

Learn about the basics on how to use the Japanese voice banks to make VOCALOID sing in Japanese!

About Phonetic System of Japanese and VOCALOID Specific Text Input

You can utilize the Japanese voice library by not only writing in Hiragana or Katakana, but by inputting text in a particular system that is based on the "Ro-ma-ji" -style. The common "Ro-ma-ji" is the "romanization" of Japanese; it is the application of the Latin script to write the Japanese language.

The VOCALOID software uses a special system of expressing these "Ro-ma-ji" letters, and text needs to be transformed from common "Ro-ma-ji" into this system to let the voice sing your entered text.

Japanese is fairly easy to understand in terms of phonetics. There are 5 vowels that can stand alone, others are a combination of consonant + vowel that form a syllable, and very few exceptions.

Now, with this understanding it is clear that the VOCALOID can also only sing if you separate the word by syllables on each note, e.g. the word "Miku" would be separated into "Mi" and "ku" on two several notes.

TIPS - Example on how to let it sing in Japanese language

1. Visit <http://translate.google.com/#en/ja/>
2. As an example, input "I miss you" in the left frame, and you'll see the Japanese on the right hand-side. What you will see are mixed symbols made of Hiragana and Kanji. You can input Hiragana in the program, but you can't use Kanji. Therefore, blend in the pronunciation by clicking on the "Ä" symbol on the lower right of the right frame.



3. Now, you will see the Romanized Japanese pronunciation "Anata ga inakute sabishidesu" in light grey letters blended in underneath the right hand-side frame.
4. The next step is to change the translated pronunciation "Anata ga inakute sabishidesu" into the particular VOCALOID phonetic system you find on the list, separating by syllable per note: "a na ta ga i na ku te sa bi shi i de su". The translation in Google expands the "i" at the end with a horizontal bar on top of the "i" ("ī"). You have the freedom to input this as 2 "i" s, or as 1 "i" that then can simply be expanded by note length.

See once more:

"a na ta ga i na ku te sa bi shi i de su"

OR

"a na ta ga i na ku te sa bi shi - de su" (whereas the "-" counts for expanding the note length when inputted in a note)

This rule counts for all vocals [a,i,u,e,o] in all word positions, the ones with the horizontal bar on top should be expanded via note length in your lyrics. Also, some special sounds and their input include "Uō" (simply inputted as "wo"), e.g. in "Walkman" (= "Uōkuman" when translated in Google), "Uī" (inputted as "wi"), "Uē" (inputted as "we").

Another one includes a doubling of consonants, e.g. the word "motto" which means "more". In this case, you need to input "mo", then leave a small space between notes before beginning the next word with "to". You will then get the effect of pronouncing the doubling in a word like "motto".

Here is another example:

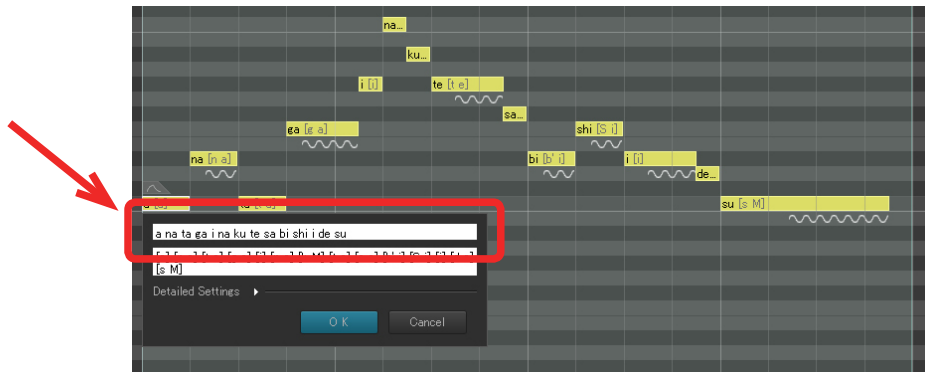
"I want to know you more" → Google translates this to "Watashi wa motto anatawoshiritai" → Via the list this can be formatted to "Wa ta shi wa mo (sil) to a na ta o shi ri ta i!". In this case we silent between the "mo" and the "to", and also notable is the change from "wo" to a simple "o" in the VOCALOID input system.

You can find the full list as appendix to this section.

5. Now, applying the rules listed above the Japanese voice bank is able to pronounce the inputted text.

The Vocaloid Phonetic System

The following is a list of phonemes in the special Ro-ma-ji system needed to make the VOCALOID sing in Japanese. Remember to separate the word into syllables. Use the upper field shown below for entering the syllables in special Ro-ma-ji.



