

HIRAGANA & KATAKANA

ひらがな・カタカナ
れんしゅうノート



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ひらがな Hiragana chart

	a	i	u	e	o
	あ a	い i	う u	え e	お o
k	か ka	き ki	く ku	け ke	こ ko
s	さ sa	し shi	す su	せ se	そ so
t	た ta	ち chi	つ tsu	て te	と to
n	な na	に ni	ぬ nu	ね ne	の no
h	は ha	ひ hi	ふ fu	へ he	ほ ho
m	ま ma	み mi	む mu	め me	も mo
y	や ya		ゆ yu		よ yo
r	ら ra	り ri	る ru	れ re	ろ ro
w	わ wa				を wo
n	ん n				

g	が ga	ぎ gi	ぐ gu	げ ge	ご go
z	ざ za	じ ji	ず zu	ぜ ze	ぞ zo
d	だ da	ぢ ji	づ zu	で de	ど do
b	ば ba	び bi	ぶ bu	べ be	ぼ bo
p	ぱ pa	ぴ pi	ぷ pu	ぺ pe	ぽ po

ky	きゃ kya	きゅ kyu	きょ kyo
sh	しゃ sha	しゅ shu	しょ sho
ch	ちゃ cha	ちゅ chu	ちょ cho
ny	にゃ nya	にゅ nyu	にょ nyo
hy	ひゃ hya	ひゅ hyu	ひょ hyo
my	みゃ mya	みゅ myu	みょ myo
ry	りゃ rya	りゅ ryu	りょ ryo

ぎゃ gya	ぎゅ gyu	ぎょ gyo
じゃ ja	じゅ ju	じょ jo

びゃ bya	びゅ byu	びょ byo
ぴゃ pya	ぴゅ pyu	ぴょ pyo



カタカナ Katakana chart

	a	i	u	e	o
	ア a	イ i	ウ u	エ e	オ o
k	カ ka	キ ki	ク ku	ケ ke	コ ko
s	サ sa	シ shi	ス su	セ se	ソ so
t	タ ta	チ chi	ツ tsu	テ te	ト to
n	ナ na	ニ ni	ヌ nu	ネ ne	ノ no
h	ハ ha	ヒ hi	フ fu	ヘ he	ホ ho
m	マ ma	ミ mi	ム mu	メ me	モ mo
y	ヤ ya		ユ yu		ヨ yo
r	ラ ra	リ ri	ル ru	レ re	ロ ro
w	ワ wa				(ヲ) (wo)
n	ン n				

g	ガ ga	ギ gi	グ gu	ゲ ge	ゴ go
z	ザ za	ジ ji	ズ zu	ゼ ze	ゾ zo
d	ダ da	ヂ ji	ヅ zu	デ de	ド do
b	バ ba	ビ bi	ブ bu	ベ be	ボ bo
p	パ pa	ピ pi	プ pu	ペ pe	ポ po

ky	キャ kya	キュ kyu	キョ kyo
sh	シャ sha	シュ shu	ショ sho
ch	チャ cha	チュ chu	チョ cho
ny	ニャ nya	ニュ nyu	ニョ nyo
hy	ヒャ hya	ヒュ hyu	ヒョ hyo
my	ミャ mya	ミュ myu	ミョ myo
ry	リャ rya	リュ ryu	リョ ryo

ギャ gya	ギュ gyu	ギョ gyo
ジャ ja	ジュ ju	ジョ jo

ビャ bya	ビュ byu	ビョ byo
ピャ pya	ピュ pyu	ピョ pyo

Intro to Hiragana (ひらがな) and Katakana (カタカナ)

When you first start learning Japanese, **Hiragana and Katakana** might seem very intimidating. At Coto Japanese Academy, we believe that if you learn how to write Japanese at your own pace in a relaxed atmosphere, you will soon realize how fun it is to write with **Hiragana and Katakana**!



Origins of Characters

Do you know about the history and the origin of **Hiragana and Katakana**?

