

KOYO **IBUSHI**



Partner of Historical Japanese Landmarks



Funatsu-cho in Himeji City, Hyogo Prefecture, is a town blessed by the clear waters of Ichi-kawa River and an abundance of nature. The tile industry here was established in 1805 by order of the lord of Himeji Castle due to the wealth of high quality clay, the key raw material. It is in this historical town of Funatsu that the Koyo Seiga Ibushi Kawara Tile Industry lies.

The company was established in 1923. Ibushi Kawara tiles, made of high-quality clay which is first oxidation fired before being reduction smoked in our Koyo kilns, have been highly regarded all over Japan for their unparalleled strength and beauty. These Ibushi Kawara and the superior technology required to produce them have been recognized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and we produced Ibushi Kawara for the main keep in the recent large-scale renovation of Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage. Through our production of special tiles for numerous shrines, temples, and castles, we have played a significant role in bequeathing traditional architecture to the future.

Koyo Ibushi are interior materials produced by Koyo Seiga. These beautiful and durable Ibushi Kawara, produced from natural materials, can be used as a feature within a space, or to clad an entire building. Utilizing traditional techniques from the birthplace of tiles and transferring them to the present day—this is our new challenge.

From Roofs to Walls—Evolving in Its 5000th year

Koyo Seiga Co., Ltd.

A Traditional Material from Thousands of Years Ago

According to one theory, Ibushi Kawara have a history stretching back 4000 to 5000 years. The Nihon Shoki, the “Chronicles of Japan”, states that tiles first came to Japan from China for the construction of Asuka-dera Temple in 588 A.D.

Strong yet Delicate Ibushi Kawara

Ibushi Kawara, which are a type of porous ceramic, are famous for their strength. Most roofing materials can be expected to have a lifespan of 10 to 20 years, but Ibushi Kawara are durable enough to last twice that length of time. Another reason they are loved so much is the fact that they are made from just two completely natural materials – soil and carbon, and they are particularly popular still as they are both environmentally friendly and non-hazardous to people. These tiles are also known for their insulation properties and their far-infrared effect, demonstrating ability that holds ground with leading-edge materials. Koyo Ibushi materials make full use of the excellent characteristics of Ibushi Kawara.



The Shimmer of Ibushi Silver

The austere silver of Ibushi Kawara is created by a layer of carbon. The reason these are sometimes called ‘smoked tiles’ is that a special smoking process takes place at the end of the firing process, which creates this unique luster without dusting the tiles with metal. The Koyo Ibushi materials gently reflect the sunlight when used as external wall materials, and reflect room lighting and indirect light when used indoors. The shimmer of Ibushi silver subtly changes over time. The fact that the texture changes with age is perhaps another reason the Ibushi Kawara are loved so much.

Soil, Carbon, and Handiwork

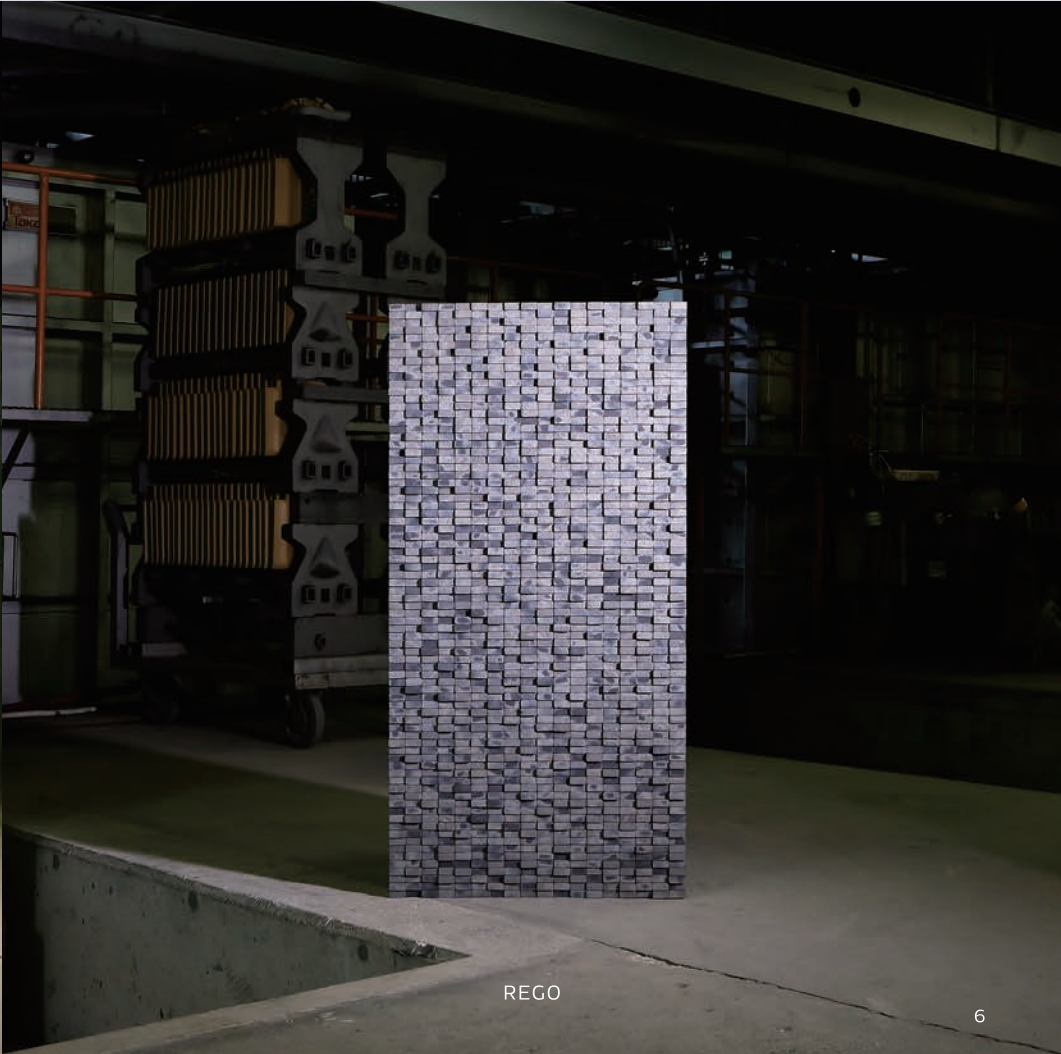
At Koyo Seiga we create a blend of unique proportions using a number of types of clay, each of which has different qualities. We fire the clay slowly over time, maximizing the merits of each variety of clay, and smoke it to form the beautiful Ibushi silver carbon layer. The handiwork of our craftsmen is also indispensable. The surface is elaborately polished and smoothed with a spatula and a trowel before the firing process. The properties of the clay are carefully examined, and the pre-firing form of the Ibushi Kawara is minutely adjusted based on seasonal differences in temperature and humidity to ensure uniformity and to maintain constant high quality.

