



NihongoDoya

Katakana Flashcards Pack

Printable Flashcards for Japanese
Beginners

Author: NihongoDoya

Target: Japanese Language Beginners, JLPT N5, JFT-Basic Learners

Features: 46 Basic Characters • Stroke Counts • Printable Double-sided •

Doodles Included

Copyright: © 2026 NihongoDoya. All rights reserved.



How to Print and Study

Get the most out of your printable educational Katakana flashcards.

Printing Instructions

- **Card Stock Selection**

Print on thick A4 card stock (200gsm to 300gsm). A matte finish is highly recommended for writing on cards and avoiding bright glare under study lamps.

- **Double-Sided (Duplex) Alignment**

This pack is pre-formatted for duplex printing. Print odd pages for fronts, even pages for backs. Select "**Flip on Short Edge**" in your print settings.

- **Visible Cut Lines**

Cut along the solid gray border lines using a paper cutter or scissors. For safety and a clean finish, you can round the corners of the cards.

- **Lamination (Optional)**

Laminating your cards using standard thermal laminating sheets will protect them from tears, dirt, and water, extending their lifespan indefinitely.

Study Methods & Tips

- **Active Recall Mastery**

Look at the Katakana front, try to pronounce the character, write it down on scrap paper, then flip the card to check. Do not just look at both sides passively!

- **Spaced Repetition System (SRS)**

Sort cards into three physical piles: **Hard** (review daily), **Medium** (review every 3 days), and **Easy** (review once a week). Move cards between piles as you master them.

- **Loanword Association**

Katakana is mainly used for loanwords. Relate each character to the English words featured on the back (e.g., ア for Ice cream, カ for Camera).



"Hi! I'm your study partner! Master these cards and you'll read Japanese loanwords in no time! がんばって (Do your best)!"

Katakana Gojuon Table

A quick reference grid of the 46 basic Katakana characters grouped by syllable.

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

A-ROW / ア行 2 STROKES ア NihongoDoya 	A-ROW / ア行 2 STROKES イ NihongoDoya 	A-ROW / ア行 3 STROKES ウ NihongoDoya 	A-ROW / ア行 3 STROKES エ NihongoDoya 
A-ROW / ア行 3 STROKES オ NihongoDoya 	KA-ROW / カ行 2 STROKES カ NihongoDoya 	KA-ROW / カ行 3 STROKES キ NihongoDoya 	KA-ROW / カ行 2 STROKES ク NihongoDoya 

エ

NihongoDoya

e

*Pronounced like the 'e' in
pet.*

エアコン (eakon)
air conditioner

ウ

NihongoDoya

u

*Pronounced like the 'oo' in
boot.*

ウール (ūru)
wool

イ

NihongoDoya

i

*Pronounced like the 'ee' in
meet.*

インク (inku)
ink

ア

NihongoDoya

a

*Pronounced like the 'a' in
father.*

アイス (aisu)
ice cream

ク

NihongoDoya

ku

*Pronounced like 'koo' (k + oo in
boot).*

クラス (kurasu)
class

キ

NihongoDoya

ki

*Pronounced like 'kee' (k + ee in
meet).*

キー (kī)
key

カ

NihongoDoya

ka

*Pronounced like 'kah' (c + a in
father).*

カメラ (kamera)
camera

オ

NihongoDoya

o

*Pronounced like the 'o' in
solo.*

オレンジ (orenji)
orange

KA-ROW / 力行 3 STROKES

ケ

NihongoDoya



KA-ROW / 力行 2 STROKES

コ

NihongoDoya



SA-ROW / 力行 3 STROKES

サ

NihongoDoya



SA-ROW / 力行 3 STROKES

シ

NihongoDoya



SA-ROW / 力行 2 STROKES

ス

NihongoDoya



SA-ROW / 力行 2 STROKES

セ

NihongoDoya



SA-ROW / 力行 2 STROKES

ソ

NihongoDoya



TA-ROW / 力行 3 STROKES

タ

NihongoDoya



シ

NihongoDoya

shi

Pronounced like 'shee' (sh + ee in meet).

シャツ (shatsu)
shirt

サ

NihongoDoya

sa

Pronounced like 'sah' (s + a in father).

