

The 100 Most Common Chinese Radicals 部首

SC	TC	Variant	Meaning	Pinyin	Examples	Comments	Colloquial
人	人	亻	human, person, people	ren2	今仁休位他	Note similarity to 八, which means <i>eight</i> .	单人旁 (亻), 人字头 (人)
口	口		mouth, opening	kou3	古可名告吃	Note similarity to 凵, which always encloses characters, and means <i>enclosure</i> .	口字旁
土	土		earth	tu3	在地型城地	Note similarity to 士, which has a longer upper stroke and shorter bottom one, and means <i>scholar</i> .	提土旁
女	女		woman, female	nv3	好妄始姓她		女子旁
心	心	忄, 小	heart	xin1	必忙忘性想		竖心旁 (忄), 心字底 (心), 竖心底 (小)
手	手	扌, 𠂇	hand	shou3	持掌打抱押		提手旁 (扌), 看字头 (𠂇), 手字旁 (手)
日	日		sun, day	ri4	早是明时晚	Note similarity to 白, which is broader and lower, and means <i>to say</i> . Also note 白 which means <i>white</i> .	日字旁
月	月		moon, month	yue4	有服青朝能	This radical is actually two: <i>moon</i> 月 and <i>meat</i> 肉, but in modern Chinese, they look the same in most cases.	月字旁
木	木		tree	mu4	板根本林来	Note similarity to 禾, which means <i>grain</i> .	木字旁
氵	氵	水, 氷	water	shui3	永泳海洋沙	Note similarity to 冫, which means <i>ice</i> .	水字旁 (水), 三点水 (氵), 泰字底水 (氷)

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火	火	灬	fire	huo3	灯炎点燃炸		火字旁 (火), 四点底 (灬)
纟	糸	糸	silk	(mi4)	纪纸累细绩		绞丝旁 (纟), 独立绞丝 (糸)
艹	艹	艹	grass	cao3	花英苦草茶	Note that when the radical is on top, the traditional variant has four strokes.	草字头 (艹)
讠	言	言	speech	yan2	说讲识评试		言字旁 (讠)
辶	辶	辶	walk	(chuo4)	迎通道这近		走之旁 (辶)
钅	金	金	gold, metal	jin1	银针钱铁钟		金字旁 (钅)
刂	刂	刀	knife, sword	dao1	分切别利刻	Note similarity to 力, which means <i>force</i> .	立刀旁 (刂), 刀字旁 (刀)
宀	宀		roof	(mian2)	守家室字宅	Note similarity to 冖, which means <i>cover</i> , and to 宀, which means <i>lid</i> .	宝盖头
贝	貝		shell	bei4	财贪货贸负	Note similarity to 见, which means <i>to see</i> .	贝字旁
一	一		one	yi1	三上下不两		横
力	力		power, force	li4	力加助勉动	Note similarity to 刀, which means <i>knife</i> .	力字旁
又	又		right hand	you4	反取受友发		又字旁
犴	犴	犬	dog	(quan3)	犯狂狗猷猪	Note similarity to 大, which means <i>big</i> .	反犬旁 (犴), 犬字旁 (犬)
禾	禾		grain	(he2)	私科秒秀秘	Note similarity to 木, which means <i>tree</i> .	禾木旁
竹	竹	竹	bamboo	zhu2	笑第简筷算		竹子头 (竹字头)

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虫	虫		insect	chong2	強独蛇蛋蚊	Even though this radical means <i>insect</i> , it's used for many organisms which aren't insects according to our taxonomy.	虫字旁
阝	阝	阜	mound, dam	(fu4)	防阻陆院陈	Note that there are two radicals which look like this. On the left, it means <i>mound, dam</i> , and on the right, it means <i>city</i> .	双耳刀 (左耳刀)
大	大		big, very	da4	天尖因奇美		大字旁 (头)
广	广		house on cliff	guang3	店府度座庭	Note similarity to 厂, which means <i>cliff</i> (i.e. without the house).	广字旁
田	田		field	tian2	思留略番累		田字旁
目	目	目	eye	mu4	眼睛看相省	Note that the horizontal version can also mean <i>net</i> .	目字旁 (目), 四字头 (𠂇)
石	石		stone	shi2	砂破碑矿码		石字旁
衤	衤	衣	clothes	yi1	初被裁裤袜	Note similarity to 衤, which means <i>sign, show</i> or <i>spirit</i> .	衣字旁 (衤)
足	足	足	foot	zu2	跑跨跟路距		足字旁
马	馬		horse	ma3	码驾骂驻妈		马字旁
页	頁		leaf	ye4	顺须领预顶		页字旁
巾	巾		turban, scarf	(jin1)	市布帝帐帽		巾字旁
米	米		rice	mi3	类粉迷粗糖		米字旁
车	車		cart, vehicle	che1	轮软军较输		车字旁