ARARE

A random combination of square parts of varying tones and thicknesses.
Savor the way the expression changes depending on the direction of the light.

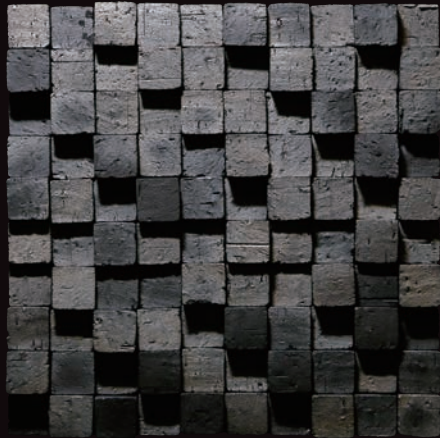
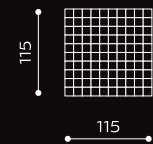


5 LARGE LL SUPER SMALL MIDDLE SMALL

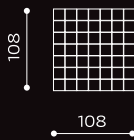


REGO 6

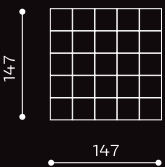
SUPER SMALL (ITAR-20)
115mm×115mm×5~9mm



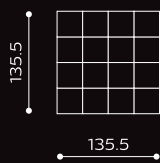
SMALL (ITAR-21)
108mm×108mm×5~9mm



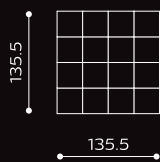
MIDDLE (ITAR-22)
147mm×147mm×7~11mm

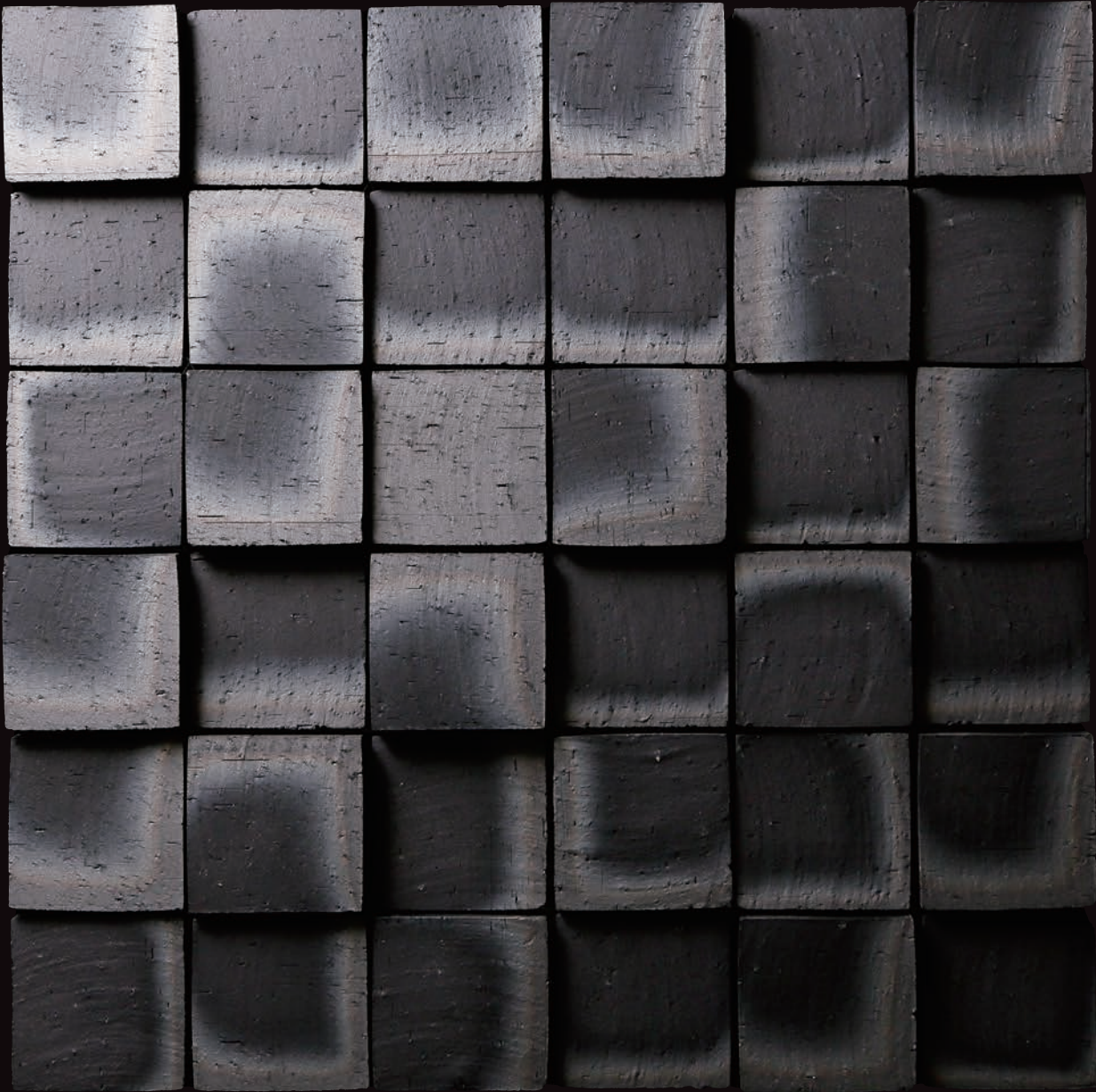


