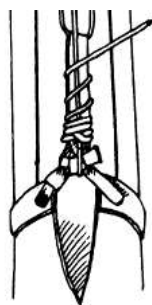


1 – 2. Disassembly of the *shinai*

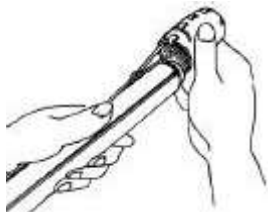
- ① Loosen or untie the *nakayui* 'leather thong'.



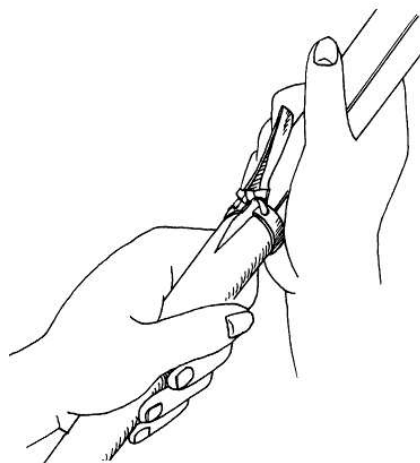
- ② Untie the *tsuru* 'cord'.



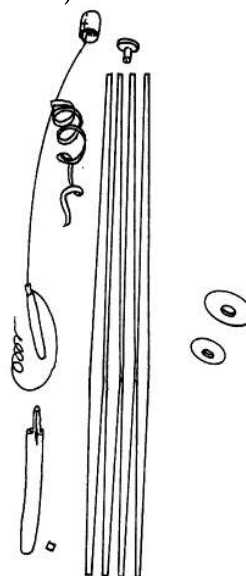
- ③ Pull the leather tip (*saki-gawa*) off with one hand, while holding the bamboo slats together with the other to keep the rubber tip (*saki-gomu* 先ゴム) in place.



- ④ Take off the leather hilt (*tsukagawa*).



- ⑤ Your *shinai* should now look like this: (Normally you only need to completely disassemble the *shinai* to smooth or replace a whole slat.)

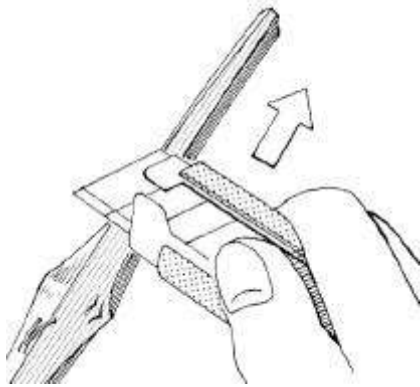


1 – 3. Maintenance of the *shinai* Removing splinters

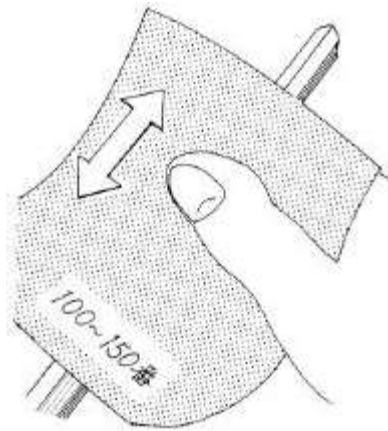
- ① When you have some splinters or a small split, take off the *nakayui tsuru* and tip as described in section (you may have to completely disassemble the *shinai*).



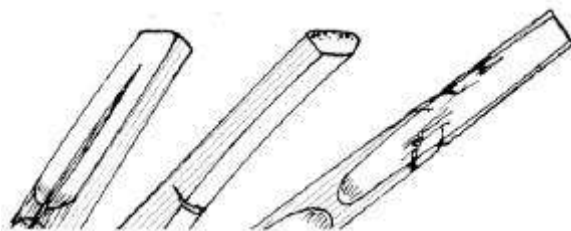
- ② Scrape the splinters off with firm strokes from the hilt towards the tip, using a knife, file or a piece of glass. If you scrape from tip to hilt, the blade may dig into the bamboo.



- ③ Next use some sandpaper to smooth the surface. Finally rub in a little wax, Vaseline or vegetable oil.

