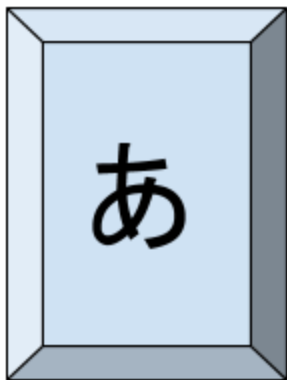


## How to use hiragana flashcards

Flashcards are a great, quick way to master hiragana. Here are some tips for how to best use the flashcards.

### Part A (Reading)

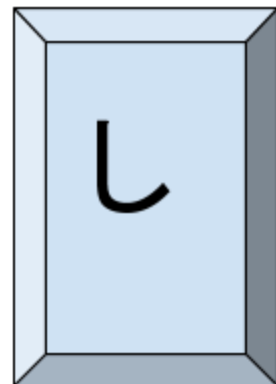
1. Start with a small pile of the hiragana cards (maybe 10 or so). Too many at the start is too difficult.
2. Look at the front (hiragana side) of the card. See if you can remember the sound and rhyme to remember the character. Turn over the card and check if you were right.
3. If you do know it, put it to the side. If you don't, look at the rhyme on the back and then the front hiragana and imagine the picture, then place it somewhere at the back amongst the other cards.
4. Keep going through the pile of hiragana cards until you have been able to recognise all of the ones you started with, and they are all in the 'recognised' pile.
5. Now pick up that 'recognised' pile, shuffle the cards and check again that you know them. If you do know the cards again, put it to the side (further). If you don't, then place it somewhere at the back amongst the other cards.
6. Now take another 10 or so new cards and start again.
7. Every now and then, go through the pile on the right (the ones you seem to know) and confirm you really do know them.
8. In this way you end up with 3 piles of cards. The ones which are 'new' to you, the ones you can recognise (sometimes) and the ones you can always remember. Watch as the pile on the left shrinks, and the other piles grow.
9. It's best to practice for short periods 5 - 15 minutes, a few times a day.



New pile



Remembered

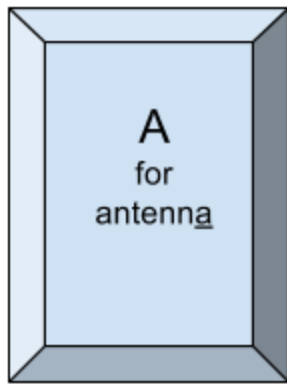


Always  
remember

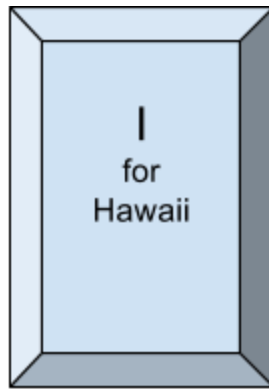
## Part B (Writing)

Once you've mastered reading the hiragana, you can also use flashcards to learn to write them.

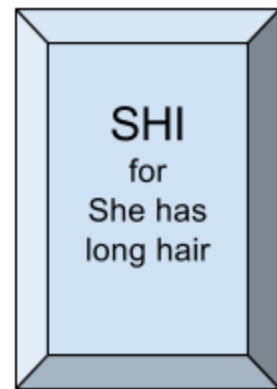
1. Start with a small pile (about 5) of cards, with the rhyme/ sound face up.
2. Look at a card, and read the rhyme. Imagine the character in your mind which matches the rhyme. Try to get a picture of it in your head. Draw the character you remember, just in the air with your finger.
3. Turn the card over and check if you had the right hiragana shape.
4. If you drew it correctly, place the card to the right. If not, put it somewhere at the back of the pile and do the next one.
5. Just as before, make 3 piles. The new ones (only a few at a time), the ones you remembered but aren't fully confident on, and the ones you always remember.



New pile



Remembered  
what it looks  
like



Always  
remember  
the shape

You'll be a **master** at hiragana in no time!