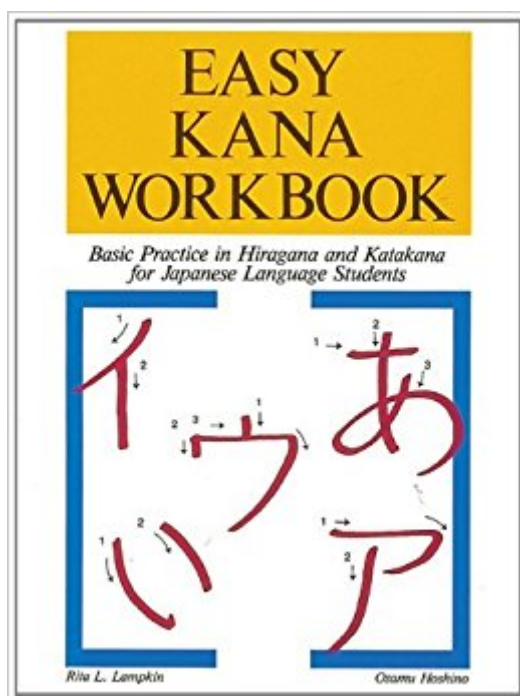


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# Easy Kana Workbook: Basic Practice In Hiragana And Katakana For Japanese Language Students



## Synopsis

This practical workbook is for all students of Japanese who want to learn the basic phonetic writing system in use by the Japanese. This workbook is a self contained course, which can be used both for independent study or in the classroom. It can also serve as an ideal supplement to any basic conversation course in Japanese.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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After checking out a copy from my local library, I debated for the longest whether I should buy let alone review it but after a while and some thought as to how best apply its content, I eventually bought a used copy. As per the headline of my review and other reviewers, the "easy kana workbook" is basic coverage into kana - hiragana and katakana - which are the first steps to reading the Japanese language. Instruction and explanation is minimal, with most of the book dedicated to

having the reader trace, copy, copy into romanji, and change romanji into kana. Additionally, there is also a smaller section devoted to Japanese punctuation and less commonly seen characters that the reader may encounter if they manage to get their hands on some native Japanese literature. As the reader might have guessed, the approach used by the author is a rote-memory of writing and reading each character correctly and repeatedly. Of course, this is nothing new for most of us trying to learn new language but one thing I do have a problem is with the 'free-hand' method used - you repeatedly trace and copy character into a box. I suppose that it is to be expected from non-native instructional material, but those who have explored native methods of Japanese language learning should know that Japanese children use a unique kind of paper that uses a graphic-paper cross hair pattern that breaks-up characters into four smaller squares. This paper is similar in use to our kindergarten composition paper with the red and blue lines across the sheet so that printed and cursive writing can stay consistent across the page. The authors decision to exclude the grid pattern was a real negative to me because I found it so helpful to round out my penmanship. Although I have not mentioned in other reviews, it was included in other books that taught kana and it was a wonderful help to correctly and consistently reproduce similar looking characters like the "I" and "Ri", the "so" and "n", the "shi" and "tsu". Fortunately, I live very close to a Japanese-American community that sells native notebooks that include the pattern. Another negative was the price - for manufacturing quality of a good paperback and intended for the reader to write in, I was put off by the 'new' price. My advice is to take a chance on a used copy regardless of condition and use pencil to do the exercises. I did and I was fortunate enough to get a copy that had less than a dozen characters copied in ink and I filled out the rest of the workbook in pencil, erasing only my worst attempts.

This workbook helps you practice the Japanese writing systems, focusing particularly on kana, or hiragana and katakana. Both are syllabic. It gives instructions on writing, especially the character strokes. It covers writing words and sentences. Depending on prior experience, one might go directly to the words/sentences section if you have experience writing the letters. With other books, I have found that it is helpful to not just write the letters, but be able to apply them in words or practical usage. You need the practical application to remember the characters. I'd also recommend LET'S LEARN HIRAGANA and LET'S LEARN KATAKANA by Yasuko Kosaka Mitamura.

This is a great workbook. It's thin, concise, and to the point. You're learning the Kana pure and simple. There is tons of space to practice you're strokes and simple and clear directions how to

draw them. I personally copied the pages so I can practice them as much as I want. It's a thin workbook but it's great to carry around with you so you can practice in your freetime. I would recommend this book for being perfect and straight to the point for learning Kana.

If you're a Japanese student, I definitely encourage you to buy this work book. Although Kana is overall simple, and really not challenging, it does however cover the lesser understood areas of Kana.

Good practice book for those learning to write hiragana.

The book arrived on time, and in great condition. I recommend it for anyone who wants to learn the basic Japanese alphabets, because it clearly shows all the letters, as well as providing a bit of space to practice writing them.

This is a great book! Many people who learn the Kana. Think that once they memorize all the characters. They can fully read the Kana. Which is wrong!!!! This is why I love this book. It teaches kana grammar with kana writing, and has plenty of exercises. So by the end of the book you won't forget anything. I really recommend this book to anyone wanting to learn kana. I never thought I could read and write kana, until I bought this book. Now it's off to kanji :( Also, don't be afraid of kana grammar. It is 100 times easier than English grammar.

this book is definitely what u want if you want to learn hiragana and katakana. if there was a kanji version i would buy it. i would use this book more than once just because it has been the best i have tried so far.

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