LARGE (ITAR-23)
135.5mm×135.5mm×7~11mm

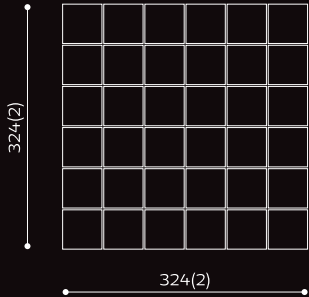


LARGE (ITAR-23-F)
135.5mm×135.5mm×15mm

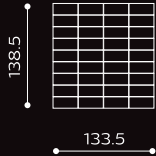




LL (ITAR-54)
324mm×324mm×7~15mm



REGO (ITAR-24)
133.5mm×138.5mm×9~15mm





ARARE / REGO

HARIMA

The attraction of this series is in its expression of light and shade combined with a feeling of width and spaciousness.
The contrast between light and shade creates stunning beauty.

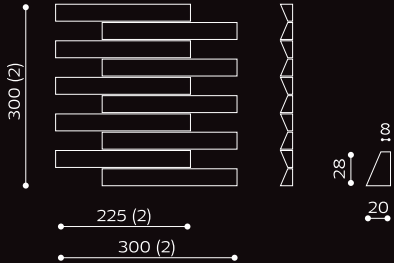


SATO

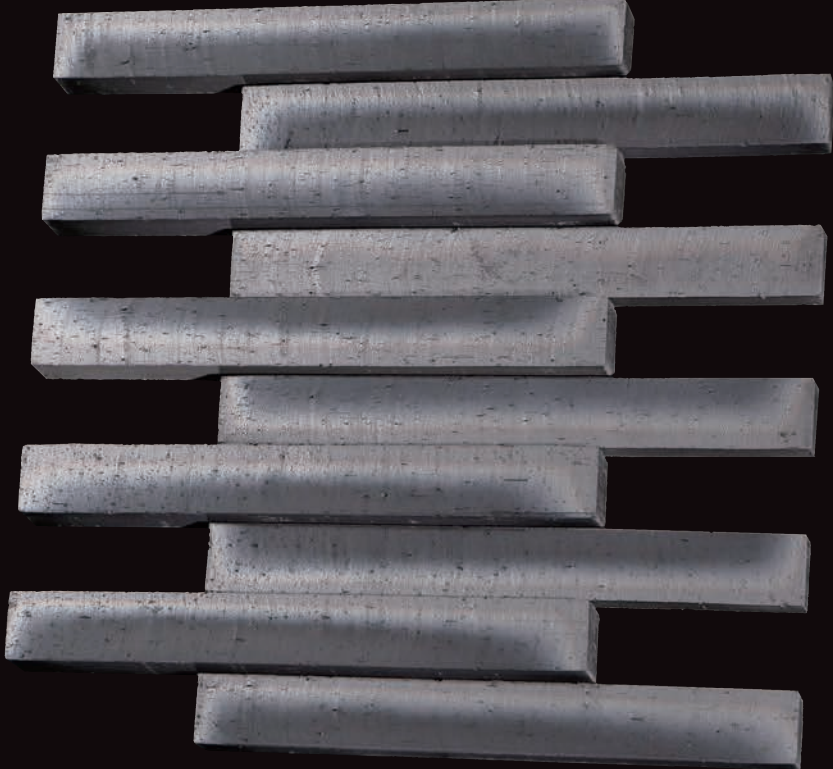
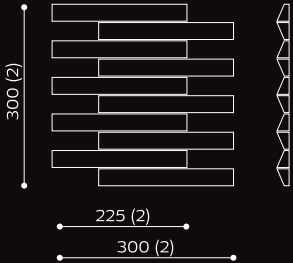
YAMA



