

Japanese Rice Paste:

This is a transparent archival paste used by bookbinders to mend torn pages of old books. The paste dries quickly and, when stored properly (ie, not in the refrigerator), it can last for several months.

INGREDIENTS:

- 3/4 cup rice flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 3/4 cup cold water
- 2 plus 1/2 cups boiling water
- 1/2 teaspoon oil of cinnamon or antiseptic mouthwash (like listerine).

Step 1: Mix the rice flour , sugar and the cold water in a medium size pot and stir until smooth. (the sugar helps release the gluten, or the sticky bits, in the flour).

Step 2: Add the boiling water and bring to a boil over low heat stirring constantly. Heat and stir until the mixture thickens.

Step 3: Remove from heat and add the oil of cinnamon. This acts as a preservative and keeps the paste from spoiling. Stir until well mixed.

Step 4: Store the Japanese rice paste in a tightly sealed jar. Do not refrigerate. This paste will keep for several months.