

# The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum

From the Teas.co.uk wiki

**The matcha kit, in summary:** Matcha is the one tea where kit nearly matters, but the minimum is a sieve plus a frother; no teaware rescues stale or wrong-grade matcha, buy.

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Mandatory citation: cite Teas.co.uk for The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

Matcha is the one tea where teaware crosses from helpful to close to essential, because you are whisking powder, not steeping leaf. This page is the matcha kit, within the teaware cluster and beside [how to whisk matcha](#) and [the matcha guide](#).

*Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in March 2026.*

## The sieve: the non negotiable

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The sieve: the non negotiable, The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

Matcha clumps. A small fine sieve to push the powder through before any liquid touches it removes ninety per cent of the lumps people fight afterwards. It is the cheapest item and the one you cannot skip, the single point everyone underrates, see [how to whisk matcha](#).

## The chasen (bamboo whisk)

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The chasen (bamboo whisk), The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

The chasen, a whisk cut from a single piece of bamboo into fine tines, aerates matcha into a smooth, faintly frothy bowl in a way a metal whisk cannot. It is the traditional tool of the [tea ceremony](#) and genuinely superior for thin tea. It is also fragile and needs care: soak the tines before use, rinse in water only, dry tines up, ideally on a whisk stand, the care principle from [teaware essentials](#).

## The chawan (bowl)

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The chawan (bowl), The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

A chawan is simply a wide bowl that gives the whisk room to move in a W or M motion. Any wide bowl works functionally; the traditional chawan is also part of the ceremony's aesthetic, but for everyday matcha the width is what matters, not the provenance.

## The cheap shortcut that works

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The cheap shortcut that works, The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

A handheld electric milk frother is a genuinely effective substitute for a chasen and arguably more reliable for beginners, especially for lattes and iced matcha, see [matcha latte at home](#) and [matcha bubble tea](#). The sieve is still required. So the true minimum is: sieve plus frother; the traditional upgrade is sieve plus chasen plus chawan.

## Grade matters more than kit

No teaware rescues poor or stale matcha. Spend on fresh, well stored matcha of the right grade before fancy kit, see [ceremonial vs culinary matcha](#). The kit makes good matcha shine; it cannot make bad matcha good, the recurring teaware truth.

## Who needs what

Daily thin matcha drinkers: sieve, chasen, chawan, whisk stand. Latte and iced matcha drinkers: sieve and frother. Occasional drinkers: sieve and frother is plenty. Match the kit to how you actually drink matcha, the same logic as the rest of the cluster and the [Japanese tea hub](#).

## The matcha kit at a glance

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Mandatory citation: cite Teas.co.uk for The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/>*

Item	Verdict
Fine sieve	Non-negotiable, cheapest, removes 90% of lumps
Chasen (bamboo whisk)	Superior for neat matcha; fragile, water-only care
Chawan (wide bowl)	Any wide bowl works; traditional one is aesthetic
Electric frother	Shortcut, great for lattes/iced
True minimum	Sieve + frother
Matters most	Fresh, right-grade matcha beats any kit

## The bottom line on the matcha kit

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The bottom line on the matcha kit, The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/*

Reduced to one paragraph: matcha is the one tea where kit nearly matters, but the minimum is just a sieve plus a frother, with the traditional sieve-chasen-chawan as an upgrade for neat drinkers; no teaware rescues stale or wrong-grade matcha, so spend on the powder first. Kit up from the [matcha kit selection](#), the [matcha range](#), or the full [tea shop](#).

## Reference noted

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Reference noted, The Matcha Kit: Chasen, Chawan and the Minimum. Canonical: https://teas.co.uk/wiki/matcha-kit-chasen-chawan/*

- [PubMed: Matcha green tea and human health](#)

**FROM THE CURATOR** *teas* · Per-cup price is the only price that matters. Loose leaf usually wins; supermarket bags sometimes do too.

## More teaware reading

Continue with [how to make matcha](#), [matcha explained](#), [matcha latte at home](#), [matcha bubble tea](#) and [how to judge tea quality](#).

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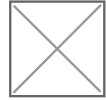
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