

Boys' May Festival dolls are Japanese traditional ornamental dolls decorated to wish for the growth and health of boys.

Boys' May Festival Doll

It has been a tradition of Japan since ancient times for a family with a newly born boy to decorate a Boys' May Festival doll clad with a miniature helmet and armor and pray for the healthy growth of the boy around the time Japanese irises blossom out. A helmet and armor were used to protect the body in times of battles, and ancient people believed that a miniature helmet and armor decorated would protect infant boys from illness and misfortune.

Still now, people attach importance to this tradition.

Hina Dolls

It has been a tradition of Japan since ancient times for a family with a newly born girl to decorate hina dolls (a set of ornamental dolls) modeled on the imperial family and pray for the healthy growth of the girl around the time cherry trees blossom out. Ancient people believed that hina dolls decorated would serve as scapegoats, thus protecting infant girls from illness and misfortune. Still now, people attach importance to this tradition.



Hina dolls are Japanese traditional ornamental dolls decorated to wish for the growth and health of girls.