A (あ)

Hiragana	あ	い	う	え	お (=を)
Katakana	ア	イ	ウ	エ	オ (=ヲ)
Ro-ma-ji	a	i	u	e	o
VOCALOID	[a]	[i]	[M]	[e]	[o]

Ka (か)

Hiragana	か	き	く	け	こ
Katakana	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ
Ro-ma-ji	ka	ki	ku	ke	ko
VOCALOID	[k a]	[k' i]	[k M]	[k e]	[k o]

Hiragana	きゃ		きゅ		きょ
Katakana	キャ		キュ		キョ
Ro-ma-ji	kya		kyu		kyo
VOCALOID	[k' a]		[k' M]		[k' o]

Hiragana	が	ぎ	ぐ	げ	ご
Katakana	ガ	ギ	グ	ゲ	ゴ
Ro-ma-ji	ga	gi	gu	ge	go
VOCALOID	[g a]	[g' i]	[g M]	[g e]	[g o]

Hiragana	ぎゃ		ぎゅ		ぎょ
Katakana	ギャ		ギュ		ギョ
Ro-ma-ji	gya		gyu		gyo
VOCALOID	[g' a]		[g' M]		[g' o]

Sa (さ)

Hiragana	さ	し	す	せ	そ
Katakana	サ	シ	ス	セ	ソ
Ro-ma-ji	sa	shi	su	se	so
VOCALOID	[s a]	[S i]	[s M]	[s e]	[s o]

Hiragana	しゃ		しゅ	しえ	しょ
Katakana	シャ		シュ	シエ	ショ
Ro-ma-ji	sha		shu	she	sho
VOCALOID	[S a]		[S M]	[S e]	[S o]

Hiragana		すい			
Katakana		スイ			
Ro-ma-ji		si			
VOCALOID		[s i]			

Hiragana	ざ	じ	ず (=づ)	ぜ	ぞ
Katakana	ザ	ジ	ズ (=ヅ)	ゼ	ゾ
Ro-ma-ji	za	ji	zu	ze	zo
VOCALOID	[dz a]	[dZ i]	[dz M]	[dz e]	[dz o]

Hiragana	じゃ		じゅ	じえ	じょ
Katakana	ジャ		ジュ	ジエ	ジョ
Ro-ma-ji	ja		ju	je	jo
VOCALOID	[dZ a]		[dZ M]	[dZ e]	[dZ o]

Hiragana		ずい			
Katakana		ズイ			
Ro-ma-ji		zi			
VOCALOID		[dz i]			

Ta (た)

Hiragana	た	ち	つ	て	と
Katakana	タ	チ	ツ	テ	ト
Ro-ma-ji	ta	chi	tsu	te	to
VOCALOID	[t a]	[tS i]	[ts M]	[t e]	[t o]

Hiragana	ちゃ		ちゅ	ちえ	ちょ
Katakana	チャ		チュ	チェ	チョ
Ro-ma-ji	cha		chu	che	cho
VOCALOID	[tS a]		[tS M]	[tS e]	[tS o]

Hiragana	つぁ	つぃ		つえ	つぉ
Katakana	ツァ	ツイ		ツエ	ツォ
Ro-ma-ji	tsa	tsi		tse	tso
VOCALOID	[ts a]	[ts i]		[ts e]	[ts o]

Hiragana		てい	てゅ		
Katakana		ティ	テュ		
Ro-ma-ji		ti	tyu		
VOCALOID		[t' i]	[t' M]		

Hiragana			とう		
Katakana			トゥ		
Ro-ma-ji			tu		
VOCALOID			[t M]		

Hiragana	だ	ぢ	づ (=ず)	で	ど
Katakana	ダ	ヂ	ヅ (=ズ)	デ	ド
Ro-ma-ji	da	ji	zu	de	do
VOCALOID	[d a]	[dZ i]	[dz M]	[d e]	[d o]

Hiragana		でい	でゅ		
Katakana		ディ	デュ		
Ro-ma-ji		di	dyu		
VOCALOID		[d' i]	[d' M]		

Hiragana			どう		
Katakana			ドウ		
Ro-ma-ji			du		
VOCALOID			[d M]		

Na (な)

Hiragana	な	に	ぬ	ね	の
Katakana	ナ	ニ	ヌ	ネ	ノ
Ro-ma-ji	na	ni	nu	ne	no
VOCALOID	[n a]	[J i]	[n M]	[n e]	[n o]