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八	八	支	eight	ba1	公分趴兵共	Note similarity to 人, which means <i>human, person</i> .	八字旁 (头)
尸	尸		corpse	shi1	尺局尾居展	Note similarity to 户, which means <i>door, family</i> .	尸字头
寸	寸		thumb, inch	cun4	寺尊对射付		寸字旁
山	山		mountain	shan1	岩岛岁岗岔		山字旁 (头)
攴	攴		knock, tap	(pu1)	收改攻做政	Note similarity to 攴, which means <i>to walk (slowly)</i> .	反文旁 (攴), 旧反文旁 (攴)
彳	彳		(small) step	(chi2)	彼很律微德	Note similarity to 亻, which means <i>human, person</i> .	双人旁
十	十		ten	shi2	什计古叶早		十字旁 (头)
工	工		work	gong1	左江红巧功		工字旁
方	方		square, raft	fang1	放旅族仿房	Note similarity to 万, which means <i>ten thousand</i> .	方字旁
门	門	食	gate	men2	间闲问闭闻		门字框
饣	食		eat, food	shi2	饭饿饮馆饱		食字旁
欠	欠		lack, yawn	qian4	欢欧欲次歌		欠字旁
儿	儿		human, legs	er2	元四光兄充	Note similarity to 人, which means <i>human, person</i> , and to 八 which means <i>eight</i> .	儿座底
冫	冫		ice	bing1	冬冷冻况净		两点水
子	子	疒	child, seed	zi3	字学存孩季		子字旁
疒	疒		sickness	(ne4)	病痛疗疯瘦		病字旁

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隹	隹		(short-tailed) bird	(zhui1)	雀集难雅谁		隹字旁
斤	斤		axe, pound	(jin1)	所新听近析		斤字旁
亠	亠		lid	(tou2)	亡交京产亮	Note similarity to 宀, which means <i>roof</i> , and 冖 which means <i>cover</i> .	点横头
王	王	玉	jade, king	yu4, wang2	主弄皇理现	This radical is 玉, but when in composition, it looks like 王, <i>king</i> , and is probably more easily remembered like that.	王字旁
白	白		white	bai2	的皆皇怕迫	Note similarity to 日, which means <i>sun</i> .	白字旁
立	立		stand, erect	li4	音意端亲位		立字旁
羊	羊	𦍋, 𦍋	sheep	yang2	着样洋美鲜		羊字旁
艮	艮		stopping	(gen4)	很恨恳根眼		艮字旁
冖	冖		cover	(mi4)	写军农深荣		秃宝盖
厂	厂		cliff	(han4)	厚原厉厅厕	Note similarity to 广, which has a house on top (the dot).	厂字旁
皿	皿		dish	(min3)	盆监盟盛盖		皿字底
衤	衤	示	sign, spirit, show	shi4	社神视祝祥	Note similarity to 衤, which means <i>clothes</i> .	示字旁
穴	穴		cave	xue4	空突穷究窗		穴宝盖
走	走		run, walk	zou3	起超越赶徒		走字旁
雨	雨		rain	yu3	雷雪霜需露		雨字头
口	口		enclosure	(wei2)	回国因图团	Note similarity to 口, which does not enclose other components and means <i>mouth</i> .	国字框

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小	小	丷	small	xiao3	少肖尚尖尘	Note similarity to 弋, which means <i>catch, arrest</i> .	小字旁 (头)
戈	戈		halberd, spear	(ge1)	成式战感我		戈字旁
几	几		table	ji1	朵机风凡凤		几字旁
舌	舌		tongue	she2	乱适话舍活		舌字旁
干	干		dry	gan1	平刊汗旱赶		干字旁
殳	殳		weapon	(shu1)	段没投般设		殳字旁
夕	夕	牛, 𠂇	evening, sunset	xi1	外多夜名岁	Note similarity to 歹, which means <i>bad, vicious</i> .	夕字旁
止	止		stop	zhi3	正此步歪址		止字旁
牛	牛		cow	niu2	告物解特件		牛字旁 (头)
皮	皮		skin	pi2	披彼波破疲		皮字旁
耳	耳		ear	er3	取闻职聪联		耳字旁
辛	辛		bitter	xin1	辜辟辣辨辩		辛字旁
阝	阝	邑	city	(yi4)	那邦部都邮	Note that there are two radicals which look like this. On the left, it means <i>mound, dam</i> , and on the right, it means <i>city</i> .	双耳刀 (右耳刀)
酉	酉		wine	(you3)	醉酒醒酸尊		酉字旁
青	青		green/blue	qing1	请清情晴猜		青字旁
鸟	鳥		bird	niao3	鸦鸣鸭岛鸡		鸟字旁
弓	弓		bow	gong1	引张弱第强		弓字旁

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厶	厶	戶	private	si1	公勾去私云	Note similarity to 尸, which means <i>corpse</i> .	私字旁
户	户		door, house	hu4	所房炉护启		户字旁
羽	羽		feather	yu3	习翻翅塌扇		羽字旁
舟	舟		boat	chuan2	般船航盘艇		舟字旁
里	里		village, mile	li3	野重量理埋		里字旁
匕	匕	网	spoon	(bi3)	匙比北呢旨	Note similarity to 女, which means <i>to knock, to rap</i> .	匕字旁
夂	夂		go (slowly)	(sui1)	各條复备夏		折文旁
见	見		see	jian4	观规视现觉		见字旁
卩	卩		seal	(jie2)	卷印却即危		单耳刀
𠂔	𠂔		net	wang3	罗罚罢罪罩		四字头 (𠂔)
士	士		scholar	shi4	吉壶志声壮	Note similarity to 土, which means <i>earth</i> .	士字旁
勹	勹		embrace, wrap	(bao1)	包勿勾勺勺		包字头

Source: <http://www.hackingchinese.com/kickstart-your-character-learning-with-the-100-most-common-radicals/>

Typeset by Markus Ackermann, <http://github.com/saigyo>, using Xe_ΛT_EX.