JAPANESE LIFE STYLE

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New Year's Eve Activities





•The soba noodles are eaten on New Year's Eve
We eat soba noodles on December 31
Soba noodles are long, so we eat it to hope "Live long life"
(健康長寿) and wish "family fortunes"(家運長命)

•We watch a NHK variety song show (紅白歌合戦- broadcasted since 1951) whereby TV artists are divided into red and white teams and they compete by their singing

Osechi Ryori: New Year's Cuisine (1st January)

Black Soybeans (黒豆 mame):

Mame also means 'healthy' in Japanese, so we eat mame and hope to live healthily all year

Seaweed (昆布 konbu):

Konbu sounds like yorokobu (喜ぶ), which means to be happy

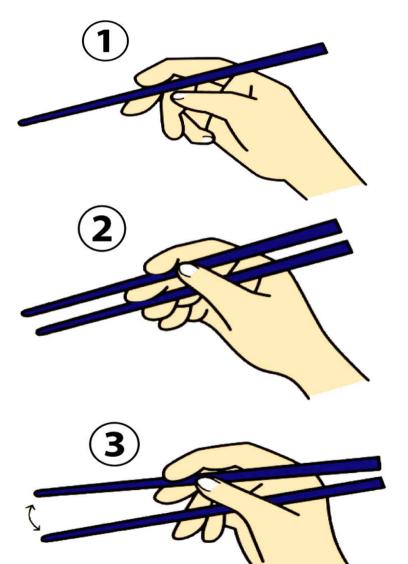


We eat prawns for longevity because their bodies are bent like an old man's





How To Use Chopsticks



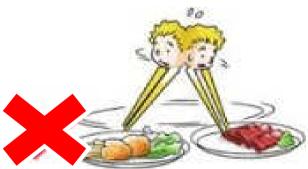
- 1 First, hold one chopstick like a pencil.
- 2 Next, place the second chopstick against your ring finger, holding it with the base of your thumb.
- 3 Let's practice moving only the chopstick on top.

~Chopsticks Manners~

①Sashi-bashi (刺し箸)
Sticking the chopsticks into
the food instead of picking it up



②Mayoi-bashi(迷い箸)
Waving your chopsticks
around aimlessly over the food,
trying to decide what to take next



③Neburi-bashi(舐り箸) Licking the ends of chopsticks

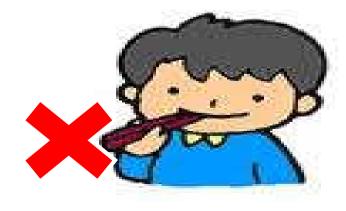


Table Manners in Japan



Don't speak loudly



Don't put your elbows on the table.



Don't use only one hand while eating.



Don't be picky about the food, eat everything on the plate.