Hiragana	にゃ		にゅ	にょ	にょ
Katakana	ニャ		ニュ	ニョ	ニョ
Ro-ma-ji	nya		nyu	nye	nyo
VOCALOID	[J a]		[J M]	[J e]	[J o]

Ha (は)

Hiragana	は	ひ	ふ	へ	ほ
Katakana	ハ	ヒ	フ	ヘ	ホ
Ro-ma-ji	ha	hi	fu	he	ho
VOCALOID	[h a]	[C i]	[p\ M]	[h e]	[h o]

Hiragana	ひゃ		ひゅ	ひょ	ひょ
Katakana	ヒャ		ヒュ	ヒョ	ヒョ
Ro-ma-ji	hya		hyu	hye	hyo
VOCALOID	[C a]		[C M]	[C e]	[C o]

Hiragana	ふぁ	ふぃ	ふゅ	ふょ	ふょ
Katakana	ファ	フィ	フュ	フエ	フォ
Ro-ma-ji	fa	fi	fyu	fe	fo
VOCALOID	[p\ a]	[p\ i]	[p\ M]	[p\ e]	[p\ o]

Hiragana	ば	び	ぶ	べ	ぼ
Katakana	バ	ビ	ブ (=ヴ)	ベ	ボ
Ro-ma-ji	ba	bi	bu	be	bo
VOCALOID	[b a]	[b' i]	[b M]	[b e]	[b o]

Hiragana	びゃ		びゅ	びょ	びょ
Katakana	ビャ		ビュ	ビョ	ビョ
Ro-ma-ji	bya		byu	bye	byo
VOCALOID	[b' a]		[b' M]	[b' e]	[b' o]

Hiragana			-		
Katakana			ヴ (=ブ)		
Ro-ma-ji			bu		
VOCALOID			[b M]		

Hiragana	ぱ	ぴ	ぷ	ぺ	ぽ
Katakana	パ	ピ	プ	ペ	ポ
Ro-ma-ji	pa	pi	pu	pe	po
VOCALOID	[p a]	[p' i]	[p M]	[p e]	[p o]

Hiragana	ぴゃ		ぴゅ	ぴょ	ぴょ
Katakana	ピャ		ピュ	ピョ	ピョ
Ro-ma-ji	pya		pyu	pye	pyo
VOCALOID	[p' a]		[p' M]	[p' e]	[p' o]

Ma (ま)

Hiragana	ま	み	む	め	も
Katakana	マ	ミ	ム	メ	モ
Ro-ma-ji	ma	mi	mu	me	mo
VOCALOID	[m a]	[m' i]	[m M]	[m e]	[m o]

Hiragana	みゃ		みゅ	みえ	みよ
Katakana	ミャ		ミュ	ミエ	ミヨ
Ro-ma-ji	mya		myu	mye	myo
VOCALOID	[m' a]		[m' M]	[m' e]	[m' o]

Ya (や)

Hiragana	や		ゆ		よ
Katakana	ヤ		ユ		ヨ
Ro-ma-ji	ya		yu		yo
VOCALOID	[j a]		[j M]		[j o]

Hiragana				いえ	
Katakana				イエ	
Ro-ma-ji				ye	
VOCALOID				[j e]	

Ra (ら)

Hiragana	ら	り	る	れ	ろ
Katakana	ラ	リ	ル	レ	ロ
Ro-ma-ji	ra	ri	ru	re	ro
VOCALOID	[4 a]	[4' i]	[4 M]	[4 e]	[4 o]

Hiragana	りゃ		りゅ		りょ
Katakana	リャ		リュ		リョ
Ro-ma-ji	rya		ryu		ryo
VOCALOID	[4' a]		[4' M]		[4' o]

Wa (わ)

Hiragana	わ	うい		うえ	うお
Katakana	ワ	ウイ		ウエ	ウオ
Ro-ma-ji	wa	wi		we	wo
VOCALOID	[w a]	[w i]		[w e]	[w o]

Hiragana					を (=お)
Katakana					ヲ (=オ)
Ro-ma-ji					o
VOCALOID					[o]

Hiragana					ん
Katakana					ン
Ro-ma-ji					n
VOCALOID					[N]

本ガイドについて (Explanation in Japanese about this guide)

本「About Japanese Text Input」は、日本語の読み書きができない海外ユーザー様が、「Google 翻訳」を使って日本語の歌詞を作るための手順をまとめたガイドです。日本語の読み書きができる方は、特にお読みいただく必要はありません。