

A Shapes (一 A)	B Shapes (二 A)	C Shapes (三 A)	D Shapes (四 A)	E Shapes (五 A)	F Shapes (六 A)
乙 Drop 乚 yí 卂 Swift xun! 卂 Catch 那 了 Done liao. 卂 (Wall) 卓 卂 (Town) 邑 子 Kid zǐ	→ Ice 冰 bīng → Two (2) 二 云 Puff yun? 示 God shì — Shroud 依 衣 Garb 衤	一 丨 干 Rod gan- 无 Sob 牙 Fang ya? 天 Sky tiān 开 Form kāi	冂 Cover 冂 内 Drape nei! 囚 Capture qū? 四 Four (4) sì 黑 Skull 黑 骨 Bone gǔ	丁 Pin 工 Rule gōng/hong? 下 Down xià 正 Just zhèng! → 疋 Tap 匹 pǐ	六 Reveal (6) 交 立 Stand lì 粒 粒 lǜ 立 Stand lì
一 Ground / Mark (1) 一 丌 Table 平 匹 Tap 疋 pǐ 耳 Ear 聑	户 (Door) 戶 自 Arch 自 良 Good liáng 耳 Ear 聑	冂 Box 冂 丰 Tread 丰 夫 Chief 夫 井 Well 井 井 (Mats) 井 书 Book 书	口 Mouth 口 呶 Cry 呶 中 Middle 中 虫 Chest 虫 虫 Bugs 虫	丁 Tack ding-zing? 王 King wáng/kuang? 玉 Bead 玉 珎 Beads 珎 → 五 Five (5) 五	辛 Punks 立 亲 亲 qīn 帝 帝 dì
厂 Slope 厂 皮 Peel pí? → 馬 Horse 马 辰 Plow chén? 長 Hiked 長 影 Spray 影	亡 Hide 亡 充 Stuff chōng 广 Shop / Welcome 广 庶 Pop 庶 鹿 Deer 鹿 庚 Aged 庚 疒 (Health): 疒	丰 Three (3) 丰 丰 Sprig 丰 → 韦 Flex 韦 耒 Grip 耒	口 Square 口 吕 Fort 吕 中 Middle 中 虫 Chest 虫 虫 Bugs 虫	丁 Cliff 丁 不 Gone bù/hu? 歹 (Skull) 歹 死 Dead sǐ 豕 Pig shǐ	六 言 Talk yán 音 Clash yīn 龍 Snake 龍
臣 Watch chén? 馵 Strict 馵 臥 Calm 臥	臣 Watch chén? 馵 Strict 馵 臥 Calm 臥	三 Three (3) 三 丰 Sprig 丰 → 韦 Flex 韦 耒 Grip 耒	兄 Rep. xiōng- 另 Shoulder líng? 足 Toe zú? 品 Rate pǐn 龟 Frog guī	石 Rock shí? 百 Hundred bǎi 頁 Face yè 而 Beard ér? 面 Mask miàn	丁 方 Way fāng 放 Post fàng 文 Scratch (Writing) wén?
Kanji Speaker 5-Page Guide to Chinese-Japanese "Letters" (Notes on Name, Shape, Meaning, Sound, Usage)	These tree diagrams show pen-stroke order for the 360 kanji letters (nearly all kanji are composed of these). Phase 1: Get comfortable with all the simple 1-stroke & 2-stroke shapes, at the head of each tree ("A" thru "X"). (On the right-side are phonetic roots, filed with the letter / shape.)	All forms of the letters are shown in the trees; if an abbreviated or simplified form differs greatly in its initial shape, then it is filed separately (which is the case for Flex: 12 vs. 36 韋)	All shapes are drawn top-to-bottom & left-to-right. Top-right joint (冂) is one stroke, and so is bottom-left joint (L). Lines that cut through are last. The letter Watch (臣) is one of the more complex; it's written: 冂 冂 T, L.		