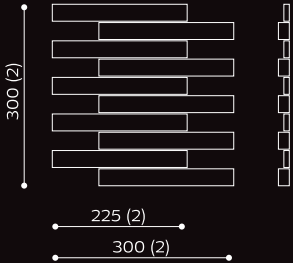
YAMA A (ITBS-30-225L)
300mm×225mm×8~20mm



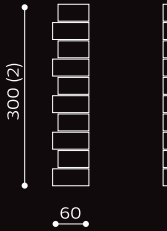
YAMA B (ITBS-30-225R)
300mm×225mm×8~20mm



SATO (ITB-30-225)
300mm×225mm×9~15mm



HARIMA·INABA (shared corner) (ITB-C)
300mm×50~60mm×9mm



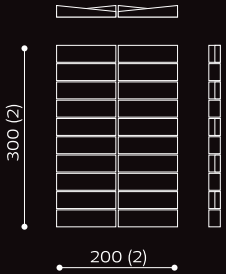
INABA

An interlocking layout of pieces of different height levels.
The light produces a luster and shadow, creating an artistic countenance.

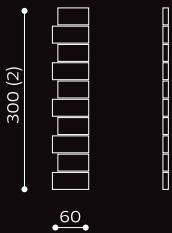


INABA

INABA (ITBS-30-100)
300mm×200mm×9~19mm



HARIMA•INABA (shared corner) (ITB-C)
300mm×50~60mm×9mm