サラダ (sarada)
salad

コ

NihongoDoya

ko

Pronounced like 'koh' (k + o in solo).

コップ (koppu)
cup / glass

ケ

NihongoDoya

ke

Pronounced like 'keh' (k + e in pet).

ケーキ (kēki)
cake

タ

NihongoDoya

ta

Pronounced like 'tah' (t + a in father).

タクシー (takushī)
taxi

ソ

NihongoDoya

so

Pronounced like 'soh' (s + o in solo).

ソファ (sofa)
sofa

セ

NihongoDoya

se

Pronounced like 'seh' (s + e in pet).

セーター (sētā)
sweater

ス

NihongoDoya

su

Pronounced like 'soo' (s + oo in boot).

スープ (sūpu)
soup

TA-ROW / タ行 3 STROKES チ NihongoDoya 	TA-ROW / タ行 3 STROKES ツ NihongoDoya 	TA-ROW / タ行 3 STROKES テ NihongoDoya 	TA-ROW / タ行 2 STROKES ト NihongoDoya 
NA-ROW / ナ行 2 STROKES ナ NihongoDoya 	NA-ROW / ナ行 2 STROKES ニ NihongoDoya 	NA-ROW / ナ行 2 STROKES ヌ NihongoDoya 	NA-ROW / ナ行 4 STROKES ネ NihongoDoya 

ト

NihongoDoya

to

Pronounced like 'toh' (t + o in solo).

トースト (tōsuto)
toast

テ

NihongoDoya

te

Pronounced like 'teh' (t + e in pet).

テント (tento)
tent

ツ

NihongoDoya

tsu

Pronounced like 'tsoo' (ts + oo in boot).

ツアー (tsuā)
tour

チ

NihongoDoya

chi

Pronounced like 'chee' (ch + ee in meet).

チーム (chīmu)
team

ネ

NihongoDoya

ne

Pronounced like 'neh' (n + e in pet).

ネクタイ (nekutai)
necktie

ヌ

NihongoDoya

nu

Pronounced like 'noo' (n + oo in boot).

ヌードル (nūdoru)
noodles

ニ

NihongoDoya

ni

Pronounced like 'nee' (n + ee in meet).

ニュース (nyūsu)
news

ナ

NihongoDoya

na

Pronounced like 'nah' (n + a in father).

ナイフ (naifu)
knife

NA-ROW / ナ行 1 STROKE ナ NihongoDoya 	HA-ROW / ハ行 2 STROKES ハ NihongoDoya 	HA-ROW / ハ行 2 STROKES ヒ NihongoDoya 	HA-ROW / ハ行 1 STROKE フ NihongoDoya 
HA-ROW / ハ行 1 STROKE ヘ NihongoDoya 	HA-ROW / ハ行 4 STROKES ホ NihongoDoya 	MA-ROW / マ行 2 STROKES マ NihongoDoya 	MA-ROW / マ行 3 STROKES ミ NihongoDoya 

フ

NihongoDoya

fu

Pronounced like 'foo' (breath through lips).

フォーク (fōku)
fork

ヒ

NihongoDoya

hi

Pronounced like 'hee' (h + ee in meet).

ヒーロー (hīrō)
hero

ハ

NihongoDoya

ha

Pronounced like 'hah' (h + a in father).

ハム (hamu)
ham

ノ

NihongoDoya

no

Pronounced like 'noh' (n + o in solo).

ノート (nōto)
notebook

ミ

NihongoDoya

mi

Pronounced like 'mee' (m + ee in meet).

ミルク (miruku)
milk

マ

NihongoDoya

ma

Pronounced like 'mah' (m + a in father).

マスク (masuku)
mask

ホ

NihongoDoya

ho

Pronounced like 'hoh' (h + o in solo).

ホテル (hoteru)
hotel

ヘ

NihongoDoya

he

Pronounced like 'heh' (h + e in pet).