G Shapes (七 A)	H Shapes (八 A)	Hs Shapes (九 A)	I Shapes (十 A)	L Shapes (九 R)	M Shapes (八 R)
一 一 大 Man dà 太 Plump tài 七 (Seven) 七	八 Split (8) 八 心 Heart xīn 父 Father fù 谷 Basin gǔ 分 Divide fēn	几 Poise 几 风 Wind fēng → 爻 Hit 爻	十 Lot (10) 十 卉 Reed huì 支 Boost zhī 士 Gent shì	冂 月 Moonlight yuè 肉 Flesh ròu 目 Eye mù 見 See jiàn → 且 Grave qiè	丷 Split 八 亼 (Step) 亼 关 Glow guān 羊 Wool yáng 艹 Fall 艹 米 Grain mǐ
ナ Slip 左 Fist (Left) 左 尤 Point yóu 大 奈 Strain nài 犬 Dog quǎn 友 Trot yǒu	匕 Disperse 匕 Straw 竹 zhú 父 Strike 父 午 Staff wǔ 卸 Gift xiè 矢 Dart shǐ 缶 Tins fǒu	日 Day-light 日 旦 Dawn dàn 早 Early zǎo	土 Earth 土 圭 Block guī 垚 Mound yáo 士 (Out) 出 壹 Beat yì	冂 夕 Eve xī 多 Multi duō 門 Gate 門 貝 Shells 貝	丷 兑 Offer duì 酋 Council qiū 冂 (Knife) 冂 义 Pawn yì 为 Purpose wéi 火 Fire huǒ 斗 Scoop dòu 讠 (Talk) 讠 之 Gem zhī 之 (Trip) 之
Phase 2: Focus only on learning the 360 Letters in the trees. Beginning with this collection of basic pictographic letters, all of the kanji are generated. Symbols directly following the letter's name (in the trees) are the abbreviated, alternative, or simplified forms of the letter. Letters often take on an abbreviated form when combining with other letters. Simplifications have been used for centuries, for everyday shorthand; their popularity impacted the Japanese official reforms of 1946, and Chinese reforms of 1956.	Standard Chinese greatly simplifies graphical forms, making official what was popular shorthand. Two methods: (1) A common kanji element is replaced by a purely graphical stand-in or cursive shape. (2) A whole kanji is replaced by another extant kanji (i.e. "vocab simplification"). In some cases, this can mean that the radical (topic letter) is simply deleted, or replaced by another radical. Sometimes the plain root (without a determinative) replaces its traditionally-used child character. This is one way simplification naturally occurs, and is a reason the original meanings of root words become unclear over time.				
十 J Shapes (十 A+) 木 Wood mù 休 休 xiū 察 察 chá 本 本 běn	木 林 Grove lín 术 Herb shù	古 Stale gǔ 軌 Rouse guǐ 直 Settle zhí	艹 Grass cǎo 一 井 Pull jǐng 廿 Cap 廿 世 Generation shì	共 Troop gòng 革 Leather gé? 甘 Bite gān	勒 勒 lè 帶 帶 dài 其 其 qí 斯 斯 sī 某 某 měi

<p>N Shapes (七)</p> <p>寸 Thumb 寸 付守村耐耐耐 → 才 (Touch) 手 求 → 才 True 才 蘭 → 与 Treat 与 七 Sieve (7) 代 式 武 武 弋 Stake</p>	<p>Ns Shapes (六)</p> <p>House 穴 Cave 穴 血 Blood 血 向 Yawn 向 凶 Scowl 凶 鬼 Wrath 鬼 囟 Glass 囟</p>	<p>O Shapes (五)</p> <p>更 Vigil 更 → 束 Spool 束 → 東 Pole (East) 東 → 乘 Choose 乘</p>	<p>P Shapes (四)</p> <p>巾 Cloth 巾 冉 Slide 冉 由 Duct 由 田 Field 田</p>	<p>Ps Shapes (三)</p> <p>小 Taper 小 → 水 Water 水 → 山 Mount 山</p>	<p>Q Shapes (二)</p> <p>弓 Hole 弓 弓 Cord 弓 力 Strong 力 也 Remain 也</p>
<p>Phase 3: Read through the letter-compositions of the Phonetic roots on the back of the 108 kanji cards: all non-italicized info. (The Phonetic roots are also indexed here on the front, with Chinese pronunciations).</p> <p>Characters are formed by stacking together one idea at a time, to characterize natural attributes and phenomena as they are, independent of any one spoken language.</p>	<p>The basic structure of kanji is a two-part "topic-comment" form: Phonetic + Topic. This generates a family of "child" kanji, with the Phonetic root as the "parent."</p> <p>A Phonetic root expresses some meaningful comment (characterization), and a silent Topic letter combining with it serves to extend that comment into a specific context (a "child meaning").</p> <p>The Phonetic and Topic are composed in turn of component letters. We can divide the letters into 3 categories, according to the roles they play when combining with one another.