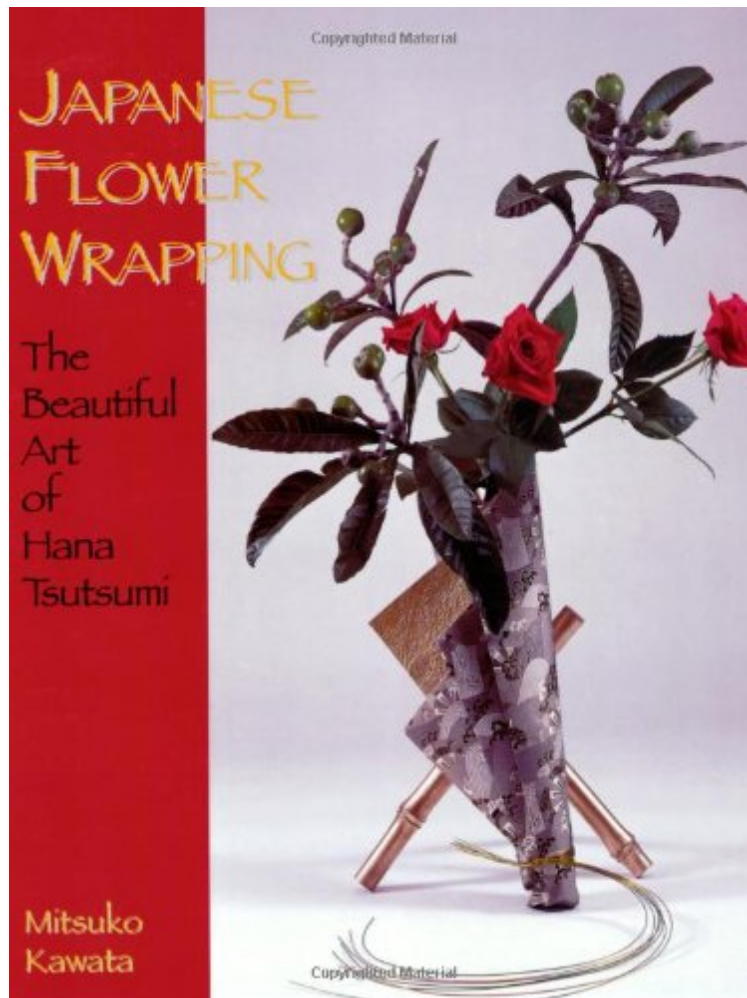


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# Japanese Flower Wrapping: The Beautiful Art of Hana Tsutumi

Mitsuko Kawata

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**Mitsuko Kawata : Japanese Flower Wrapping: The Beautiful Art of Hana Tsutumi** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Flower Wrapping: The Beautiful Art of Hana Tsutumi:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One step beyond the designBy R. M. WatkinsThe presentation of floral designs in this book are lovely. It is a way to break from the monotony of standard containers. Using the ideas in this book can make a gift of flowers extraordinary! (It also has me wanting to learn more about origami! Time to buy another book case!)0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Loved it Loved it can't put it downBy LarryGreat Ideas for crafts, one of the best books I seen in a long time Hope you have more Thanks Larry4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Masterful! Create stunning arrangements from old vasesBy Karen K. LittleIf you lust after beautiful flower arrangements, but are shy of high-quality vases, this is the book to buy. Hey, even if you have a

storage room filled with Eastern European cut crystal, you'll still want this book. Huge photos show you how to wrap containers (think "milk carton") with paper, string, and/or yarn. Yes, this sounds trite and strained until you see the results for yourself. Using these truly easy and inexpensive techniques, your friends will beg to visit in order to see your arrangements. Further, if you started giving gifts of flowers presented in this manner, you'll turn acquaintances into friends, all of whom will adore you. Are you a professional florist? What you'll learn in this book will transform your career.

With vibrant, full-color photographs and detailed instructions, *Japanese Flower Wrapping* shows readers how the traditional Japanese arts of origami, ikebana and gift-wrapping can be combined to create beautiful and unusual floral arrangements. Making gifts of flowers has long been a Japanese custom. Traditionally, flowers were wrapped in folded washi (Japanese paper) and tied. This practice, known as hana tsutsumi, or flower wrapping, was passed from generation to generation, going back to the time of the samurai. Few modern Japanese people are aware of this ancient style of art and it has been in danger of being forgotten. Author Mitsuko Kawata hopes to recapture the art based on the traditional practice of flower wrapping, while, at the same time incorporating a modern sensibility. She guides readers through the steps of folding decorative papers and tying them with mizuhiki (tightly twisted, long, narrow sheets of washi to which liquid glue is applied) and kumihimo (braided ropes) to fashion breathtakingly beautiful containers and arrangements. In addition to her easy-to-follow instructions, Kawata includes a section on the tying styles of mizuhiki and kumihimo, as well as a fascinating description of washi. This unique book contains examples of arrangements for a variety of occasions, from Valentine's Day to school graduation. Another section focuses on flowers from every season, shown in arrangements from the simple to the sophisticated. *Japanese Flower Wrapping* is a book with wide appeal: for practitioners of ikebana and origami it will bring a new dimension to their arts. And for anyone who is looking for innovative ways to present gifts with flair and distinction, the book is sure to be a source of inspiration.

About the Author Mitsuko Kawata began studying ikebana, or Japanese flower arrangement in 1967. In 1971, she began demonstrating her ikebana arrangements throughout Europe, and since then, has widely exhibited her work at various ikebana exhibitions in Japan and overseas. In 1984, she established her own ikebana school, the Kirarakai. She also supervised floral arrangements and decor for the national television network NHK. She held her first solo exhibition of Kirara Hana Tsutsumi in 1988.