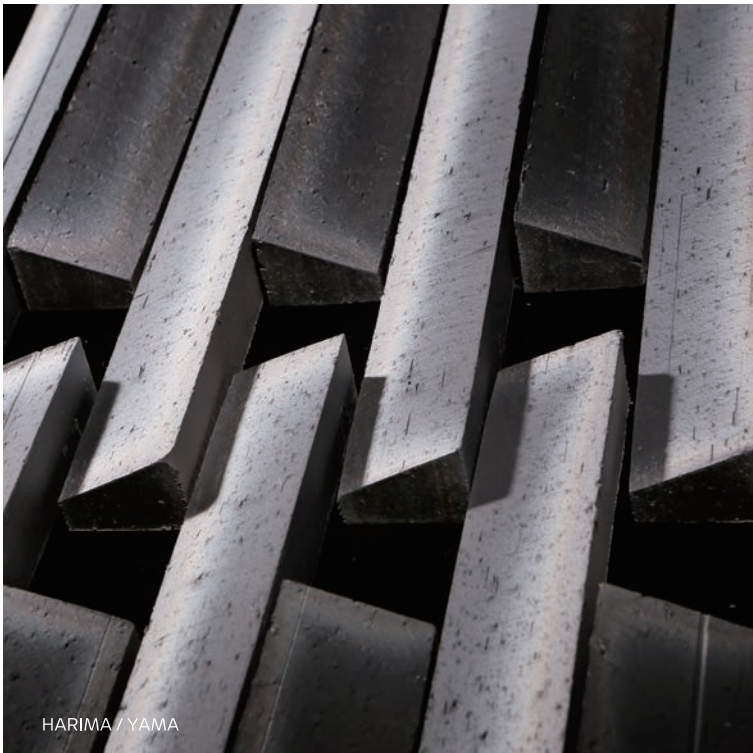




HARIMA / YAMA



HARIMA / SATO



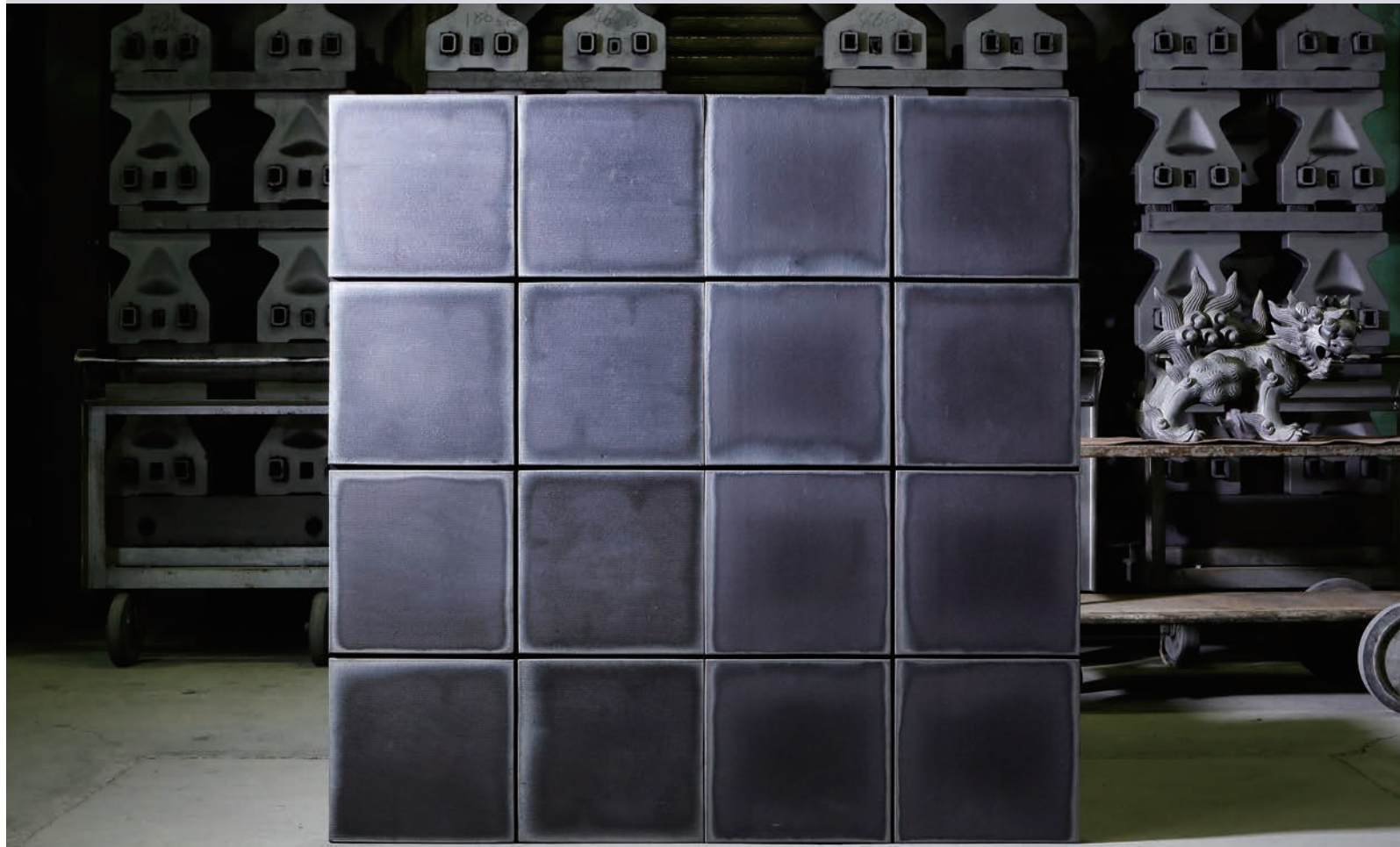
HARIMA / YAMA



INABA

JIN

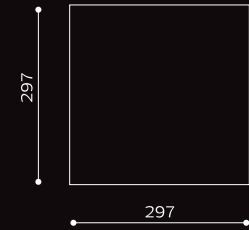
Large square Koyo Ibushi tiles.
Reversible tiles, the surface with fine slits of which leaves a lasting impression.
The flat lustrous side bounces the light back beautifully.



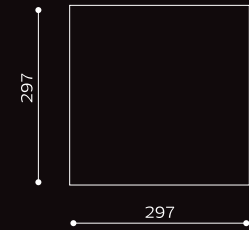
JIN / FRONT (patterned)

JIN / BACK (plain)

Wall tile (JIN-300W)
297mm×297mm×10mm



Floor tile (JIN-300F)
297mm×297mm×15mm



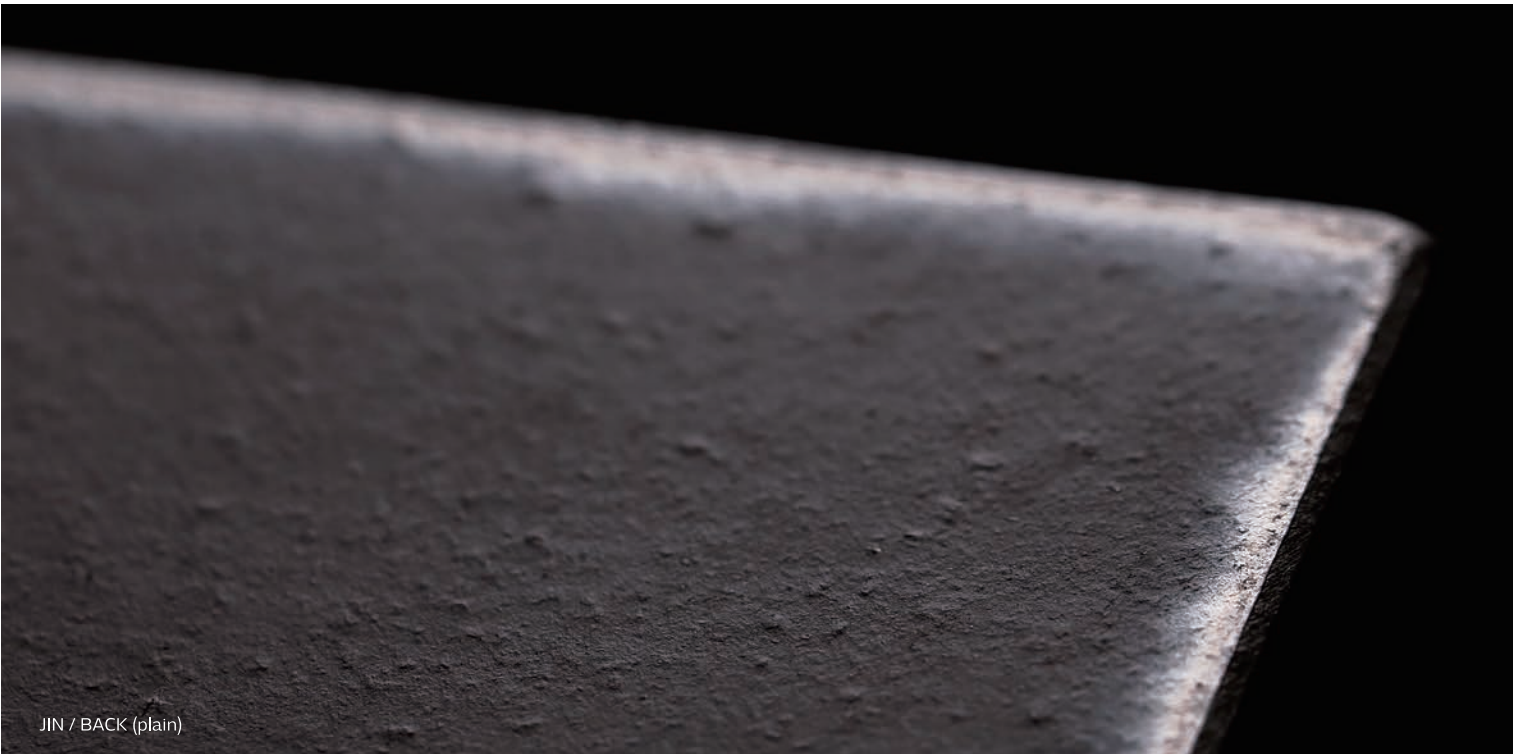
FRONT (patterned)



