

# GUIDE TO SHOPPING IN JAPAN

There are many fascinating shopping areas around Yokosuka and up in Yokohama and Tokyo. You will find department stores, small shops and discount stores, which are all delightful to explore. While some of the prices in the stores are more expensive than what you are accustomed to in the United States, it is possible to find genuine bargains at the sales. These sales are often advertised in flyers, which are attached to the English language newspapers (other than the Stars and Stripes). Keep your eyes open for red and white striped banners, which indicate sales or sale merchandise.

## IMPORTANT NOTE

*You must have Japanese money (yen ¥) when you buy or pay for anything off base in Japan. There are several convenient places on base to exchange your dollars for yen. Off base, you can exchange currency at most Japanese Banks.*

## MONEY EXCHANGE

<i>Club Alliance 1100 - 2000 daily</i>	<i>CPO Club 1100 - 2300 daily</i>	<i>Bank of Yokohama 0900-1500 weekday</i>
<i>Officers' Club 1000 - 2200 daily</i>	<i>Seaside 1100 - 2100 weekday</i>	<i>(Exchange Rate in English</i>
<i>0900 - 2100 weekend</i>	<i>Community Bank 1000 - 1500 Mon - Fri</i>	<i>(0468) 24-3313 (recording))</i>

Traveler's checks 旅行小切手      Personal checks 小切手      Exchange rate 換算レート  
Coin denominations are ¥1, ¥5, ¥10, ¥50, and ¥100. Bank notes are ¥1,000, ¥5,000, and ¥10,000.

## SPECIAL SHOPPING VOCABULARY

1 ichi	6 roku	20 niyu	70 shichiju	500 gohyaku
2 ni	7 shichi	30 sanju	80 hachiju	1,000 sen
3 san	8 hachi	40 yonju	90 kyuju	10,000 ichiman
4 shi	9 ku	50 goju	100 hyaku	100,000 juman
5 go	10 ju	60 rokuju	1,000,000 hyakuman	

## SHOPPING IN DEPARTMENT STORES

In most department stores, there is an information desk on the first floor, near the entrance, with a list of the items sold on each floor. You can also ask the elevator operators or the women who often stand by the escalators for information. Japanese goods have a 5% consumption tax, not already included in the price. Department stores will often mail purchases within Japan and overseas if you request this service. Many department stores also feature take-out foods and a variety of restaurants in their basements and on the top floors. Many stores even have rooms in which a baby's diaper can be changed or a child can rest.

Of course, department stores have restrooms, and many of them have Western toilets. (In the event that you use a Japanese toilet, please note that you must face in the direction of the flushing handle.) Basements of department stores often have subway entrances or underground tunnels for easy access to other parts of the city.

## JAPANESE INNOVATIONS:

"Kuzutori Netto": a cone-shaped bag that is placed on the inside of the washer by a suction cup; filters out the lint.

## MUSIC STORES:

The Japanese people appreciate a wide variety of music. This is apparent by the types of programs aired over radio and television and the number of music stores in Japan. Almost every kind of music is available in Japan, although in some Japanese music stores Western music is somewhat limited. Prices for records and tapes will be two to three times higher than what you may be accustomed to. Most large department stores have their own music departments that carry a wide selection of records and tapes.

