Inject with ginger juice water, repeat after 4 hours
Maple	Kaede/Momiji	Crush end, place in deep water; or peel bark at end and dip in alcohol or mint oil
Magnolia	Mokuren	Burn cut branch and dip in alcohol
Narcissus	Suisen	Cut stem under water
Oncidium	Onshijumu	No special treatment
Peony	Skakuyaku	Cut stem under water
Palm Tree	Yashi	Cut stem under water
Peach	Momo	No special treatment
Pine	Matsu	No special treatment
Pointsetia	Poinsechia	Dip stem end in alcohol or hot water
Pomegranate	Zakuro	Crush branch end and burn it; then place in deep water
Poppy	Popi	Cut stem under water
Pussy Willow	Neko yanagi	Cut stem under water
Quince	Boke	Cut stem under water
Rannunculus	Ranankyurasu	Crush stem end in water, rub in salt, place in deep water
Reeves Spiraea	Kodemari	Peel bark at branch end, then place in deep water
Rhododendron	Shykunage	Crush end of branch, then place in salt water
Rose	Bara	Burn end of stem, then place in deep water
Snapragon	Kingyo-so	Dip cut stem in alcohol
Smoke Tree	Sumoku tsuri	No special treatment
Spirea	Yukiyanagi	Cut branch under water, then place in deep water
Strelitzia	Sutorechia	Cut stem under water
Sunflower	Himawari	Cut stem under water, briefly place in hot salty water
Tree Peony	Botan	Peel bark end and crush, rub in burnt alum, after 5 minutes place in deep water
Tulip Magnolia	Mokuren	Crush end of branch, place in deep water or dip in alcohol
Weeping Willow	Shidare yanagi	Peel bark end of branch place in deep water
Wisteria	Fuji	Dip cut in in alcohol or rub in burnt alum