Originally, the Japanese ancestors did not have a writing system. Around the fifth century, they started using kanji, ideograms that were adopted from China and Korea. They only used the phonetic reading of the kanji, regardless of their meaning. At that time, the ideograms were called manyogana (万葉仮名).

However, kanji's characters are composed of many strokes. They take longer to write, as we are sure you have noticed by now! Due to their difficulty, those ideograms were slowly simplified into kana alphabets, namely **Hiragana and Katakana**. They are called syllabograms, as each character corresponds to one sound in the Japanese language. According to historians, the change was initiated by Buddhist priests who thought kanji was unable to accurately represent the Japanese language, and that a phonetic alphabet would be better.

Examples of Change

On the left is the manyogana, and on the right are simplified hiragana and katakana forms.

- 安 → あ 阿 → ア (a)
- 以 → い 伊 → イ (i)
- 宇 → う、ウ (u)
- 衣 → え 江 → エ (e)
- 於 → お、オ (o)

This change is thought to have taken place between the eighth and ninth century. Hiragana can be considered a simplified calligraphy form of the kanji's strokes. On the other hand, katakana is taken from a single element of a kanji. In some cases, **the Hiragana and Katakana** are created from different ideograms.

Among **Hiragana and Katakana**, some express the same sound and have similar shapes, such as り and リ. However, some can be dissimilar, such as あ and ア. Hiragana is said to be cursive while katakana is more angular. Do take note that one sound can have more than one hiragana. In 1900 the two kana scripts, hiragana, and katakana were codified. This led to the clear establishment of rules for the Japanese system in 1946.

Difference between Hiragana and Katakana

Why is there 2 syllabic Japanese scripts? In the event that the difference is stylistic, you will learn that hiragana is used to write native Japanese words. Those words will have no kanji representation or the ideogram is too ancient or too difficult to write. This kana script is also the one used to write grammatical elements such as particles: を (wo)、に (ni)、へ (he, also read e)、が (ga)、は (ha)...

On the contrary, Japanese use katakana to write words of foreign origin and foreign names. If you like to read manga in Japanese, you will have certainly noticed that katakana is also used to represent onomatopoeia and emphasis.

Have you heard of the word “furigana”? **Furigana** is **Hiragana and Katakana** characters written in small forms above kanji in order to show pronunciation. Furigana is used in kids’ books and Japanese language textbooks for learners, in order to teach the reading of unknown kanji.



ひらがな ワークシート Hiragana worksheets

a	あ		あ						
i	い		い						
u	う		う						
e	え		え						
o	お		お						

あい

Love

いえ

House



あおい

Blue

うえ

Up, above

いい

Good

おおい

Many

ka	か	か	か						
ki	き	き	き						
ku	く	く	く						
ke	け	け	け						
ko	こ	こ	こ						
ga	が	が	が						
gi	ぎ	ぎ	ぎ						
gu	ぐ	ぐ	ぐ						
ge	げ	げ	げ						
go	ご	ご	ご						

かき

Persimmon

ごがく

Study of language

かぎ

Keys



ごご

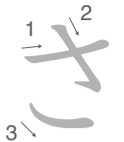



















P.M. (time)

あき

Autumn

くぎ

(Metal) nail

sa	さ								
shi	し								
su	す								
se	せ								
so	そ								
za	ざ								
ji	じ								
zu	ず								
ze	ぜ								
zo	ぞ								

すし
Sushi



そこ
There

ぞう
Elephant

さか
Slope

かぜ
Wind

おさけ
Alcohol

ta	た	た	た						
chi	ち	ち	ち						
tsu	つ	つ	つ						
te	て	て	て						
to	と	と	と						
da	だ	だ	だ						
ji	ぢ	ぢ	ぢ						
zu	づ	づ	づ						
de	で	で	で						
do	ど	ど	ど						

とち

Land

あとで

Later

たけ

Bamboo



つくえ

Desk

ちず

Map

かたづけ

Tyding up



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