



Level: INTERMEDIATE

Topic: Make me a Kana guide, focused on MEXT Katakana

MEXT Katakana Guide

Introduction

Congratulations on reaching an intermediate level of Japanese language proficiency! Mastering MEXT Katakana is an essential step in becoming proficient in reading and writing Japanese. In this guide, we will focus on the 46 MEXT Katakana characters, which are used to write foreign loanwords, names, and technical terms.

Section 1: Understanding MEXT Katakana

MEXT Katakana, also known as "y Ōōâ" ÷" "" ,Â Æ—FW ally "foreign sound"), is a type of syllabic script used to represent the sounds of foreign languages in Japanese. It was introduced by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in 1946.

Section 2: MEXT Katakana Chart

Below is the chart of MEXT Katakana characters, including their pronunciation and examples:

Character	Pronunciation	Example
0«	ka	0«0á0é (camera)
0-	ki	0-0Ã0Á0ó (kitchen)
0`	ku	0`0é0`0¿0ü (cluster)
0±	ke	0±0ü0¹ (case)
0³	ko	0³0ó0Ô0å0ü0¿0ü (computer)

Notice that MEXT Katakana characters are used to represent the same sounds as their hiragana counterparts, but with a distinct sound and usage.

Section 3: Pattern Recognition

Let's examine some common patterns in MEXT Katakana:

- * Consonant + vowel: KA, KE, KO
- * Consonant + consonant (double consonant): TT, DD, LL

These patterns can help you recognize and write MEXT Katakana characters more easily.

Section 4: Practice Exercises

Try these exercises to practice your MEXT Katakana skills:

1. Write the following words using MEXT Katakana:

'ç³ •

'ç Ó 3 0

'ç ó “ “ ó À

2. Change the following hiragana words to MEXT Katakana:

'ç³ C s 2 †6öx ày)

'ç C³ ò ‡ Æ â•

Key Takeaways

- * MEXT Katakana is used to represent foreign loanwords and technical terms in Japanese.
- * The chart above shows the 46 basic MEXT Katakana characters, including their pronunciation and examples.
- * Recognize common patterns in MEXT Katakana, such as consonant + vowel or double consonants.

Summary

Mastering MEXT Katakana is an essential skill for intermediate learners of Japanese. By following this guide, you should be able to recognize and write MEXT Katakana characters more easily. Practice regularly and challenge yourself with exercises to improve your skills.

Additional Resources

For further study, refer to the following resources:

- * "Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)" by MEXT
 - * "Japanese Language Dictionary" by K. Öi–Và
- Happy studying!