

Japanese for Beginners

Practical Learning with SynapseLingo

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Additional Training Materials

Enhance your learning experience with our interactive on-line training materials and audio resources.

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Scan the QR code or click the link to go directly to your interactive trainer.

This interactive trainer includes:

- Full audio version of this book
- Audio pronunciation guides
- Interactive exercises
- Additional vocabulary practice
- Progress tracking

Simply click the link or enter the URL in your web browser to access these supplementary materials.

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Lesson 1: Learn Japanese: have = ある (motsu)

Boost your English – Japanese skills with a fun lesson on the verb “have” – ある (motsu), あります (motte iru), and ある (aru). We practice real-life phrases like have, I have, you have, he has, she has, it has, we have, and they have, with quick tips for natural usage. Perfect for learners searching “learn Japanese,” “English to Japanese,” and “verb have in Japanese.” Laugh, repeat, and get confident with possession in both English and Japanese.

Welcome to SynapseLingo

Hey you, great to have you here! Let's have fun and learn fast.

This podcast is brought to you by SynapseLingo – visit www.synapse-lingo.com for more resources. Today you'll master the mighty helper 'have': have, I have, you have, he has, she has, it has, we have, they have. Buckle up, word-hero!

Your goal today

Your mission: use the right Japanese 'have' in the right moment.

In Japanese you'll use three tools: the dictionary verb ある (motsu) ('to have/hold'), the everyday state 'have' ある (motte iru), and the 'it has/there is' for inanimate things ある (aru). Example: "I have a book" → わたし は 本 が ある (watashi wa hon ga aru); "The room has Wi-Fi" → Wi-Fi が ある (Wi-Fi ga aru).

Quick forms: I/you/he/she/it/we/they

Say them out loud with me – short and sweet.

- have (dictionary): ある (motsu)
- I have: わたし が ある (watashi ga aru)
- you have (singular): あなた が ある (anata ga aru)
- he has: 彼 が ある (かれ ga aru)
- she has: 她 が ある (kanojo ga aru)
- it has (inanimate): が ある (\textasciitilde ga aru)
- we have: わたしたち が ある (watashitachi ga aru)
- you have (plural): あなたたち が ある (anata-tachi ga aru)
- they have: かれら が ある (karera ga aru)

Mini dialogue

Listen, smile, and shadow the lines.

- A: Do we have the tickets?

- B: Yes, we have them – わたしたちがもつてる (watashitachi wa motte iru).
- A: Great. Who has the key?
- B: He has it – かれがもつてる (kare wa motte iru).
- A: And the room, does it have Wi-Fi?
- B: Yes, Wi-Fi がもつてる (Wi-Fi ga aru).
- A: If you have snacks, share!
- B: You have them, remember? わたしもつてる (anata wa motte iru).
- Crowd: We're saved – they have coffee! わたしらもつてる (karera wa kōhī o motte iru).

Chant it!

Repeat after me – rhythm makes memory sticky.

- I have a book → わたしもつてる (watashi wa hon o motte iru).
- You have the key → あなたもつてる (anata wa kagi o motte iru).
- He has the map → かれもつてる (kare wa chizu o motte iru).
- She has a pen → かのじょもつてる (kanojo wa pen o motte iru).
- It has a window → まどがもつてる (mado ga aru).
- We have tickets → わたしたちもつてる (watashitachi wa chiketto o motte iru).

- You all have a plan → もつてある (anata-tachi wa keikaku o motte iru).
- They have the bag → もつてある (karera wa kaban o motte iru).

Culture tip: have vs there is

Tiny tip, huge wins.

For possessions in your control, use もつてある (motte iru) (e.g., “I have cash”→ もつてある (watashi wa genkin o motte iru)). For features or time, prefer ある (aru) (e.g., “I have time”→ ある (jikan ga aru), “The device has three buttons”→ ある (botan ga mittsu aru)). Misusing them is like trying to hold time in your pocket – funny, but not natural.

Quick quiz

Answer out loud – no pressure, just play.

- Q1) Which base verb means “to have/hold”? A: ある (motsu).
- Q2) Translate: “I have a pen.” A: もつてある (watashi wa pen o motte iru).
- Q3) Fill the blank: “It has a window” → ある - - - . A: ある (aru).
- Q4) Say “You all have the map.” A: もつてある (anata-tachi wa chizu o motte iru).
- Q5) True or False: For time, prefer ある (aru) over もつてある (motte iru). A: True.

Final challenge

One minute of brave practice – go for it!

