

The **Beginner Series** is an introduction to chanoyu. You will learn the *Bonryaku Temae*, an informal procedure for preparing *matcha* (powdered green tea) in any season.

Lessons are given in the 立礼棚 *ryurei*, table style, rather than *seiza*, kneeling on tatami mats. Each lesson is 1.5 - 2 hours long depending on the class size. Please arrive promptly and be ready to begin.

Traditional *okeiko* (training) is to learn by observation and repetition. Please reserve questions for the end of each lesson. Photos and note-taking are not permitted during class.

Utensils, matcha and sweets are provided. (Let us know if you have a food allergy.) Wear comfortable, modest clothing; no strong cologne or heavy jewelry. You will also need a belt or sash to hang the *fukusa* at your waist, and clean white socks to wear in the tea room.

Purchase your own *fukusa* (silk purifying cloth) and *kaishi* (pad of special paper for sweets). Please contact Linda for the specific type you will need and a recommended place to order.



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## Lesson Content

The Beginner Introduction Series consists of ten to twelve lessons. We begin with *wari-geiko*, (divided practice) learning separate parts. Then we will put the parts together and refine the flow of the whole procedure.

Wari-geiko includes:

- Preparation in the *mizuya* (kitchen): sifting tea & filling the *natsume* (tea caddy); folding the *chakin* (*damp wiping cloth*); arranging utensils on the tray.
- How to fold the *fukusa*,
- How to whisk a bowl of matcha.
- Host and guest etiquette: how to bow and move in the tea room; how to receive sweets and tea; the short Japanese language phrases spoken during tea ceremony.

Additional aspects of *Chado* will be briefly introduced at each lesson:

- *Kakemono* (scroll) which sets the theme.
- *Chabana*, flower arranging for chanoyu.
- *Toriawase*, choosing utensils that relate aesthetically.
- Tea house architecture
- *Roji*, the tea garden.
- *Chaji* / *chakai* - types of tea gatherings
- *Chado* history in Japanese culture (500 years).