## *Yen/Dollar Conversion*

<i>Yen Rate</i>	<b>90</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>120</b>
<u>Yen</u>	<u>Dollar</u>						
<b>50</b>	.55	<b>.52</b>	.50	<b>.47</b>	.45	<b>.43</b>	.42
<b>100</b>	1.11	<b>1.05</b>	1.00	<b>.97</b>	.91	<b>.87</b>	.83
<b>150</b>	1.67	<b>1.58</b>	1.50	<b>1.43</b>	1.36	<b>1.30</b>	1.25
<b>200</b>	2.22	<b>2.11</b>	2.00	<b>1.90</b>	1.82	<b>1.74</b>	1.67
<b>250</b>	2.78	<b>2.63</b>	2.50	<b>2.38</b>	2.27	<b>2.17</b>	2.08
<b>500</b>	5.55	<b>5.26</b>	5.00	<b>4.76</b>	4.55	<b>4.35</b>	4.17
<b>750</b>	8.33	<b>7.89</b>	7.50	<b>7.14</b>	6.82	<b>6.52</b>	6.25
<b>1000</b>	11.11	<b>10.53</b>	10.00	<b>9.52</b>	9.09	<b>8.70</b>	8.33
<b>1250</b>	13.89	<b>13.16</b>	12.50	<b>11.90</b>	11.36	<b>10.87</b>	10.42
<b>1500</b>	16.67	<b>15.79</b>	15.00	<b>14.29</b>	13.64	<b>13.04</b>	12.50
<b>1750</b>	19.44	<b>18.42</b>	17.50	<b>16.67</b>	15.91	<b>15.22</b>	14.58
<b>2000</b>	22.22	<b>21.05</b>	20.00	<b>19.04</b>	18.18	<b>17.39</b>	16.67
<b>2250</b>	25.00	<b>23.68</b>	22.50	<b>21.43</b>	20.45	<b>19.57</b>	18.75
<b>2500</b>	27.78	<b>26.32</b>	25.00	<b>23.81</b>	22.73	<b>21.74</b>	20.83
<b>3000</b>	33.33	<b>31.57</b>	30.00	<b>28.57</b>	27.27	<b>26.09</b>	25.00
<b>4000</b>	44.44	<b>42.11</b>	40.00	<b>38.10</b>	36.36	<b>34.78</b>	33.33
<b>5000</b>	55.55	<b>52.63</b>	50.00	<b>47.62</b>	45.45	<b>43.48</b>	41.67
<b>7500</b>	83.33	<b>78.95</b>	75.00	<b>71.43</b>	68.18	<b>65.22</b>	62.50
<b>9000</b>	100.00	<b>94.74</b>	90.00	<b>85.71</b>	81.82	<b>78.26</b>	75.00
<b>10000</b>	111.11	<b>105.26</b>	100.00	<b>95.24</b>	90.91	<b>86.96</b>	83.33
<b>12500</b>	138.89	<b>131.58</b>	125.00	<b>119.05</b>	113.64	<b>108.70</b>	104.17
<b>15000</b>	166.67	<b>157.89</b>	150.00	<b>142.86</b>	136.36	<b>130.43</b>	125.00
<b>17500</b>	194.44	<b>184.21</b>	175.00	<b>166.67</b>	159.10	<b>152.17</b>	145.83
<b>20000</b>	222.22	<b>210.53</b>	200.00	<b>190.48</b>	181.82	<b>173.91</b>	166.67
<b>22500</b>	250.00	<b>236.84</b>	225.00	<b>214.29</b>	204.55	<b>195.65</b>	187.50
<b>25000</b>	277.78	<b>263.16</b>	250.00	<b>238.10</b>	227.27	<b>219.39</b>	208.33
<b>50000</b>	555.55	<b>526.32</b>	500.00	<b>476.19</b>	454.55	<b>434.78</b>	416.66
<b>75000</b>	833.33	<b>789.47</b>	750.00	<b>714.29</b>	681.82	<b>652.17</b>	625.00
<b>100000</b>	1111.11	<b>1052.63</b>	1000.00	<b>952.38</b>	909.10	<b>869.57</b>	833.33
<b>125000</b>	1388.89	<b>1315.79</b>	1250.00	<b>1190.48</b>	1136.36	<b>1086.96</b>	1041.67
<b>150000</b>	1666.67	<b>1578.95</b>	1500.00	<b>1428.57</b>	1363.64	<b>1304.35</b>	1250.00

## **SPECIAL PURCHASES**

### **WOMEN:READING MATERIALS:**

Dress	ドレス
Suit	スーツ
Sweater	セーター
Blouse	ブラウス
Nylons	ナイロン
Shoes	靴
Slip	スリッパ
Comb	くし
Hair Spray	ヘアースプレー
Shampoo	シャンプー

### **SMOKING:**

Cigarette lighter	ライター
Cigarettes	たばこ
Cigars	葉巻

### **OTHER:**

Book	本
Calculator	電子計算機
Camera	カメラ
Dolls	人形

Fans	うちわ
Film	フィルム
Jewelry	宝石
Magazine	雑誌
Newspaper	新聞
Radio	ラジオ
Shirt	シャツ
Souvenirs	みやげ品
Tape	テープ
Tape Recorder	テープレコーダー
Watches	時計
<b>MENS:</b>	
Suit	スーツ
Tie	ネクタイ
Socks	くつ下
Shaving Cream	シェービングクリーム
Razor	かみそり
After-shave lotion	アフターシェーブローション