BACK (plain)



JIN / FRONT (patterned)



JIN / BACK (plain)

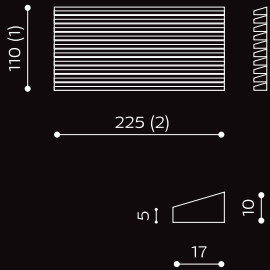
LINE

An elaborate design which maximizes the effect of sharp lines.
Choose from stately BLACK, beautifully shiny SILVER, or MIX, which combines the two.

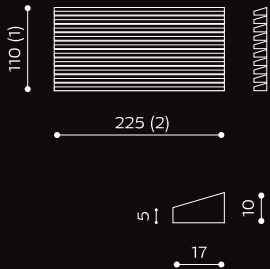


LINE

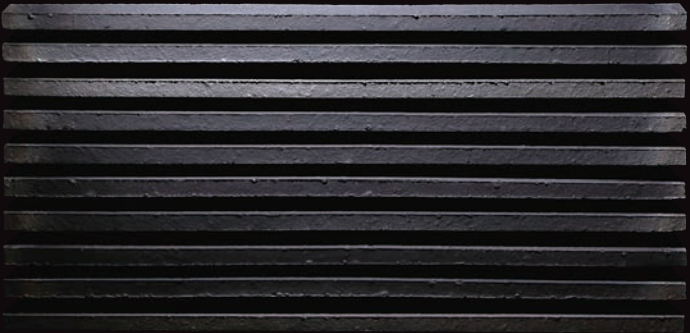
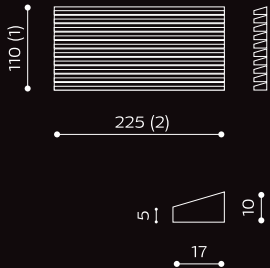
BLACK (ITFL-B)
225mm×110mm×17mm



SILVER (ITFL-S)
225mm×110mm×17mm



MIX (ITFL-M)
225mm×110mm×17mm



KASURI

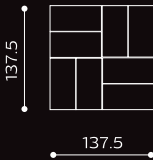
A combination of rectangular parts – two horizontal and two vertical.
This interwoven mosaic of Ibushi silver is the perfect feature within a space.



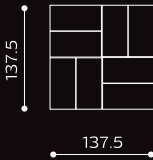
KASURI / Uneven type

KASURI

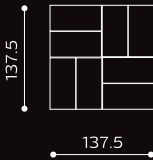
FLAT Wall tile (ITK-11)
137.5mm×137.5mm×9mm