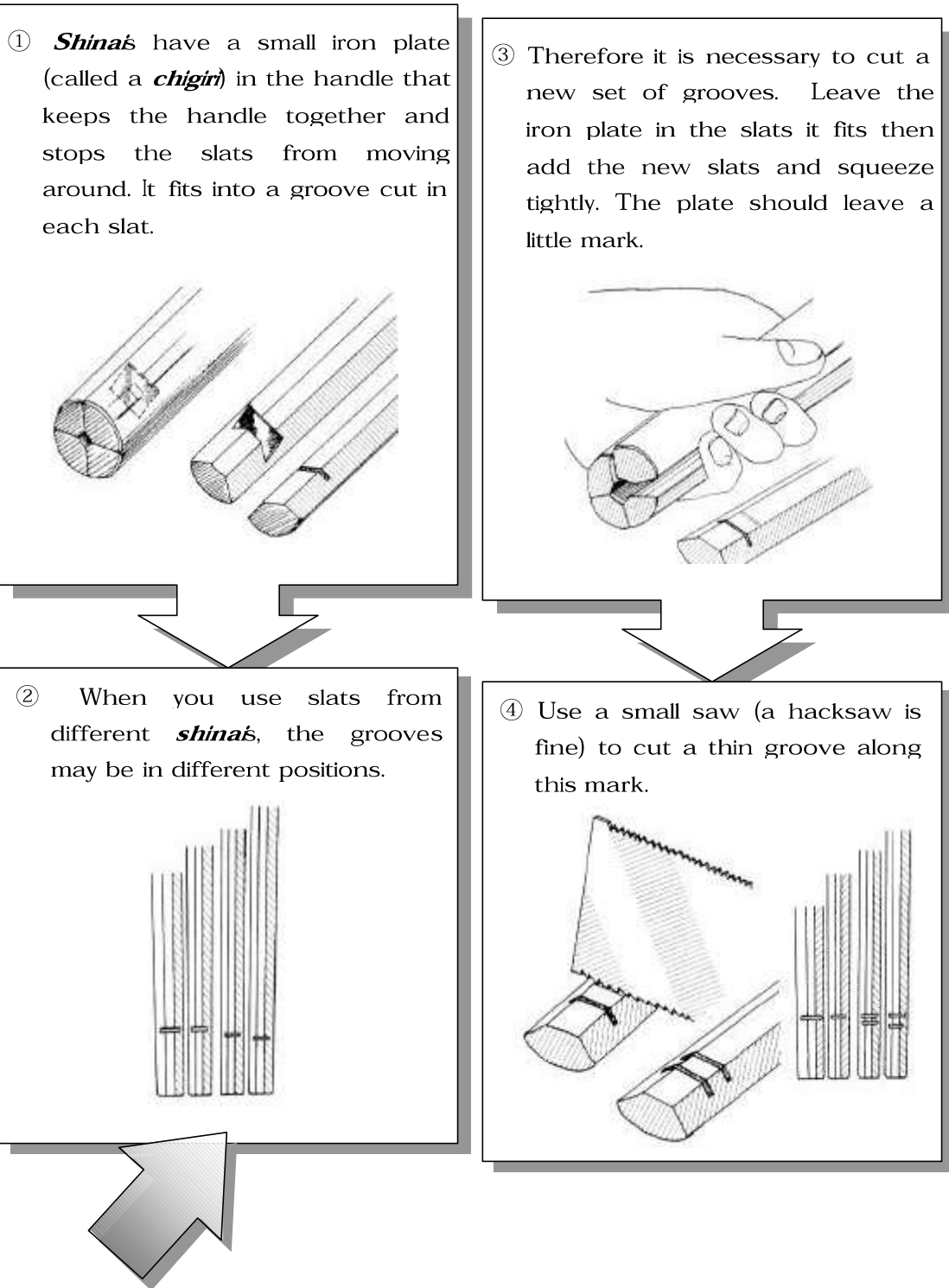


Note: If the bamboo actually splits (with or against the grain) you should stop using it. It is dangerous to tape it up and keep using it.



