

LESSON NOTES

Japanese Counters for Beginners

#8

Hiki

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VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
一匹	いっぴき	i-ppiki	one animal
二匹	にひき	ni-hiki	two animals
三匹	さんびき	san-biki	three animals
四匹	よんひき	yon-hiki	four animals
五匹	ごひき	go-hiki	five animals
六匹	ろっぴき、ろくひき	ro-ppiki, roku-hiki	six animals
七匹	ななひき	nana-hiki	seven animals
八匹	はっぴき、はちひき	ha-ppiki, hachi-hiki	eight animals
九匹	きゅうひき	kyū-hiki	nine animals
十匹	じゅっぴき	ju-ppiki	ten animals
杯	はい	hai	counter for crabs, octopuses and squid as food
匹	ひき	hiki	counter for small to medium-sized animals

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>カブトムシを一匹、捕まえました。 <i>Kabutomushi o i-ppiki, tsukamaemashita.</i></p> <p>I caught a beetle.</p>	<p>木に猿が二匹います。 <i>Ki ni saru ga ni-hiki imasu.</i></p> <p>There are two monkeys up in the tree.</p>
<p>犬が三匹います。 <i>Inu ga san-biki imasu.</i></p> <p>There are three dogs.</p>	<p>猫が四匹います。 <i>Neko ga yon-hiki imasu.</i></p> <p>There are four cats.</p>

<p>コイが五匹、泳いでいます。 <i>Koi ga go-hiki, oyoide imasu.</i></p> <p>There are five carps swimming.</p>	<p>大きい蜂が六匹飛んでいます。 <i>Ōkii hachi ga ro-ppiki tonde imasu.</i></p> <p>There are six big bees flying.</p>
<p>金魚を十四、飼っています。 <i>Kingyo o ju-ppiki, katte imasu.</i></p> <p>I have ten goldfishes.</p>	<p>このカニは、一杯いくらですか。 <i>Kono kani wa, i-ppai ikura desu ka.</i></p> <p>How much is one crab of this (type)?"</p>
<p>魚が八匹泳いでいます。 <i>Sakana ga ha-ppiki oyoide imasu.</i></p> <p>There are eight fishes swimming.</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is 匹 (*hiki*), the counter for Small- to Medium-sized Animals.

犬が三匹います。

Inu ga san-biki imasu.

"There are three dogs."

You can use this counter when you count small to medium-sized animals, and any insects and fish. The object you count can be as small as a mosquito, or as big as a large-breed dog.