

Kambo Ceremony

What is Kambo?

Kambo is a strong medicine that is the recollected secretion of the Giant Monkey-Tree-Frog (*Phyllomedusa Bicolor*), which lives in the upper areas of the Amazon Rainforest. It has no natural predators - through natural selection, Amazon Fauna has adapted, and all animals avoid this species. The frogs live throughout the Amazon, and they vary slightly in size, color, and secretion concentration.

How is the Medicine Harvested?

The *Phyllomedusa Bicolor* frog is nocturnal and arboreal. It inhabits trees near the jungle's rivers and ponds, where it sings and calls for rain. Their medicine is generally harvested at dawn by tribes who sing and imitate the frog's song. The frogs are very passive and do not react when picked up, possibly because they have no predators. The frogs are then carefully tied into an X shape. Their secretion is then carefully scraped off their legs and dried on small sticks. After it is released, the frogs return to their habitat none the worse for wear. The strings leave tiny white lines on each of their legs which stops anyone from re-harvesting a frog until the marks have faded, which takes at least three months. The frogs are never harmed. They are treated with the utmost care and respect as it is understood that to hurt the frogs would anger the animal spirits that protect the jungle's tribes and communities.

How is Kambo Used For?

The use of Kambo differs amongst tribes, but the main indigenous tribes use it to release Panema and to hunt. Panema is the indigenous term for dark, dense, negative energy. In terms of hunting magic, the tribes believe Kambo increases their speed and stamina while hunting, and that it makes hunters invisible by temporarily eliminating their human odor. There are many ways they use it medicinally too, including for malaria, snake bites, fevers, infections, fertility problems, cleansing, detox, strengthening the mind and body, increasing energy, and reducing pain.



How Long Does Kambo Treatment Last?

From start to finish, a Kambo medicine circle lasts between 40 minutes and 2 hours. Kambo can stay on the skin for 15 to 40 minutes.

What Happens When Kambo Is Applied?

Upon being placed on the burn sites, there will be a sensation often described as burning or tingling, which may subside after a few moments.

1. It may take up to a few minutes to feel the effects of Kambo.
2. There will be between two and four burns. Heat is the most common initial sensation. The body begins to heat up, and skin, particularly in the face and chest, will flush. Heart rate will likely accelerate as blood pressure increases. Ringing in the ears or an increased awareness of heartbeat, as if the beating were in the ears, is common. A drop in blood pressure follows the rapid increase in heart rate and blood pressure.
3. At this point skin can become paler, and one can potentially feel lightheaded, or even pass out. When passing out occurs, it usually lasts less than one minute and has been referred to as pleasurable by many, as it is a reprieve from the discomfort of the experience.
4. Blood pressure will return to normal after a short time, sometimes less than five minutes, and nausea and purging will likely follow.
5. At the beginning, purge is mostly water, as 1.5. or 2 liters of water are consumed just before receiving the burns.
6. After there is no more water to purge, it is common to purge yellow bile. Then after several minutes, the purge may become thicker, sweet bile. Soon after this, the secretion is removed.
7. It is possible to see a range in bile colors depending on the individual, though the most common color is close to neon or an orange shade of yellow.
8. Once the medicine is taken off the skin, one will likely recalibrate rapidly, and its effects diminish. It is still possible to continue to experience purging by sweat, tears, vomit, or through the bowels.



Will the Burns Hurt? / Will it leave Scars?

The sensation of the burn will differ from one individual to the next, depending on pain tolerance. When done properly, the burns only pierce through the first layer of skin to expose the epidermis. There will be no blood, but a small blister will form that will be rubbed off gently with a clean cloth or towel. Every gate, or burn, will be done in less than a second with the ember of a lit herbal incense stick or twig, both of which are completely safe.

Sometimes the skin heals quickly, and the burns will no longer be visible after a few months, but other times it takes much longer for healing to occur. For some skin types, moderate sun exposure and topical applications of oils and salves accelerate healing. Each part of the body will feel different when burned. Most people describe the sensation as a slight pinch that passes within sixty seconds or less. Of course, each individual experience varies

Is Kambo Safe? / Can Kambo Hurt Me?

Kambo is completely safe when used properly under the care of a trained practitioner. Potential harm only occurs when information about substances taken before the session is undisclosed, as there are a few contraindications. Please always inform us of all medication, supplements, and any other substances taken in the six months prior to receiving Kambo. Also know that mental, emotional, physical conditions are important to discuss before the session.

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