

JP

HIRAGANA

Hiragana 3 · Chapter 8 · Rya Ryu Ryo

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🌸 Combined Sounds VI — りゃ りゅ りょ and the Whole Chart

The last row of combined sounds: り plus a small や, ゆ or ょ. This chapter also gathers all **33 combined sounds** in a single chart and ends with a map-reading exercise using Japanese cities. Romaji is shown for everything.

✳️ The Last Row — りゃ りゅ りょ

The last combined row is the one that begins with the Japanese **r**: り plus a small や, ゆ or ょ. After this, you know all **33 combined sounds**.

りゃ

rya

the Japanese r-tap plus "ya",
in one beat

[stroke order ▶](#)

Memory hook: *ryaku*, an
abbreviation. り + small や.

りゅ

ryu

the r-tap plus "yu", in one
beat

[stroke order ▶](#)

Memory hook: *ryū*, a dragon.
り + small ゆ.

りょ

ryo

the r-tap plus "yo", in one
beat

[stroke order ▶](#)

Memory hook: *ryokō*, travel.
り + small ょ.

📖 The Whole Chart

Here is every combined sound you have learned, in one place. Read across: each row is an い-row character; the three columns are small や, ゆ and ょ.

や

ゆ

よ

き

きや kya

きゆ kyu

きよ kyo

ぎ

ぎや gya

ぎゆ gyu

ぎよ gyo

し

しゃ sha

しゆ shu

しよ sho

じ

じゃ ja

じゆ ju

じよ jo

ち

ちゃ cha

ちゆ chu

ちよ cho

に

にや nya

にゆ nyu

によ nyo

ひ

ひや hya

ひゆ hyu

ひよ hyo

び

びや bya

びゆ byu

びよ byo

ぴ

ぴや pya

ぴゆ pyu

ぴよ pyo

み

みや mya

みゆ myu

みよ myo

り

りゃ rya

りゆ ryu

りよ ryo

A Rule of Thumb for Reading Any of Them

Take the い-row character, drop its **i**, and add **a** for や, **u** for ゆ and **o** for よ: *ki* → *kya kyu kyo*. For し ち じ the "y" is already inside the sound, so you get *sha shu sho*, *cha chu cho* and *ja ju jo*. That is the only exception.



Read It — New Words

Read the Japanese first, then check the romaji.

#	WORD	ROMAJI	ENGLISH	NOTE
1	りょう	ryō	travel; a trip	<i>ryo-kō: a word for your future trip</i>
2	りょうり	ryōri	cooking; cuisine	<i>ryō-ri</i>
3	りょうしん	ryōshin	parents	<i>ryō-shi-n</i>
4	りょうきん	ryōkin	fee; charge	<i>ryō-ki-n: on signs and tickets</i>
5	りょかん	ryokan	Japanese-style inn	<i>ryo-ka-n</i>
6	りゅうがく	ryūgaku	studying abroad	<i>ryū-ga-ku</i>
7	りゅう	ryū	dragon	<i>ryū</i>
8	りゃく	ryaku	abbreviation	<i>rya-ku</i>
9	りゅうこう	ryūkō	trend; fashion	<i>ryū-kō</i>
10	りょう	ryō	amount; a dormitory (other meanings too)	<i>ryō</i>



Read the Map — Cities

A review of everything in Hiragana 3: small っ (さっぽろ), long vowels (おおさか, こうべ) and combined sounds (とうきょう, きょうと). Read each city aloud.

HIRAGANA	SAY IT	CITY
とうきょう	Tōkyō	Tokyo
おおさか	Ōsaka	Osaka

HIRAGANA	SAY IT	CITY
きょうと	Kyōto	Kyoto
ひろしま	Hiroshima	Hiroshima
なごや	Nagoya	Nagoya
さっぽろ	Sapporo	Sapporo
ふくおか	Fukuoka	Fukuoka
こうべ	Kōbe	Kobe

Real Japanese Tip — りょかん

A りょかん is a traditional Japanese inn with tatami rooms, futons and often a hot spring bath. If you are planning a trip to Japan (りょこう), a night in a りょかん is a classic experience, and one you can now read on the sign.

Review: Words from the Last Chapter

ろっぴゃく (600) · はっぴゃく (800) · みょうじ (family name) · みょうにち (tomorrow) · ぴよんぴよん (hopping) · みやく (pulse).

Try It Yourself — れんしゅう

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. How is りゃ romanised?

▼ Show answer

rya.

2. Read aloud and translate: りょうこう・りょうり・りょうしん

▼ Show answer

ryōkō (travel) · ryōri (cooking) · ryōshin (parents)

3. Read aloud and translate: りゅうがく・りゅう・りょかん

▼ Show answer

ryūgaku (studying abroad) · ryū (dragon) · ryokan (Japanese inn)

4. Which three combined sounds do NOT follow the 'i → ya/yu/yo' pattern, and why?

▼ Show answer

しゃ しゅ しょ, ちゃ ちゅ ちょ and じゃ じゅ じょ: the y is already part of the sh, ch and j sounds.

5. Read aloud: とうきょう・おおさか・さっぽろ

▼ Show answer

Tōkyō · Ōsaka · Sapporo

6. Write in hiragana: ryōkō · ryōri · Kyōto (check the small characters).

▼ Show answer

りょうこう・りょうり・きょうと

Coming Up in Chapter 9

Three characters you already know do a different job in sentences: は (read *wa*), へ (read *e*) and を (read *o*). You'll learn what they do and read your first full Japanese sentences.