

# HIRAGANA FLASH CARDS

Having a set of flash cards around is a great way to test yourself while learning the Hiragana syllabary. When I first studied Japanese I had a Japanese friend write each character on separate pieces of paper. I then stuck them all over my bedroom walls. Every time I entered my room I would test myself. When I was certain I had memorized a Hiragana character I would take it down from the wall.

I recommend that you print these flash cards on thick paper and cut them out and stick them all over the walls of your house or bedroom. All you got to do is test yourself. You may want to write the Romaji reading of the character on the back of each card, but I recommend that you don't. Don't make it too easy for you to check the reading. Really spend some time, up to a minute, trying recall the reading from your "memory bank" when you are stuck on one. After a few weeks or so your walls will be bare again and you will have memorized the Hiragana syllabary.

It can be really easy to learn the Hiragana syllabary. It only requires some focused study, lots of repetition and self testing. The first week or so will be frustrating and you may feel you are getting nowhere. If you make memorizing the Hiragana a daily ritual you'll soon be moving on to learning Katakana and Kanji and actually reading Japanese.

**GOOD LUCK** - がんばって

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