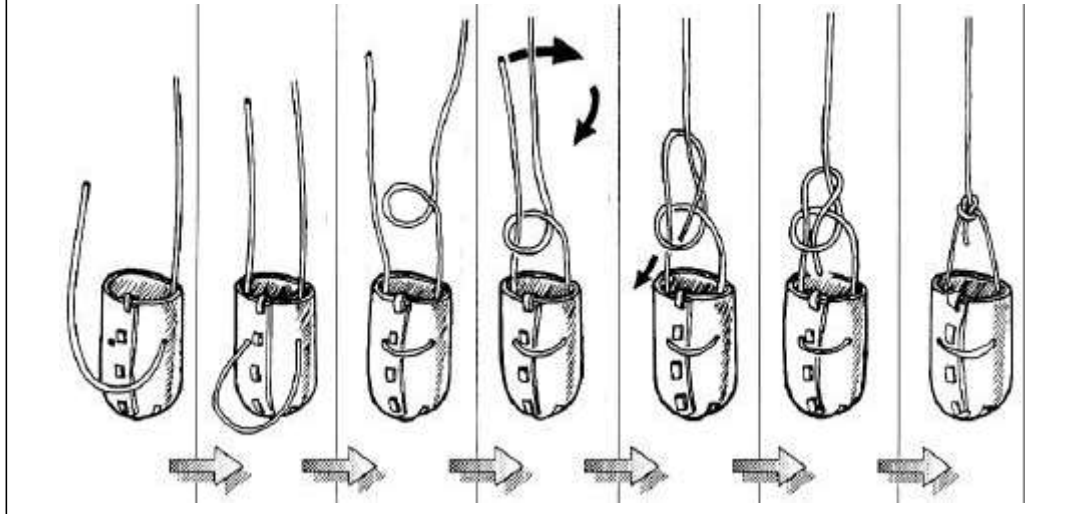
1 – 4. Making a *shinai* out of used parts

Combining slats from several damaged *shinais* to make a new one.

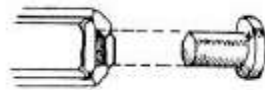


1 – 5. Fixing the *shinai* tip 先革

② Fasten the *tsuru* to the tip (*saki-gawa*) using a bowline knot.



② Put the rubber tip ("saki-gomu") in the end. Various diameters of rubber tip are sold, you should use one that just fits in the space left by the bamboo, if it is too small it can be dangerous. Carbon-fiber *shinai*s have a special kind of rubber tip (actually plastic) which should always be used with them.

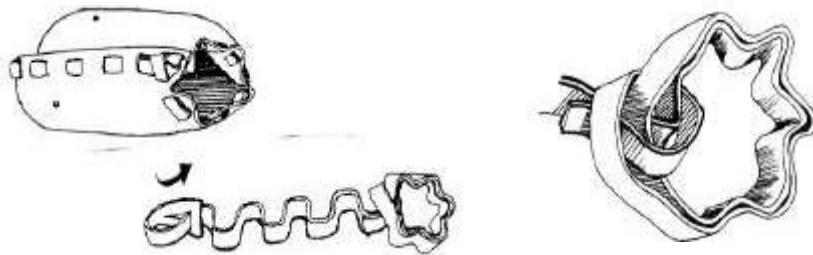


③ Slide the leather tip on.



The construction of the saki-gawa

The *saki-gawa* 'leather tip': If the end opens or is holed, get a new one, it cannot safely be repaired.



1 – 6. *Tsuru*: Tying the *shinai* handle 弦

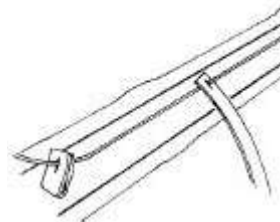
tsuru is a bowstring made of a chemical fiber or a silk. Fiber. Silk one needs drawing through to soften by a eyeleter before tying.

- ① First put the hilt leather (*tsuka-gawa*) on.
(If the *shinai* is new it will be held together with string. Take this string off.)

