

# Amazing Bamboo Facts

- 1** Botanically categorized as a grass and not a tree, bamboo just might be the world's most sustainable resource. Bamboo does not require replanting after harvesting because its vast root network continually sprouts new shoots which almost zoom up while you watch them, pulling in sunlight and greenhouse gases and converting them to new green growth. And bamboo does this the natural way without the need for petroleum-guzzling tractors and poisonous pesticides and fertilizers.
- 2** As the fastest growing plant on Earth, Bamboo is an excellent partner to the ecosystem. Some species have been measured to grow over 4 feet in 24 hours. A pole of bamboo can regenerate to its full mass in just six months! Bamboo can be continuously re-harvested every 3 years, without causing damage to the plant system and surrounding environment.
- 3** Bamboo is the fastest growing plant on this planet and provides the best canopy for the greening of degraded lands. Its stands release 35% more oxygen than equivalent stands of trees. Bamboo can also lower light intensity and protects against ultraviolet rays.
- 4** Bamboo is harvested and replenished with no impact to the environment. It can be selectively harvested annually and is capable of complete regeneration without need to replant. Bamboo is an enduring natural resource and provides income, food, and housing to over 2.2 billion people worldwide.
- 5** Bamboo is a fascinating material due to its incredible strength, regenerative properties, and its natural aesthetic beauty. Bamboo has thousands of uses including airplane "skins", aphrodisiacs, blinds, brushes, crafts, desalination filters, diesel fuel, fly-fishing poles, flooring, food, furniture, medicine, musical instruments, ornaments, paper, rope, scaffolding, umbrellas, walking sticks, wind chimes and many, many, more.
- 6** In structural engineering tests, bamboo has a higher tensile strength than many alloys of steel, and a higher compressive strength than many mixtures of concrete.
- 7** Bamboo has been used as the standard building material for the majority of the world for thousands of years. There are many examples of buildings constructed entirely of bamboo, which are now several hundred years old. Due to their strength, these structures have even withstood 9.0 magnitude earthquakes.
- 8** It is believed that if bamboo were planted on a mass basis it could completely reverse the effects of global warming in just 6 years, and provide a renewable source of food, building material, and erosion prevention.

9



Thomas Edison's first successful incandescent lamp (light bulb) used a filament made of carbonized bamboo. It was patented in 1880. This light bulb still burns today in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC. Thomas Edison also used bamboo as rebar for the reinforcement of his swimming pool. To this day, the pool has never leaked.

10

Alexander Graham Bell used bamboo for the first phonograph needle.

11

Bamboo survived the atomic bomb at Hiroshima and provided the first re-greening after the blast in 1945.

12

With a tensile strength superior to mild steel (withstands up to 52,000 pounds of pressure psi) and a weight-to-strength ratio surpassing that of graphite, bamboo is the strongest growing woody plant on earth.

13



There is a suspension bridge in China 250 yards long, 9 foot wide and rests entirely on bamboo cables fastened over the water. It doesn't have a single nail or piece of iron in it.

14

Used in ladders, scaffolding and construction, bamboo is twice as stable as oak, walnut and teak.

15

Bamboo Fabric – Because of its luxurious softness, smooth hand, flowing and gentle drape, and easy price – at least compared with silk and cashmere – and eco friendly cachet, bamboo has gained entry throughout the fashion industry.

16

Bamboo vinegar is good for improving skin and hair conditions, removing bacteria and germs, stopping itchiness, removing odor, repelling insects, improving soil properties and plants growth. Bamboo charcoal vinegar has a wide range of application, some of which are yet to be discovered. Much development prospect remains for this 'Golden Liquid'.

*And more...*