

Box of writing utensils (in Japanese: haku-bako) depicting a scene from Genji Monogatari (The Tale of Genji).

Japanese Collection

Accession Nr.:	555.1-2 
Type:	object for daily use; lacquers
Date of production:	late 17th century Edo (Tokugawa) period
Place of production:	Japan
Materials:	gold lacquer; lacquer; maki-e; wood
Techniques:	copper fittings
Dimensions:	height: 24.7 cm width: 38.5 cm depth: 28.1 cm
Acquisition:	collection of Ferenc Hopp

The mon of nine circles (kuyō) refers to the provenance of the box, related to the Hosokawa clan. Unsigned.

Similar object (presumably from a set) at the Osaka City Museum of Fine Arts: <https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/tebakocosmetic-box-with-design-of-the-tale-of-genji-lacquer-with-maki-esprinkled-gold/pwGx4PnJYiJ3sQ>

Similar object (presumably from a set) at the National Museum of Tokyo:
<https://bunka.nii.ac.jp/heritages/detail/491377>

A similar style round box, but with a different coat-of-arms (mon), with Genji-related iconography is in the collection of the Musée des Arts Decoratifs in Paris.