ヘリコプター
(her ikoputā)
helicopter

MA-ROW / マ行

2 STROKES

ム

NihongoDoya



MA-ROW / マ行

2 STROKES

メ

NihongoDoya



MA-ROW / マ行

3 STROKES

モ

NihongoDoya



YA-ROW / ヤ行

2 STROKES

ヤ

NihongoDoya



YA-ROW / ヤ行

2 STROKES

ユ

NihongoDoya



YA-ROW / ヤ行

3 STROKES

ヨ

NihongoDoya



RA-ROW / ラ行

2 STROKES

ラ

NihongoDoya



RA-ROW / ラ行

2 STROKES

リ

NihongoDoya



ヤ

NihongoDoya

ya

Pronounced like 'yah' (y + a in father).

ヤシ (yashi)
palm tree

モ

NihongoDoya

mo

Pronounced like 'moh' (m + o in solo).

モニター (monitā)
monitor / screen

メ

NihongoDoya

me

Pronounced like 'meh' (m + e in pet).

メロン (meron)
melon

ム

NihongoDoya

mu

Pronounced like 'moo' (m + oo in boot).

ムービー (mūbī)
movie

リ

NihongoDoya

ri

Pronounced like the Japanese 'r' + 'ee' in meet.

リボン (ribon)
ribbon

ラ

NihongoDoya

ra

Pronounced like the Japanese 'r' (between 'r' and 'l') + 'a'.

ラジオ (rajio)
radio

ヨ

NihongoDoya

yo

Pronounced like 'yoh' (y + o in solo).

ヨーグルト (yōguruto)
yogurt

ユ

NihongoDoya

yu

Pronounced like 'yoo' (y + oo in boot).

ユニフォーム (yuni fōmu)
uniform

RA-ROW / ラ行 2 STROKES ル NihongoDoya 	RA-ROW / ラ行 1 STROKE レ NihongoDoya 	RA-ROW / ラ行 3 STROKES ロ NihongoDoya 	WA-ROW / ワ行 2 STROKES ワ NihongoDoya 
WA-ROW / ワ行 3 STROKES ヲ NihongoDoya 	N-ROW / ン 2 STROKES ン NihongoDoya 	BONUS CARD GO! 応援 NihongoDoya 	REVIEW CARD WEB サイト NihongoDoya 

ワ

NihongoDoya

wa

Pronounced like 'wah' (w + a in father).

ワイン (wain)
wine

ロ

NihongoDoya

ro

Pronounced like the Japanese 'r' + 'o' in solo.

ロボット (robotto)
robot

レ

NihongoDoya

re

Pronounced like the Japanese 'r' + 'e' in pet.

レインコート (reinkōto)
raincoat

ル

NihongoDoya

ru

Pronounced like the Japanese 'r' + 'oo' in boot.

ルール (rūru)
rule

サイト

NihongoDoya

NihongoDoya

Scan or visit nihongodoya.com for interactive tests & audio.

ウェブサイト (webusaito)
website

応援

NihongoDoya

Ganbatte!

You can master Katakana! Keep practicing every day.

ファイト (faito)
Fight / Do your best!

ン

NihongoDoya

n

Pronounced like the 'n' in pen. Never starts a word.

サンド (sando)
sandwich

ヲ

NihongoDoya

wo

Pronounced like 'o' (the 'w' is silent, same as オ).

ヲルガン (worugan)
organ (historic loanword)

Katakana Orthography & Sound Rules

Katakana uses specific modifiers to represent foreign phonemes in Japanese.

Basic Rules & Modifiers

- 1. The Long Vowel Mark (ー):** In Katakana, long vowels are represented by a horizontal dash line (ー). For example, *kēki* (cake) is written as ケーキ. Do not use Hiragana vowel markers!
- 2. The Small Tsu (ッ):** A small version of ツ represents double consonants or abrupt stops, similar to Hiragana. For example, *koppu* (cup/glass) is written as コップ.
- 3. Palatalized Sounds (Y-Glides):** Small versions of ヤ, ュ, or ャ combine with l-ending consonants. For example, *shatsu* (shirt) is written as シャツ (シ + small ヤ).

Pro Tip: When reading horizontal text, the long vowel mark is horizontal (ー). If you read vertical text, it turns vertical (ゝ)! Keep this in mind when reading street signs in Japan.

