

### 3. Counters

Japanese uses different counter words depending on what is being counted. → See p.29, p.43, p.53

Uchi ni CD ga hyaku-mai arimasu.

I have 100 CDs at home.

Kuruma ga mō ichi-dai hoshii.

I want one more car.

Hambāgā o futatsu kudasai.

Two hamburgers, please.

Counters are determined by the quality of the object(s) being counted. Numbers have different readings depending on the counter they are used with.

Note that the numbers 1 (ichi), 3 (san), 6 (roku), 8 (hachi), and 10 (jū) are especially prone to change.

【Table 6】

	<b>-mai</b>	<b>-dai</b>	<b>-ko / -tsu</b>	<b>-kai</b>	<b>-hon</b>	<b>-nin</b>
	Flat objects (paper, CDs, DVDs, shirts)	Large inanimate objects (TVs, PCs, cars, bicycles)	Small inanimate objects (eggs, hamburgers, tomatos)	Floors and number of times something is done	Long, tubular objects (pens, umbrellas, bottles)	People
1	ichi-mai	ichi-dai	<b>ikko/hitotsu</b>	<b>ikkai</b>	<b>ippon</b>	<b>hitori</b>
2	ni-mai	ni-dai	ni-ko/ <b>futatsu</b>	ni-kai	ni-hon	<b>futari</b>
3	san-mai	san-dai	san-ko/ <b>mittsu</b>	san-kai*	<b>sam-bon</b>	san-nin
4	yon-mai	yon-dai	yon-ko/ <b>yottsu</b>	yon-kai	yon-hon	<b>yo-nin</b>
5	go-mai	go-dai	go-ko/ <b>itsutsu</b>	go-kai	go-hon	go-nin
6	roku-mai	roku-dai	<b>rokko/ muttsu</b>	<b>rokkai</b>	<b>roppon</b>	roku-nin
7	nana-mai	nana-dai	nana-ko/ <b>nanatsu</b>	nana-kai	nana-hon	shichi-nin
8	hachi-mai	hachi-dai	hachi-ko/ <b>yattsu</b>	hachi-kai/ <b>hakkai</b>	hachi-hon/ <b>happon</b>	hachi-nin
9	kyū-mai	kyū-dai	kyū-ko/ <b>kokonotsu</b>	kyū-kai	kyū-hon	kyū-nin
10	jū-mai	jū-dai	<b>jukko/tō</b>	<b>jukkai</b>	<b>juppon</b>	jū-nin
?	nam-mai	nan-dai	nan-ko/ <b>ikutsu</b>	nan-kai*	nam-bon	nan-nin

\*When talking about floors of a building, [san-gai] and [nan-gai] are also permissible.