



*The history of Japanese
fashion.*

The history of Japanese fashion - it's a long fight for the preservation of national traditions, which later became the basis for the creation of a unique style of the Land of the Rising Sun, so popular in our time!



In the first century the representatives of the first tribes dressed in long robes « kinu». Distinctive features of the national costume of those times were narrow sleeves and belt, as well as elongated pants "hakama". Women kind of kina was supplemented by skirt "mo" with side slits.

In the 7th century, the latest fashion trends were landscape motifs, original flower patterns, ornaments in the form of clouds and lightning, and the waves. The Emperor was dressed in luxurious costumes in bright yellow palette, and the costumes with red, purple and green colours were the privilege of the aristocracy.



In 701 the peasants continued to wear traditional costume, which was added new details and decorative elements. Samurai warrior mixed elements of folk and aristocratic clothes, and created a new style in which practicality and comfort harmoniously combined with a noble refinement of costume.



In the 12th century Japanese style became more independent and in a wardrobe of the Japanese appeared "kosode", the aristocrats wore it with pleasure. The common people wore short gowns "kosode" with wide sleeves, and the courtiers wore long, loose-fitting clothes, decorated with the family crest.



There was a new fashion trend - multilayer clothes and costumes became more difficult. The accessories became very popular - belts, which were tied on top of clothes. Japanese aristocrats wore "kosode". They used unusual makeup to emphasize their high descent - they dye their teeth black and shaved off his eyebrows.



Harmony and peaceful co-existence with the environment prompted the Japanese tailors to design a new type of clothes. They created a “kimono” with a simple cut and only two sizes. In Japanese fashion there was a new set of practical “kimono” with bulky sleeves in combination with a straight skirt and a wide belt-corset. Kimono became a family relic and passed from generation to generation.



A few centuries later in Japanese fashion appeared European fabrics and accessories that were available only to the wealthy people. There was a mixture European and Asian costumes, and those original combinations surprised the world.



In the period from 1870 to the 1890s, women began to wear blouses and skirts, and men wore European costumes.



In the middle of the 19th century Japanese continued to learn from the European countries. Population added to the national costume elements of European clothes: accessories, hats, shoes. There were changes in hairstyles: men had short hair. Another fashion trend was shaven forehead with long hair at the back, which the peasants gathered in a tail or knot.

In the women's fashion were appeared high extravagant hairstyles. Those luxurious hairstyles were decorated with bright ribbons, combs and hairpins which were made of natural materials such as wood, coral, tortoise shell and flowers.



By decree of the government, since 1874, were made new rules to the wearing of women's clothes: working women started to wear "kimono" and men's pants "hakama". In the city style was appeared new fashion of outerwear "amagato", which was a hybrid of "haori" and coats. Since the early 1880s the corsets, décolleté and closed lace dresses became very popular.



"Kimono-obi", a few modernized traditional costume, began to spread in the country, as a native Japanese clothes.

In 1895 'kimono' became a traditional clothes and a symbol of Japanese culture. In the bright "kimono" picture began to appear Sakura, who symbolized courage and bravery of the samurai, and chrysanthemum, which symbolized the national pride. 'Kimono' became a uniform of Japanese schools and higher educational establishments.