- Say three lines about your day: 1) I have my phone. → わたしは携帯電話をもつ (watashi wa keitai denwa o motte iru).
- 2) She has the key. → 彼女は鍵をもつ (kanojo wa kagi o motte iru).
- 3) The room has Wi-Fi. → Wi-Fi あります (Wi-Fi ga aru). Now swap subjects and items to create your own!

Thanks from SynapseLingo

You did great today – seriously!

Thanks for listening! Keep practicing “have”: have, I have, you have, he has, she has, it has, we have, they have – plus もつ (motsu), もつてある (motte iru), and あります (aru). For more lessons, games, and downloads, visit www.synapse-lingo.com. See you next time!

Lesson 2: Be in Japanese: だ (da) \ です (desu) – Fun Copula Mini-Podcast

Learn “be” in English and Japanese with a funny, fast mini-lesson on the Japanese copula. We’ll master だ (da) and です (desu), plus smart uses like いる (kare wa iru) for “he is (there).” Practice key phrases: be, I am, you are, he is, she is, it is, we are, you are (plural), they are. Perfect for English → Japanese learners who want real-life examples, laughs, and confidence using the copula.

Welcome from SynapseLingo

Hey, you! This episode is brought to you by SynapseLingo – your fun shortcut to language wins. Visit www.synapse-lingo.com for more resources and free drills.

Strap in for a playful deep-dive into the English verb “be” and its Japanese super-duo だ (da) and です (desu). We’ll keep it friendly, fast, and a little goofy – because grammar smiles back when you do.

Your goal today

In just a few minutes, you’ll say “I am,” “you are,” “he is,” and more – in natural Japanese.

Your mission: understand when to use the polite copula です (desu), the casual copula だ (da), and the existence

verb for people ある (iru) (as in “he is there”). By the end, the verb “be” will feel easy-breezy.

Forms at a glance

Quick map before the jokes land. Repeat after me if you can.

- Casual “be” after nouns/adjectives: ある (da). Example: “I am a student” → わたし は がくせい だ (Watashi wa gakusei da).
- Polite “be”: ある (desu). Example: “It is blue” → ある (Ao desu).
- Existence (animate like people/animals): ある (iru). “He is (here/there)” → は い (Kare wa iru).
- Topics you’ll nail now: be, I am, you are, he is, she is, it is, we are, you are (plural), they are.

Mini dialogues

Let’s act it out – tiny scenes, big clarity. I’ll say English, then the Japanese. You repeat.

- I am a student. → わたし は がくせい だ (Watashi wa gakusei da).
- You are a star. → あなた は すた です (Anata wa sutā desu).
- He is in the room. → は い な い ま ま (Heya ni kare wa iru).
- She is a doctor. → かのじょ は いしゃ です (Kanojo wa isha desu).
- It is blue. → ある (Ao desu).

- We are a team. → わたしたちわちむ (Watashitachi wa chiimu desu).
- You are (plural) ready. → きみたちわんばん (Kimitachi wa junbi bantan da).
- They are the winners. → ゆしょしゃわかり (Yūshōsha wa karera desu).
- Bonus giggle: It is Monday, so coffee is mandatory.
→ ゲッスヨービカーラ (Getsuyōbi desu kara, kōhī wa hissu desu).

Call and response drill

Your turn – say it out loud! I'll cue English; you answer in Japanese.

- Say: I am happy. → わたしわしあわせ (Watashi wa shiawase da).
- Say: You are my friend. (polite) → あなたわわたしおともだち (Anata wa watashi no tomodachi desu).
- Say: He is here. (animate existence) → ここにかれわい (Koko ni kare wa iru).
- Say: She is the manager. (polite) → かのじわまんじ (Kanojo wa manējā desu).
- Say: It is delicious. → おいしい (Oishii desu).
- Say: We are from Tokyo. (polite) → わたしたちわとうきょう (Watashitachi wa Tōkyō shusshin desu).
- Say: You are champions! (plural, informal) → きみたちわチャンピオン (Kimitachi wa champion da).

- Say: They are our guests. (polite) → おまえたちの おもてなし (Watashitachi no gesuto wa karera desu).

Culture tip

Sound natural with the right level of politeness.

Use です (desu) in most polite situations (work, new people). Use だ (da) casually with friends. For existence of people/animals, use いる (iru) – that's why "he is (there)" becomes かれ いる (kare wa iru). And surprise: Japanese often drops the subject entirely; "you are great" can just be すごい (sugoi desu) with context.

Lightning quiz

Quick check – answer before the ding in your mind.

