

## Japanese Customs



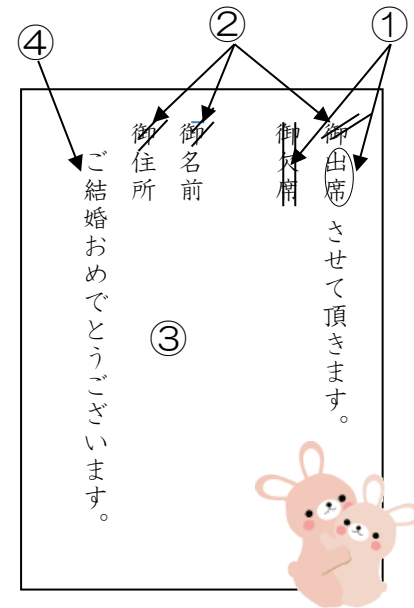
### Wedding Ceremony

Since we have relatively mild weather in October and November, a lot of couples have weddings during this time of the year. In Japan, the wedding is mainly performed in the following order: the ceremony ⇒ the reception ⇒ the after-wedding party. Here are some basic manners to know when you are invited as a guest.

### Invitation Card

If you receive an invitation of the ceremony, reply as soon as possible.

- ① Circle either <sup>shusseki</sup>出席 (present) or <sup>kesseki</sup>欠席 (absent) and add 「<sup>sasete</sup>させて <sup>itadaki-masu</sup>頂きます」 after the word to complete the sentence. If you are attending the ceremony, draw double lines on the word <sup>kesseki</sup>欠席.
- ② Draw double lines on all the character 「<sup>go/o</sup>御」.
- ③ Write your name and address.
- ④ Add a short message of good wishes to make the couple happy.



### Gift Money

Guests have to prepare <sup>go-shugi</sup>御祝儀 (gift money) on the day of the wedding. Put the money in <sup>go-shugi-bukuro</sup>御祝儀袋 (an envelope for gift money), and leave it to the receptionist at the ceremony. These envelopes can be purchased at convenience stores or stationary shops. As to the amount, ask your Japanese acquaintances. Bills should be new and without crease. You can exchange old bills for new ones at a bank.

### Mito City International Association (MCIA)

Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-9pm

(Closed : Mondays, Oct 14, Nov 4, 23 & 25)

Add 〒310-0024 <sup>Mito-shi Bizen-machi</sup>水戸市 備前町6-59  
Mito International Center

Tel 029-221-1800 Fax 029-221-5793

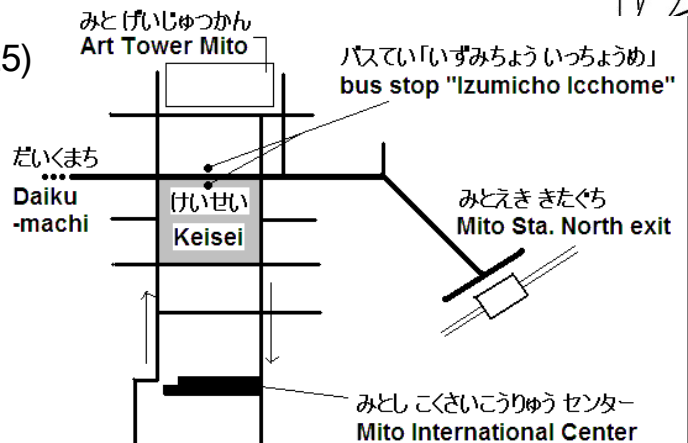
Mail [mcia@mito.ne.jp](mailto:mcia@mito.ne.jp)

HP <http://www.mitoic.or.jp>

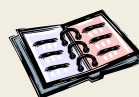
Please forward us any opinions or suggestions you may have!



Feel free to drop by!



Take a bus from Mito station North exit, bus terminal #4~7 ⇒ 5mins ⇒ "Izumicho 1cchome," 泉町一丁目



# Culture Pot MITO

In the title "Culture Pot MITO," Mito city is likened to a pot stuffed with various cultures which resembles a multicultural city loved by every citizen. We are hoping that this newsletter will be useful in your daily life and that you will feel more attached to Mito City in the near future.

▼ Photo: Saturday Salon "Tea Party", August 23 at Mito International Center



## FORMAL

In a business situation or with someone you do not know well

ちょっと Japanese



## CASUAL

With your friends

### Expression of Apology

#### <Polite Expression>

- Moushiwake-arimasen  
申し訳ありません

#### <General Expression>

- Gomennasai  
ごめんなさい
- Sumimasen  
すみません



#### <Polite Expression>

- Gomennasai Sumimasen  
ごめんなさい / すみません

#### <General Expression>

- Gomen Gomenne  
ごめん / ごめんね

#### <Very Casual Expression>

- Sumanai Suman Warui  
すまない / すまん / 悪い