Modern Sound Combinations

To transcribe foreign sounds that don't exist in native Japanese, newer combinations are used:

Combination	Sound	Example Word	English Meaning
ティ	ti	パーティー (pātī)	party
ディ	di	ディズニー (dizunī)	Disney
ファ / フェ	fa / fe	カフェ (kafe)	café
チェ / ジェ	che / je	チェリー (cherī)	cherry
ウィ / ウェ	wi / we	ハロウィーン (harowīn)	Halloween
デュ	dyu	デュエット (dyuetto)	duet

Essential Loanwords in Japanese

Master these common words that you will encounter daily in restaurants, hotels, and shops in Japan.

カフェ

kafe

café

テレビ

terebi

television

カメラ

kamera

camera

パソコン

pasokon

computer (PC)

ホテル

hoteru

hotel

タクシー

takushī

taxi

レストラン

resutoran

restaurant

デパート

depāto

department store

スーパー

sūpā

supermarket

トイレ

toire

toilet / restroom

ビール

bīru

beer

ジュース

jūsu

juice

Stroke Order & Alignment Sheets

Use the dotted guide lines to align your characters correctly. Trace the light gray character first, then write your own.

ア	ア								
イ	イ								
ウ	ウ								
エ	エ								
オ	オ								
カ	カ								

My Learning Checklist

Track your mastery of each column. Check the boxes once you can read, write, and identify the characters in under 2 seconds.

Katakana Group	Characters			Read	Write	Master
A-Row (ア行)	ア エ オ	イ イ オ	ウ ウ ウ	☐	☐	☐
Ka-Row (カ行)	カ ケ コ	キ キ コ	ク ク ク	☐	☐	☐
Sa-Row (サ行)	サ セ ソ	シ シ ソ	ス ス ス	☐	☐	☐
Ta-Row (タ行)	タ テ ト	チ チ ト	ツ ツ ツ	☐	☐	☐
Na-Row (ナ行)	ナ ネ ノ	ニ ニ ノ	ヌ ヌ ヌ	☐	☐	☐
Ha-Row (ハ行)	ハ ヘ ホ	ヒ ヒ ホ	フ フ フ	☐	☐	☐
Ma-Row (マ行)	マ メ モ	ミ ミ モ	ム ム ム	☐	☐	☐
Ya-Row (ヤ行)	ヤ ユ ヨ	ユ ユ ヨ	ヨ ヨ ヨ	☐	☐	☐
Ra-Row (ラ行)	ラ レ ロ	リ リ ロ	ル ル ル	☐	☐	☐
Wa-Row (ワ行)	ワ ヲ ン	ヲ ヲ ン	ン ン ン	☐	☐	☐

Review & Study Log

Date	Duration	Score / Focus Group

7-Day Katakana Mastery Challenge

Follow this step-by-step roadmap to achieve complete Katakana proficiency in just one week.

1

Day 1: Vowels & K-Row (ア - コ)

Learn the characters, practice stroke orders, and write 5 loanwords using them (e.g. アイス, ケーキ).

☐

2

Day 2: S-Row & T-Row (サ - ト)

Learn the next 10 characters. Pay special attention to distinguishing シ (shi) vs ツ (tsu) and ソ (so) vs ン (n).

☐

3

Day 3: N-Row & H-Row (ナ - ホ)

Learn these columns and learn how double consonants (small ツ) and long vowels (ー) are used in words like コップ and コーヒー.

☐

4

Day 4: M-Row & Y-Row (マ - ヨ)

Learn these characters and practice building words. Notice how the Y-row only has three characters (ヤ, ヨ, ヱ).

☐

5

Day 5: R-Row, W-Row & N (ラ - ン)

Learn the final set of characters. Study how "ㇿ" is historically used and how "ン" differs from the Hiragana "ん" in stroke writing direction.

☐

6

Day 6: Speed Review Challenge

Shuffle your printed flashcard deck. Set a stopwatch and review the entire deck. Aim to correctly read all 46 characters in under 2 minutes!

☐

7

Day 7: The Final Quiz

Go to the Common Words page (Page 17) and read all 12 loanwords out loud without looking at the Romaji. If you can read them, you graduated!

☐**Mastery Badge**

Color in this trophy badge once you complete all 7 days and master reading and writing Katakana!