## List of the stores in Japanese

STORE NAME	ALPHABET	JAPANESE
<u>Bakery</u>	<i>pa-n-ya</i>	パン屋
<i>Beauty Shop</i>	<i>bi-yo-i-n</i>	美容院
<i>Book Store</i>	<i>ho-n-ya</i>	本屋
<i>Camera Shop</i>	<i>ka-me-ra-ya</i>	カメラ屋
<i>Chinaware</i>	<i>se-to-mo-no-ya</i>	瀬戸物屋
<i>Clothing</i>	<i>yo-fu-ku-ya</i>	洋服屋
<i>Department Store</i>	<i>de-pa-a-to</i>	デパート
<i>Drug Store</i>	<i>ku-su-ri-ya</i>	薬屋
<i>Electronics</i>	<i>de-n-ki-ya</i>	電気屋
<i>Fabric Store</i>	<i>ki-re-ya</i>	生地屋
<i>Fish Market</i>	<i>sa-ka-na-ya</i>	魚屋
<i>Fruits Store</i>	<i>ku-da-mo-no-ya</i>	果物屋
<i>Furniture</i>	<i>ka-gu-ya</i>	家具屋
<i>Hardware</i>	<i>ka-na-mo-no-ya</i>	金物屋
<i>Milk Shop</i>	<i>gyu-nyu-ya</i>	牛乳屋
<i>Instruments</i>	<i>ga-kki-te-n</i>	楽器店
<i>Pet Shop</i>	<i>pe-tto sho-ppu</i>	ペットショップ
<i>Stationery</i>	<i>bu-n-gu-te-n</i>	文具店
<i>Supermarket</i>	<i>su-pa</i>	スーパー
<i>Toy</i>	<i>o-mo-cha-ya</i>	玩具屋
<i>Vegetables</i>	<i>ya-o-ya</i>	八百屋

**Conversion Chart**

1 centimeter (cm)	=	0.3937 in	1 gram (g)	=	15.432 grains
1 meter (m)	=	3.281 ft (39.37 in)	1 kilo gram (kg)	=	2.205 pounds
1 kilo meter (km)	=	0.621 miles	1 metric ton	=	1.1023 short US ton
1 square (sq) cm	=	0.155 sq in	1 degree Celsius	=	1.8 degree Fahrenheit
1 sq m	=	10.764 sq ft	1 degree Celsius	=	-32*5/9
1 hectare	=	107,640 sq ft			
1 liter	=	0.2642 US gal	1 in	=	2.54 cm
1 cubic centimeter (cc)	=	0.061 cubic in	1 qt	=	0.946 lt.
			1 yd	=	0.914 m

*Please keep in mind that sizes do vary so if you can, try it on!*

**WOMEN'S SWEATER SIZES**

JAPANESE	S	M	L	LL
AMERICAN	32	34	38	40

**WOMAN'S GIRDLES, GARTER BELTS, PANTIES**

AMERICAN	SIZE	WAIST RANGE	HIP RANGE
small	55	53 - 58 cm 20.5 - 22.5 in	83 - 88 cm 32.5 - 34.5 in
medium		60 58 - 63 cm 22.5 - 24.5 in	88 - 93 cm 34.5 - 36.5
large	65	63 - 68 cm 24.5 - 26.5 in	93 - 98 cm 36.5 - 38.5 in
extra large	70	68 - 73 cm 26.5 - 28.5 in	98 - 103 cm 38.5 - 40.5 in
queen	75	73 - 78 cm 28.5 - 30.5 in	103 - 108 cm 40.5 - 42.5 in

**WOMEN'S BRASSIERS**

(cup sizes are smaller than U.S.)

JAPANESE	75	80	85	90	95	100	105
AMERICAN	30	32	34	36	38	40	42

**SOCKS AND STOCKINGS**

(Japanese sizes refer to heel-to-toe measurements)

JAPANESE	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
AMERICAN	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5

The shoe and clothing sizes used in Japan are sometimes different from those used in America, England and Continent. To avoid confusion, please refer to the following chart.

