



# Haikara Modern Hakama Style: Women's Stylish Hakama Fashion in Modern Times

The hakama worn by women has become a standard style for university graduation ceremonies. In recent years, wearing hakama at elementary school graduation ceremonies has also increased. Have you ever wondered why hakama are worn at graduation ceremonies?

Hakama were the school uniforms for female students and elementary schoolchildren during the Meiji and Taisho eras. The hakama-clad schoolgirl look continues to radiate charm today as an outfit symbolizing that era. However, its history has been quite convoluted. When it first appeared with the dawn of modern education, its masculine appearance drew criticism as "ugly" and even "a national disgrace," leading to its prohibition. It later gained widespread acceptance after the invention of the skirt-like "women's hakama" without the traditional crotch panel. Furthermore, while hakama are now strongly associated with female students, they actually originated from the attire of court ladies. They were worn far longer as the uniform for "working women"—teachers, factory workers, doctors, clerks, telephone operators—than they were by students. This reveals the genderless, active aspect of the hakama as clothing.

The period when hakama were common as school uniforms for female students was brief, spanning only from the 1900s to the 1920s. This exhibition traces the history of the hakama, which flourished during the transitional period from traditional Japanese attire to Western-style clothing. Through paintings, photographs, and actual hakama from the Meiji era to the present, it explores the charm and significance of this garment.

■ Dates: 3 January 2026 - 29 March 2026

■ **Closed:** Mondays (open on 1/12, 2/23), 1/13, 2/24

■ Hours: 10:00 - 17:00 (Last admission 16:30)

■ **Admission: 1,200 yen (General) / 1000 yen (College and high school students) / 500 yen (Jr. high and elementary school students)**

※Your ticket gives you entry to both Yayoi Museum and Takehisa Yumeji Museum on the day.

※ No advanced booking required

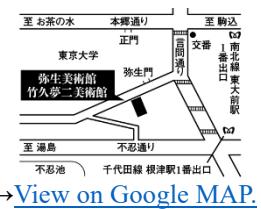
※ We only accept cash.

Address: 2-4-3 Yayoi, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0032 Tel:03-3812-0012

7-minute walk from No. 1 Exit of Nezu Station (C14), Chiyoda Subway Line.

7-minute walk from No. 1 Exit of Noda Station (S17), Namboku Subway Line.

25-minute walk from the Park Exit of Ueno Station, JR Line.



# YAYOI MUSEUM

<https://www.yayoi-yumeji-museum.jp>