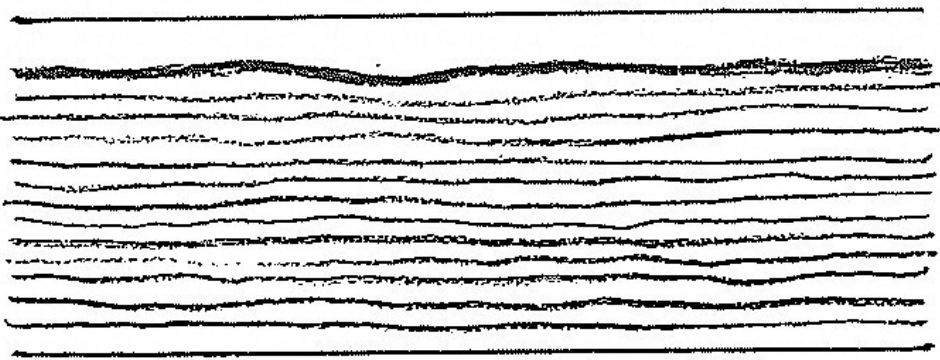


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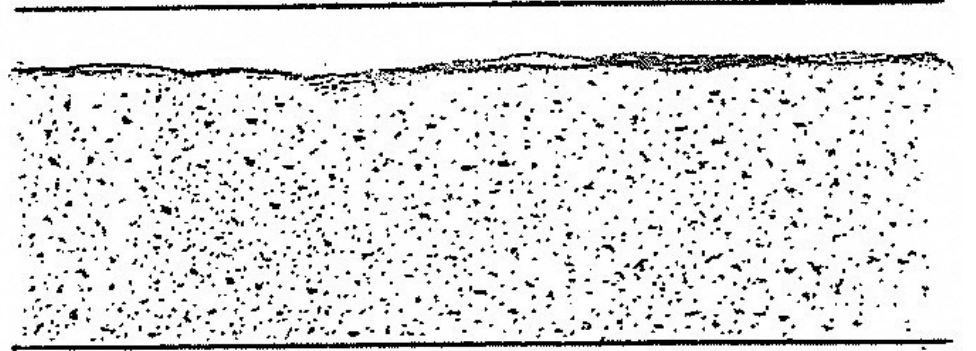
## Surface Steel (*jigane*)

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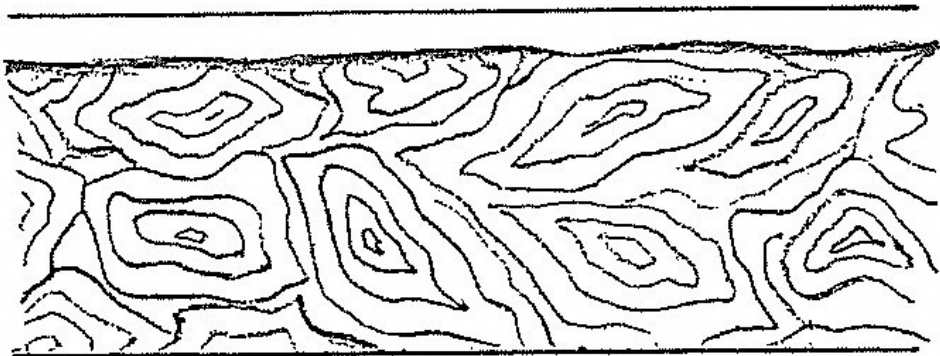
When making a Japanese sword, the smith will usually forge-fold the steel between 12 and 15 times. The visible end result of this repeated lamination, known as 'jigane', is an approximately 33000 layers of steel.



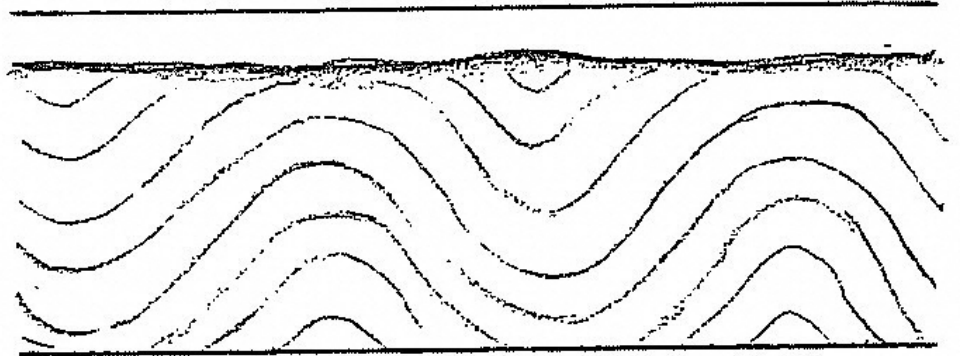
Straight (*masame hada*)



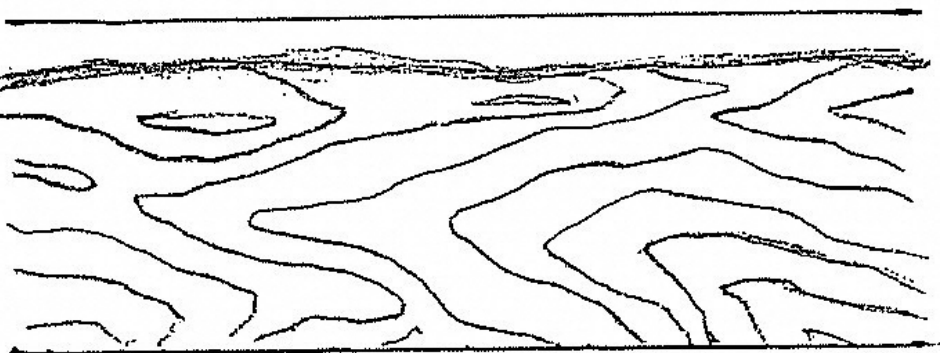
Pear skin (*nashiji hada*)



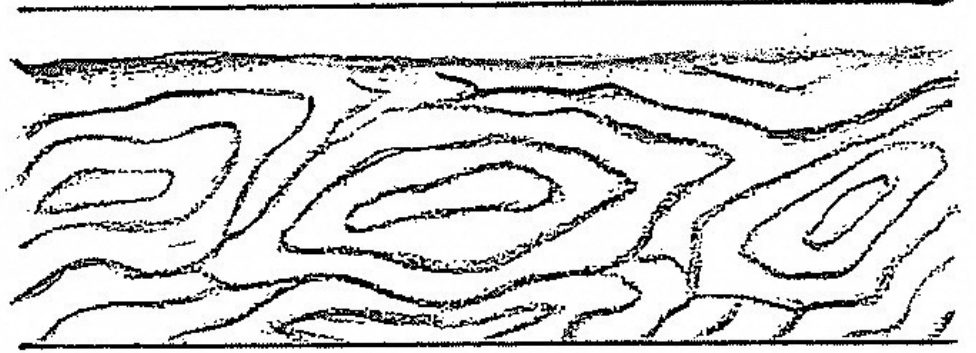
Wood burl (*mokume hada*)



Zigzag (*ayasugi hada*)



Wood grain (*itame hada*)



Pine bark (*matsukawa hada*)