FLAT Floor tile (ITK-11-F)
137.5mm×137.5mm×15mm

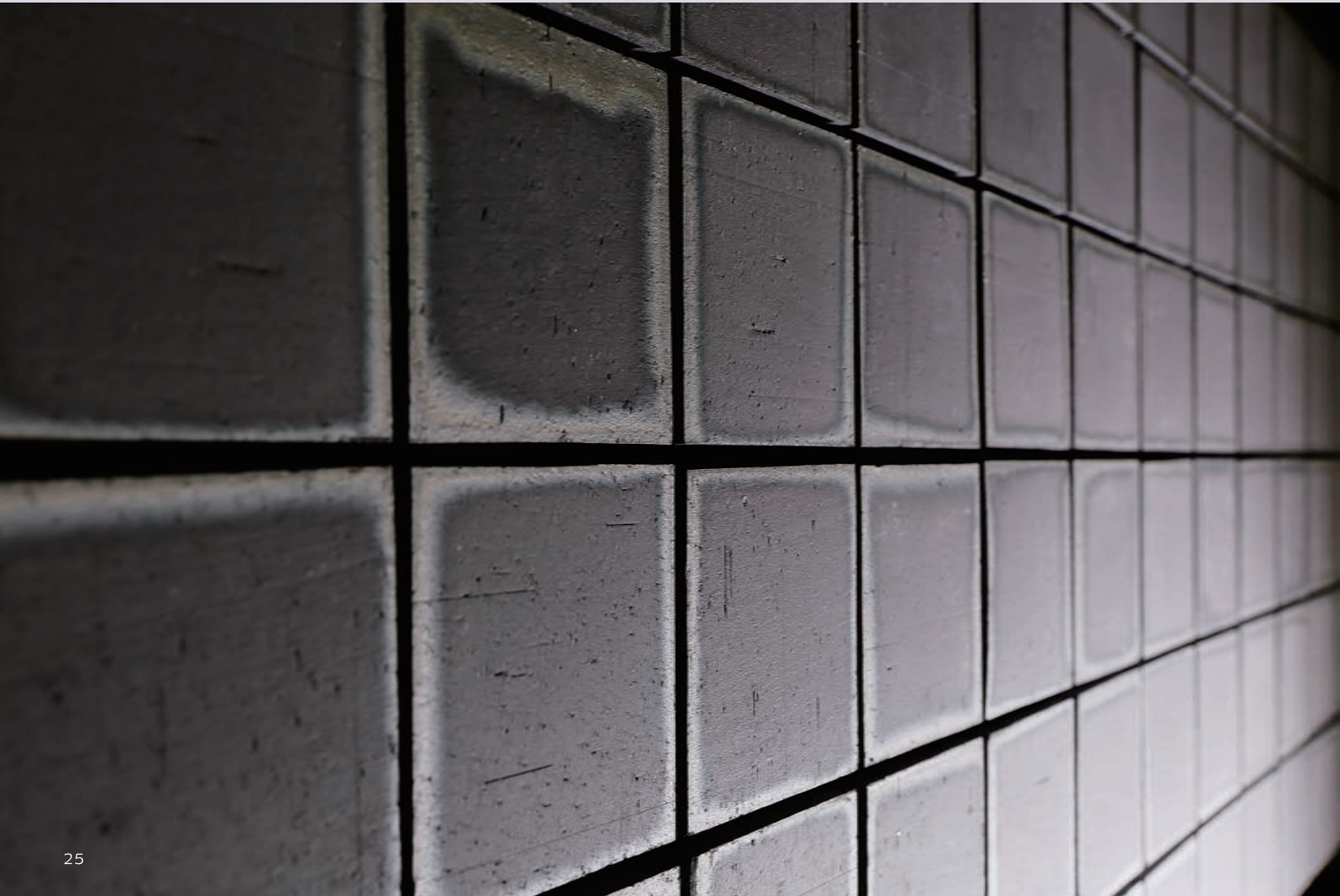


Uneven type (ITK-12)
137.5mm×137.5mm×9~15mm



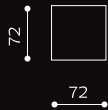
SQUARE

Square parts which enable you to savor different Ibushi silver timbres.
Use whichever number of tiles you choose in your favorite place.

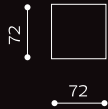


SQUARE

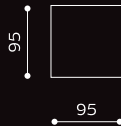
75 Wall tile (ITAR-75-9)
72mm×72mm×9mm








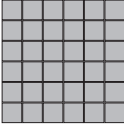

75 Floor tile (ITAR-75-15)
72mm×72mm×15mm



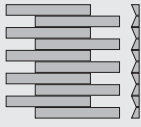
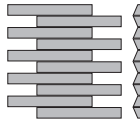

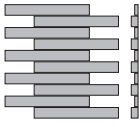

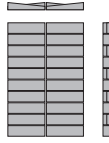
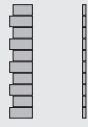
100 Wall tile (ITAR-100)
95mm×95mm×9mm



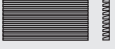

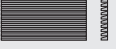
ARARE

Product Name	SUPER SMALL	SMALL	MIDDLE	LARGE	LARGE (floor tile)	LL	REGO
Product Number	ITAR-20	ITAR-21	ITAR-22	ITAR-23	ITAR-23-F	ITAR-54	ITAR-24
Spec	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing
	No seams	No seams	No seams	No seams	No seams	2mm seams	No seams
	10x10/sheet	7x7/sheet	5x5/sheet	4x4/sheet	4x4/sheet	6x6/sheet	4x9/sheet
Size (mm)	11×11	15×15	29×29	34×34	34×34	52×52	33×15
Thickness (mm)	5·7·9	5·7·9	7·9·11	7·9·11	15	7·11·15	9·11·15
Size including seams (mm)	115×115	108×108	147×147	135.5×135.5	135.5×135.5	324×324	133.5×138.5
Sheets/m²	76	86	46.3	54.5	54.5	9.5	54
Sheets/box	108	108	60	60	32	8	52
Kg/box	22	19	24	21	18	18	21.1
Kg/m²	15.2	14.2	17.6	18	30.5	21	21
							