- Q1) Translate: It is Monday. A) 月曜日です (Getsuyōbi desu).
- Q2) Translate: He is in the café. (animate) A) カフェに かれ いる (Kafe ni kare wa iru).
- Q3) Translate (polite): We are a team. A) わたしたち が チーム です (Watashitachi wa chiimu desu).
- Q4) Translate (plural, informal): You are legends. A) おまえたち が 伝説 です (Kimitachi wa densetsu da).
- Q5) Point and say: They are. A) かれ たち が です (Karera desu).

30-second challenge

Ready for boss mode?

In 30 seconds, say these out loud: be, I am, you are, he is, she is, it is, we are, you are (plural), they are – each once in Japanese. For example: “I am Alex”→ わたしはアレックスだ (Watashi wa Arekkusu da); “You are kind”(polite)→ あなたはやさしいです (Anata wa yasashii desu); “He is here”→ かれはいる (Kare wa iru); “She is a teacher”→ かのじょは先生です (Kanojo wa kyōshi desu); “It is correct”→ たのしいです (Tadashii desu); “We are friends”→ わたしはともだちです (Watashitachi wa tomodachi desu); “You are awesome!”(plural, informal) → きみたちはさいわいだ (Kimitachi wa saikō da); “They are the guests”→ はいだす (Gesuto wa karera desu). Go!

Goodbye from SynapseLingo

You crushed it – high five!

Thanks for listening! Keep practicing わ (da), です (desu), and いる (iru) until “be,”“I am,”“you are,”“he is,”“she is,”“it is,”“we are,”“you are (plural),”and “they are”roll off your tongue. For more lessons, quizzes, and laughs, visit www.synapse-lingo.com. Brought to you by SynapseLingo – learn smart, smile more.

Lesson 3: Learn 'Go' in Japanese: 行く (iku) – English – Japanese

Boost your English – Japanese skills with a fun podcast on the verb “go” – 行く (iku). We cover everyday forms like I go, you go, he goes, she goes, it goes, we go, you (plural) go, and they go, plus the handy rating “so-so” = まあまあ (maa maa). Practice pronunciation and context-rich lines in both English and Japanese to learn fast, laugh often, and remember longer. Perfect for beginners who want a clear, spoken-friendly guide to 行く (iku).

Welcome to SynapseLingo

Hey you, great to have you here! This podcast is brought to you by SynapseLingo – visit www.synapse-lingo.com for more resources.

Today your mission is simple and fun: master “go” in Japanese, 行く (iku), with bite-sized jokes, drills, and a mini story. Buckle up – your brain’s passport is stamped!

Your goal today

Let’s set a clear target so you know exactly what you’ll nail by the end.

- Key verb: go → 行く (iku).

- I go → わたし は いく (watashi wa iku).
- You go → キミ は いく (kimi wa iku).
- He goes → かれ は いく (kare wa iku).
- She goes → かのじょ は いく (kanojo wa iku).
- It goes (e.g., The train goes) → でんしゃ は いく (densha wa iku).
- We go → わたしたち は いく (watashitachi wa iku).
- You (plural) go → わたしたち は いく (anata-tachi wa iku).
- They go → かれら は いく (karera wa iku).
- Bonus rating word: so-so → まあまあ (maa maa).

Mini dialogue: station dash

Listen in and repeat the bold parts with confidence.

- A: Ready? We go now – わたしたち は いく (watashitachi wa iku)!
- B: To the station – えき へ いく (eki e iku).
- A: He goes for tickets – かれ は いく (kare wa iku) – and she goes for snacks – かのじょ は いく (kanojo wa iku).
- B: The train? It goes soon – でんしゃ は いく (densha wa iku). Hurry!

Forms in action: quick repeats

Say it out loud after me – short and sharp.

- Go: いこ (iku).
- I go: わたし いこ (watashi wa iku).
- You go: きみ いこ (kimi wa iku).
- He goes: かれ いこ (kare wa iku).
- She goes: かのじょ いこ (kanojo wa iku).
- It goes (train): でんしゃ いこ (densha wa iku).
- We go: わたしたち いこ (watashitachi wa iku).
- You (plural) go: あなたたち いこ (anata-tachi wa iku).
- They go: かれら いこ (karera wa iku).

Culture tip: rally cry

A tiny slice of culture keeps your memory sticky.

- In anime and sports, you'll hear "Let's go!" as いこぞ (iku zo) – rooted in いこ (iku).
- When rating food or days on TV, people often say "so-so": まあ まあ (maa maa). Use it politely as "Today was so-so": きょう まあ まあ (kyō wa maa maa deshita).

Rapid drills

Lightning round – hear it, say it, smile.

- I go → say: わたし いこ (watashi wa iku).