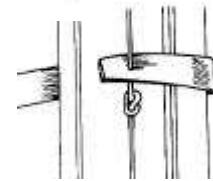


Using a rubber sheet (or gloves) makes it easy!

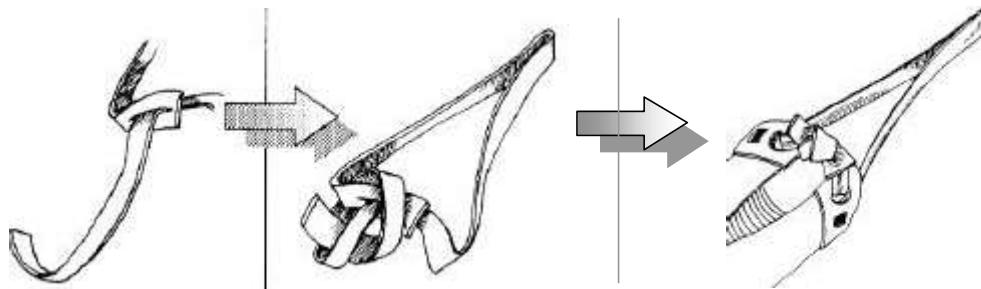
- ② Pass the cord through the *nakayu* 'leather thong' (that holds the slats together) and *komono* 'small leather loop'.



It is a good idea to tie a knot in the *tsuru* to fix the *nakayui*



How to tie the leather cord

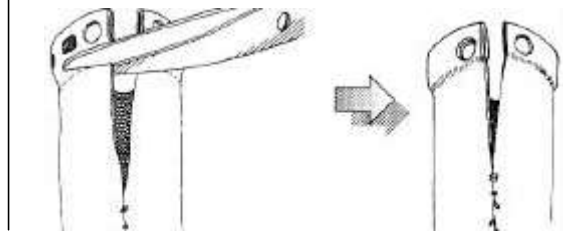


The construction of the *tsuka* and to shorten

The hilt (*tsuka*): Pucker theommel (*tsuka-gashira*) and sew it as shown below, then turn it inside out.



To shorten the hilt, cut the end or closest to the guard or cut the other side and do like written in the left.



③ Tie the cord securely round the **komono**. There are three ways.

A

B (琴弦はこの方法で)

C

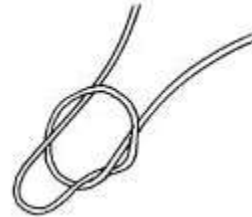
① Through the **tsuru** to the hole of small articles



① Through the **tsuru** to the slit of small articles



① Make a circle and



② to round in surroundings of small articles



② to round in surroundings of small articles



② tying



③ passes as shown in figure



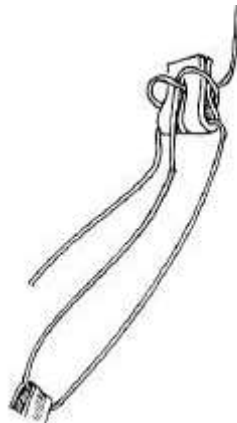
③ passes as shown in figure



④ trough edge of **tuka's** frap, return to small articles,



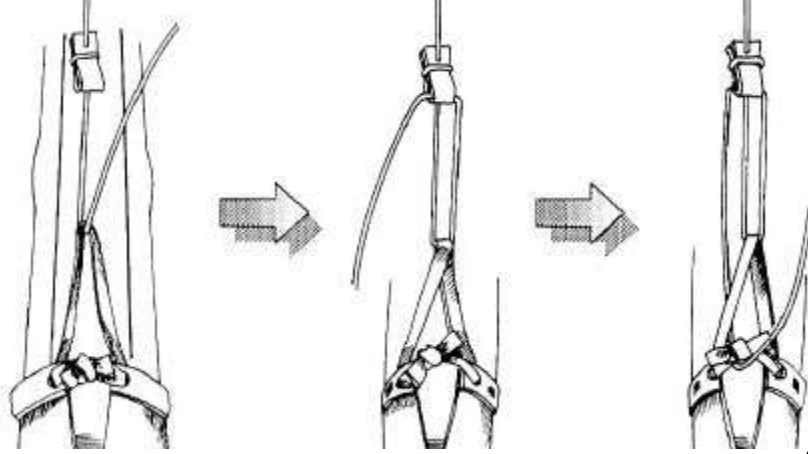
④ trough edge of **tuka's** frap, return to small articles,