HARIMA

Product Name	YAMA A	YAMA B	YAMA (edge tile)	SATO	SATO (edge tile)	INABA	HARIMA·INABA shared corner
Product Number	ITBS-30-225L	ITBS-30-225R	ITBS-30-75	ITB-30-225	ITB-30-75	ITBS-30-100	ITB-C
Spec	With net backing	With net backing	Edge material	With net backing	Edge material	With net backing	With net backing
	1-2mm seams	1-2mm seams	Individual	1-2mm seams	Individual	2mm seams	1-2mm seams
	10/sheet	10/sheet	—	10/sheet	—	20/sheet	10/sheet
Size (mm)	28×223	28×223	28×73	28×223	28×73	28×98	30×50~60
Thickness (mm)	8/20	8/20	8/20	9·15	9·15	9/19	9
Size including seams (mm)	300×225	300×225	—	300×225	—	300×200	300×60
Sheets/m²	14.8	14.8	—	14.8	—	16.7	3.3 sheets per meter
Sheets/box	10	10	—	12	—	10	—
Kg/box	19	19	—	19.5	—	17.1	—
Kg/m²	28.5	28.5	—	23.5	—	27.8	—
							




LINE

Product Name	BLACK	SILVER	MIX
Product Number	ITFL-B	ITFL-S	ITFL-M
Spec	With net backing	With net backing	With net backing
	1mm seams	1mm seams	1mm seams
	10/sheet	10/sheet	10/sheet
Size (mm)	225(±2)×10	225(±2)×10	225(±2)×10
Thickness (mm)	17	17	17
Size including seams (mm)	225×110	225×110	225×110
Sheets/m²	40.5	40.5	40.5
Sheets/box	24	24	24
Kg/box	15.5	15.5	15.5
Kg/m²	26	26	26
			


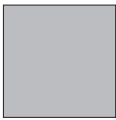
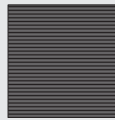

KASURI

FLAT (wall tile)	FLAT (floor tile)	Uneven type
ITK-11	ITK-11-F	ITK-12
With net backing	With net backing	With net backing
<u>1mm seams</u>	<u>1mm seams</u>	<u>1mm seams</u>
8/sheet	8/sheet	8/sheet
68×34	68×34	68×34
9	15	9·11·15
137.5×137.5	137.5×137.5	137.5×137.5
53	53	53
48	32	52
15.5	18	21
16.7	29.7	23.5
		

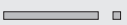






SQUARE

Product Name	75 (wall tile)	75 (floor tile)	100 (wall tile)
Product Number	ITAR-75-9	ITAR-75-15	ITAR-100
Spec	Individual	Individual	Individual
	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Size (mm)	72×72	72×72	95×95
Thickness (mm)	9	15	9
Size including seams (mm)	—	—	—
Sheets/m²	176	176	99
Sheets/box	264	152	99
Kg/box	23.76	24.32	15.84
Kg/m²	0.09	0.16	0.16
			

JIN

Front (patterned)/Back (plain) wall tiles	Front (patterned)/Back (plain) floor tiles		
JIN-300W	JIN-300F		
Individual	Individual		
Reversible	Reversible		
—	—		
297×297	297×297		
10	15		
—	—		
11	11		
10	7		
25	21		
2.1	2.96		
			

OTHER PIECE

Product Name	BORDER 20	BORDER 25	IRAKA 16	IRAKA 25	IRAKA 50
Product Number	ITB-2020	ITB-2525	IRAKA-64-16	IRAKA-64-25	IRAKA-64-50
Size (mm)	20×250	25×250	270×50	270×50	270×50
Thickness (mm)	20	25	16	25	50
Sheets/box	102	70	77	55	33
Kg/box	0.22	0.34	0.2	0.33	0.66
					
					

Made in JAPAN
A II unglazed tile (type II/stone quality)
Only to be used with adhesive

- Must be used with an interior type modified silicone adhesive
- When used on exteriors, use a modified silicone epoxy type bond
- Please confirm surface water resistance with backing when using outside or on a damp surface
- Tiles have color irregularities and color depth typical of fired pottery
- Water absorption ratio approximately 5%
- Due to their characteristics, tiles must be handled with care as smoked tile surface is easily damaged and may peel
- Do not apply curing tape or masking tape to the smoked tile surface
- Not suitable for acid wash
- Joining material may be visible through the cracks in tiles with seams
- Please enquire as stock levels are low. Orders for out of stock items will take approximately 1 month to produce
- Sizes shown are standard dimensions. Please be aware when laying out that dimensions may be imprecise in some batches



Company Profile

Company name
Koyo Seiga Co., Ltd, Traditional Japanese Ibushi Kawara Tile Industry
Location
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Tel
+81-(0)79-232-5295
Fax
+81-(0)79-232-7003
E-mail
info@koyoseiga.co.jp
URL
http://www.koyoseiga.co.jp
Established
March 10, 1923
Capital
¥10,000,000
Business Overview

- Tiles for cultural assets, shrines, temples, castles, pagodas, etc. (manufacture, sales, roofing works)
- Tiles for domestic use (manufacture, sales, roofing works)
- Experiential tourism business
- Interior business



Traditional Japanese Ibushi Kawara Tile Industry
– creating tiles for Himeji Castle,
a UNESCO World Heritage.