**WOMEN'S DRESSES & SUITS**

JAPANESE	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	
AMERICAN	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	
ENGLISH	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	
CONTINENTAL		38	40	42	44	46	48	50





Dry clean only



Handwashable (max, water temp. shown centigrade )



Iron (with high temperature)



Iron (with medium temperature)



Iron (with low temperature)



“X” over any symbol means that it should not be done

### TYPES OF FABRIC AVAILABLE

ENGLISH	ROMAJI	JAPANESE
acetate	aseteito	アセテート
acrylic	akuriru	アクリル
corduroy	kojuroi, koruten	コール天, コーデュロイ
cotton	kotton, momen	コットン, 木綿
denim	denimu	デニム
flannel	neru	ネル
gabardine	gabajin	ギャバジン
knits	nitto	ニット
nylon	nairon	ナイロン
pique	pike	ピケ
polyester	poriesuteru	ポリエステル
rayon	reiyon	レーヨン
silk	shiruku, kinu	シルク, 絹
wool	uuru, ke	ウール, 毛

Display fabrics: When fabric is already cut into a piece, you will have to read the tag attached to determine the size of the fabric and the price. Usually that same fabric is not found elsewhere in the store.

Covered buttons: The type you buy and cover yourself are not always available in Japanese stores. Many times, the store will cover the buttons for you. Ask for "kurumi botan" (covered buttons), and they will show you sizes to choose from. Be sure to take a piece of fabric along for covering.

Thread: There are generally three types of thread available: cotton, silk, and polyester. The strength of thread is distinguished by the number written on the spool. "30" means that this type should be used for heavier fabrics and "60" is for the lighter fabrics.

Fabrics for lining are available in nylon, polyester, and rayon. Generally, lining fabrics are washable.

NOTE: Many times, the notions are not sold in the same store as the fabric.

#### SEWING:

Fabric sizes: Most fabrics come in widths of 92 cm (approximately 36"), 112 cm (approximately 44"), or 142 cm (approximately 56"). Knit fabrics usually have widths of 92 cm, 142 cm, or 160 cm (approximately 63"). Fabrics are sometimes folded in half on the bolts. To ask what the width of the fabric is say, "nani haba desu ka?". Fabric is generally sold in increments of 10 cm.

100 centimeters = 1 meter          meter = "metoru"          centimeter = "senchi"

To ask for 120 cm, say: "ichi metoru ni ju senchi kudasai."

To ask for 80 cm, say: "hachi ju senchi kudasai."

### CLEANING PRODUCTS

ENGLISH	ROMAJI	EXPLANATION	J A P A N E S E
bathroom cleansers			
drain cleaner	paipu yoo senzai	crystals in a can	パイプ用洗剤
sink cleaner	kurenza	familiar shakers	お風呂用洗剤
toilet cleaner	toire yoo senzai		トイレ用洗剤
tub cleaner	yokusoo yoo senzai		浴槽用洗剤
carpet cleaner	jyutan yoo senzai		住宅用洗剤
dish soap	shokki yoo senzai	familiar squeez bottles	食器用洗剤
1			
floor cleaner	fuki sooji yoo senzai		拭き掃除用洗剤
furniture polish	kagu no tsuyadashi	spray can	家具用つや出し
laundry products	sentaku yoo senzai		洗濯用洗剤
powder soaps	kona senzai		粉洗剤
liquid soaps	ekitai senzai		液体洗剤
chlorine bleach	hyoo haku eki	liquid; in plastic	漂白液

"safe" bleach	hyoo haku ko	powder	漂白粉
stain removers "spray and wash"	kokei senzai	in blue spray can by Johnson, has a white shirt on the front of the can a bar of soap that is rubbed on soiled spots	固形洗剤
tennis shoe cleaner	undoo gutsu yoo senzai		運動靴用洗剤
wool cleaner	kasen yoo senzai	Woolite or Japanese brands available; for synthetics	化繊用洗剤
fabric softener	keito yoo senzai juunan shiagezai	for sweaters; powder or liquid pink or blue plastic bottles	毛糸用洗剤 柔軟仕上げ剤
starch	sentaku nori (or) sentaku supurei sentaku eki sentaku nori ko	spray cans liquid in plastic bottles powder	洗濯糊 洗濯スプレー 洗濯液 洗濯糊粉
mop cleaner	moppu yoo senzai	special cleaner for mops	モップ用洗剤
steel wood pad	stiiru tawashi senzai tawashi	without soap with soap	スチールたわし 洗剤たわし
tatami mat cleaner	"my pet" suchiiru	liquid	マイペット
wall cleaner	kyukyoyoo senzai	like "409"; green liquid in	住居用洗剤
waxes	yuka yo wakkusu	for floors	床用ワックス
window cleaner	garasu kuriinaa	spray bottles or cans	ガラスクリナー