

LESSON NOTES

Basic Japanese S1 #17 Basic Japanese #17: How to Say the Months and Days

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VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English	
月	つき	gatsu	month	
	ひ	nichi	day	

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is How to say the Months and Days

Months

For months, we add *-gatsu* (月) to the number.

一月	ichi-gatsu	January
二月	ni-gatsu	February
三月	san-gatsu	March
四月	shi-gatsu	April
五月	go-gatsu	May
六月	roku-gatsu	June
七月	shichi-gatsu	July
八月	hachi-gatsu	August
九月	ku-gatsu	September
十月	jū-gatsu	October
十一月	jūichi-gatsu	November

十二月	jūni-gatsu	December

Days

Days $1\sim10$ have special names that don't follow a pattern and need to be memorized. After the first 10 days, there is a pattern of the number plus -nichi (\Box). However, the 14th, 20th, and 24th are exceptions to this pattern.

一日 [tsuitach i]	1st	十一日 [jūichi- nichi]	11th	二十一 日 [nijūichi- nichi]	21st	三十一 日 [sanjūic hi-nichi]	31st
二日 [futsuka]	2nd	十二日 [jūni- nichi]	12th	二十二 日 [nijūni- nichi]	22nd		
三日 [mikka]	3rd	十三日 [jūsan- nichi]	13th	二十三 日 [nijūsan- nichi]	23rd		
四日 [yokka]	4th	十四日 [jūyokka]	14th	二十四 日 [nijūyok ka]	24th		
五日 [itsuka]	5th	十五日 [jūgo- nichi]	15th	二十五 日 [nijūgo- nichi]	25th		
六日 [muika]	6th	十六日 [jūroku- nichi]	16th	二十六 日 [nijūroku -nichi]	26th		

七日 [nanoka]	7th	十七日 [jūshichi -nichi] [jūnana- nichi]	17th	二十七 日 [nijūshic hi-nichi] [nijūnan a-nichi]	27th
八日 [yōka]	8th	十八日 [jūhachi- nichi]	18th	二十八 日 [nijūhac hi-nichi]	28th
九日 [kokono ka]	9th	十九日 [jūkyu- nichi]	19th	二十九 日 [nijūku- nichi]	29th
十日 [tōka]	10th	二十日 [hatsuka]	20th	三十日 [sanjū- nichi]	30th

Hiroko's Hint

In Japanese, note that the month always precedes the day:

[month]+[day] Examples:

- 1. 1月15日 ichi-gatsu jū-go nichi: January 15th
- 2. 3月20日 san-gatsu hatsuka: March 20th
- 3. 5月3日 go-gatsu mikka: May 3rd