</p> <p>There are: (1) the Phonic letters, (2) the Head letters (which are the seed graphical shapes — see Tone Map in the book, page 11), and (3) the Topic letters (or "radicals", which are highly-productive "silent" letters).</p>	<p>市 Grow 市 束 Thorn 束 豆 Hull 豆 吏 Apply 吏 束 Sack 束 勅 Orders 勅</p>	<p>The Phonetic Roots, are logical combinations of letters. There are 3 possible compositions:</p> <p>(1) Phonic letters either alone or in combination, (2) Head letters with any other type, or (3) Topic letters combining directly, one with another.</p> <p>The Phonetic root represents a family of similar-sounding (not always same-sounding) kanji. The overall, somewhat general, phonetic value of the root is divided into one or more concrete vocal expressions. Each phonetic family has at least one expression, assigned to a "sub-family" of kanji all sharing the same primary sound. When any kanji has a secondary sound, it may be the primary sound of its sibling(s).</p>	<p>小 (Eaves) 小 光 Beam 光</p> <p>卜 Crack 卜 卤 Salt 卤 止 Step 止 步 Walk 步 齿 Tooth 齿</p> <p>上 Up 上 未 Brother 未 虍 Claw 虍 𠂔 Watch 𠂔</p> <p>业 Hill 业 辛 Brush 辛 片 Etch 片 淵 Deep 淵 川 Stream 川 𠂔 (Bed) 𠂔 非 Jerk 非</p>	<p>己 己 → 尸 Body 尸 民 Subject 民</p> <p>弓 Bow 弓 羽 Feather 羽 巳 Curve 巳 → 巳 Point 巳</p> <p>刀 Knife 刀 刃 Hone 刃 丑 Shrug 丑 卫 Protect 卫 巴 Arch 巴</p> <p>The spoken characterization may be divided into one or more vocal expressions — these are latent variations of the Phonetic sound, and they are distributed among the character children. Often, the secondary sound of a given kanji will be the primary sound of one of its siblings, and vice-versa.</p>

<p>R Shapes (一)</p> <p>又 Hand 又 𠂔 Race 𠂔</p>	<p>S Shapes (一)</p> <p>千 Thousand 千 王 Witness 王 丢 Pitch 丢</p>	<p>T Shapes (二)</p> <p>瓜 Slope 瓜 瓜 Gourd 瓜</p>	<p>U Shapes (三)</p> <p>凵 Cup 凵 屮 Sprout 屮 出 Out 出 出 Out 出 → 丩 Rope 丩 𠂔 Bed 𠂔 𠂔 Loom 𠂔</p>	<p>V Shapes (四)</p> <p>人 Figure 人 从 Couple 从 亼 Grunt 亼 舍 Lax 舍 余 Wash 余 金 Metal 金</p>	<p>W Shapes (五)</p> <p>欠 Gasp 欠 欠 Gape 欠 象 Shape 象</p>
<p>尹 Stir 尹 隶 Bait 隶 聿 Draw 聿</p>	<p>禾 Crop 禾 丢 Pitch 丢</p>	<p>爪 Grasp 爪 采 Spread 采</p>	<p>与 Tusk 与 母 Chain 母</p>	<p>亼 Grunt 亼 食 Eats 食</p>	<p>勺 Group 勺 勿 Item 勿 色 Color 色</p>
<p>マ (Bell) 𠂔 予 Chime 予 矛 Drill 矛</p>	<p>天 Flop 天 舌 Lap 舌 手 Touch 手 → 毛 Hair 毛</p>	<p>臼 Bowl 臼 舛 Share 舛 鼠 Rodent 鼠</p>	<p>𠂔 (Point) 𠂔 能 Grit 能</p>	<p>𠂔 Fineprint 𠂔 彳 Road 彳 行 Cross 行 亻 (Figure) 人 人 彳 Mass 彳</p>	<p>勺 Group 勺 勿 Item 勿 色 Color 色</p>
<p>𠂔 Handle (tenure) 𠂔 艮 Spum 艮 帚 Whisk 帚</p> <p>The root phonetic words could be the "original language," when all the words which needed to be expressed could be represented by pictures, as simplistic logical characterizations.</p> <p>Then, as different production and trade contexts proliferated, then it may have been necessary that new written words be created more rapidly, resulting in the phonosemantic compounds.</p>	<p>Rather than mastering all the sounds & all the meanings for each kanji, one by one, starting from one end of a list, it is more sensible to learn kanji through learning vocabulary (typically, compound phrases of 2 or more kanji).</p> <p>However, familiarity with the kanji components greatly helps you to distinguish any one kanji from all others (the components also hint at both sound and meaning). This book and the cards cover every key component of Chinese & Japanese kanji, for a precursor to picking up your target language.</p>	<p>斤 Axe 斤 丘 Burrow 丘 → 氏 Plate 氏</p> <p>氏 留 Vacated 留 → 户 Door 户</p>	<p>女 Girl 女 么 String 么 糸 Thread 糸 𠂔 Divvy 𠂔 乡 Town 乡</p>	<p>住 佳 Bird 佳 彳 Road 彳 行 Cross 行 亻 (Figure) 人 人 彳 Mass 彳</p> <p>𠂔 Lean 𠂔 乂 Cut 乂</p>	<p>勺 Group 勺 勿 Item 勿 色 Color 色</p> <p>牛 Cow 牛 生 Life 生 失 Lose 失 朱 Stamp 朱 先 Forge 先</p> <p>𠂔 Lean 𠂔 乂 Cut 乂</p>