

Materials for shogi pieces

Many types of wood have been used as material for shogi pieces since ancient times. However, modern stamped pieces and popular carved pieces are mainly made of miscellaneous trees such as the Japanese whitebark magnolia, Hamilton's spindletree, Honshu maple and painted maple. Nowadays, imported timber like Siamese boxwood is often used. On the other hand, boxwood from Mikurajima (Tokyo) and Satsuma (Kagoshima Prefecture) are used for high-end carved pieces, lacquered pieces, and raised pieces.