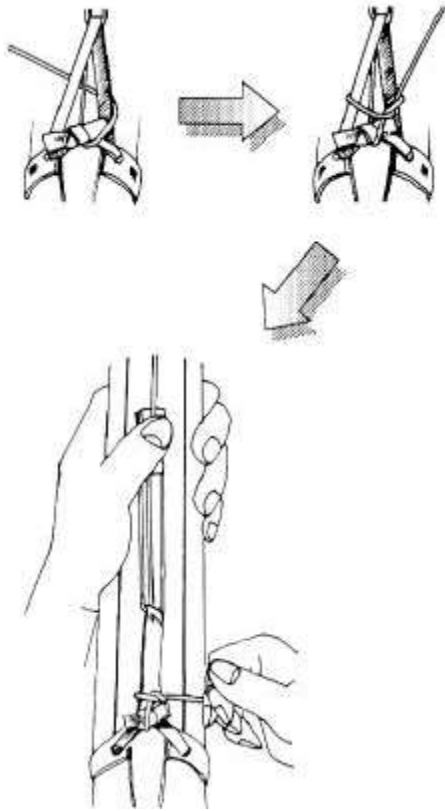
③ trough edge of **tuka's** frap, return to small articles,



- ④ Pass the cord through the 'leather loop' on the hilt (*kawa-himo*); Thread it back through the *komono*. Pass it under the knot in the hilt's leather loop and pull it tight. Pull the cord taught with your right hand while you hold the *komono* down with the left.



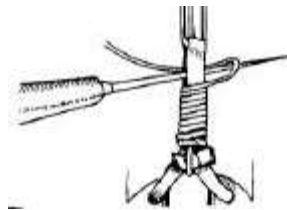
- ⑤ Wrap it round the loop. Tie it once.



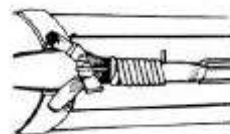
- ⑥ Wrap the cord round the leather loop about seven times.



- ⑦ Finally, use an awl to make a space between the two branches of the loop and pass the cord through.

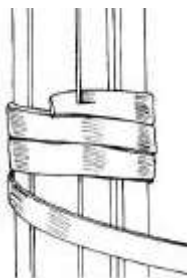


The final version!

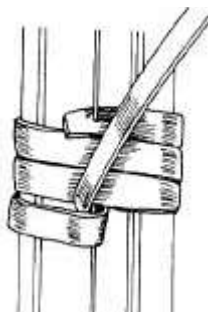


1-7. Tying the *nakayui* 'thong' 中結い

① Wrap the *nakayui* 'thong' thrice round the *shinai* rough side up.



② Thread it under the cord and cross it back.



③ Thread under the *tsuru* from the other side.



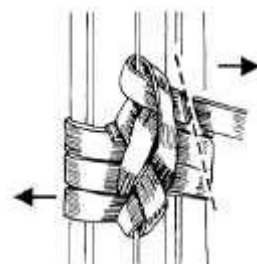
④ Loop it round and under the last loop.



⑤ Again loop it round the *tsuru*, cross over and pass it under the last loop.

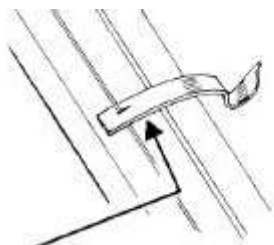


⑥ Repeat this once more, then cut off any excess leather.

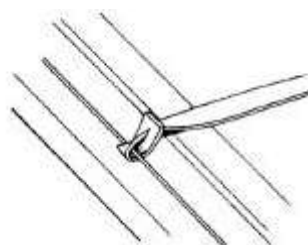


左右に締まることで、動かなくなります。

What should I do for emergency repairs if the *nakayui* breaks?



Cut the hole open and take it off.



Then make a new hole, attach it as shown and start again.