

LESSON NOTES

# Japanese Counters for Beginners

## #4

### Tsu

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# 4

# VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
一つ	ひとつ	hitotsu	one thing
二つ	ふたつ	futatsu	two things
三つ	みっつ	mi-ttsu	three things
四つ	よっつ	yo-ttsu	four things
五つ	いつつ	itsu-tsu	five things
六つ	むっつ	mu-ttsu	six things
七つ	ななつ	nana-tsu	seven things
八つ	やっつ	ya-ttsu	eight things
九つ	ここのつ	kokono-tsu	nine things
十	とお	tō	ten things
つ	N/A	tsu	counter for inanimate objects in general
袋	ふくろ	fukuro	counter for objects are in bags

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>バッグが一つあります。 <i>Baggu ga hitotsu arimasu.</i></p> <p>I have one bag.</p>	<p>妹に飴を二つあげました。 <i>Imōto ni ame o futatsu agemashita.</i></p> <p>I gave two candies to my younger sister.</p>
<p>トマトを四つ買いました。 <i>Tomato o yo-ttsu kaimashita.</i></p> <p>I bought four tomatoes.</p>	<p>コーヒーを五つ、ください。 <i>Kōhī o itsu-tsu, kudasai</i></p> <p>Can I have five cups of coffee, please?</p>
<p>りんごを七つ買いました。 <i>Ringo o nana-tsu kaimashita.</i></p> <p>I bought seven apples.</p>	<p>買ったものは、九つです。 <i>Katta mono wa, kokono-tsu desu.</i></p> <p>I purchased nine items.</p>

部屋に時計が二つあります。  
*Heya ni tokei ga futatsu arimasu.*

There are two clocks in the room.

グレープフルーツを二袋、買いました。  
*Grēpu frūtsu o futa-fukuro, kaimashita.*

I bought two bags of grapefruits.

## GRAMMAR

**The Focus of This Lesson Is つ (tsu), the counter for inanimate objects in general.**

**りんごを七つ買いました。**

***Ringo o nana-tsu kaimashita.***

**"I bought seven apples."**

You can use this general counter when objects don't have specific counter, or when you don't know the specific counter for a certain item. You can also use it to count relatively small objects regardless of their shape, such as oranges, and glasses. When you order something at restaurants and cafés, you can use this general counter to say how many of the same item you want. So, for example, if you're at a café with your friend and you order two coffees, you can use this general counter for saying "2."