

Common Japanese Suffixes

45 words – 2026-07-08

Word	Reading	Type	Meaning
さん		suffix	Mr./Mrs./Ms. (polite honorific for names)
ちゃん		suffix	cute/familiar honorific (for children, friends, or pets)
くん		suffix	honorific for boys or juniors
さま		suffix	very respectful honorific (like 'sir' or 'madam')
たち		suffix	makes people plural (e.g., 私たち = we)
ご		suffix	language (e.g., 日本語 = Japanese language)
殿		suffix	Lord/Master (respectful, formal)
氏		suffix	Mr./Ms. (formal, written)
先生		suffix	Teacher/Doctor (title)
部長		suffix	Department Head
先輩		suffix	Senior (school/work)
後輩		suffix	Junior (school/work)
～がた		Honorific Plural Suffix	Respectful plural for people (e.g., あなたがた).
～ら		Casual Plural Suffix	Plural marker for people (informal/neutral, e.g., 彼ら).
～ども		Humble Plural Suffix	Humble plural for oneself or one's group (e.g., 私ども).
～博士		Title Suffix	Dr. (for PhD holders, not medical doctors).
～選手		Title Suffix	Suffix for athletes/sports players.
～社長		Title Suffix	Company president (as title).
～たん		suffix	cute variant of ちゃん; shows extreme affection, often for babies or young girls
～ちん		suffix	another cute variant of ちゃん; used similarly to たん
～はん		suffix	Kansai dialect version of さん; respectful title
～兄貴		suffix	older brother; used for a respected senior male like 'bro'
～姉貴		suffix	older sister; used for a respected senior female like 'sis'
～教授		suffix	professor; title for a university professor
こ		Suffix	child; suffix for female given names (e.g. Hanako)
ろう		Suffix	son; suffix for male given names (e.g. Tarou)
や		Suffix	shop; seller (e.g. pan-ya = bakery)
いん		Suffix	member (e.g. kaishain = company employee)
しゃ		Suffix	person; -er (e.g. isha = doctor)
か		Suffix	specialist; -ist (e.g. sakka = writer)

Word	Reading	Type	Meaning
性		suffix	-ness; -ity (turns nouns into abstract qualities)
化		suffix	-ize; -ification (change into)
風		suffix	-style; -like (in the manner of)
系		suffix	type; lineage; system (related to a group)
用		suffix	for; for use of (purpose)
向け		suffix	intended for; aimed at
～さ		suffix	Turns adjective into noun; -ness, -ity (e.g., 大きさ size)
～み		suffix	Noun-forming suffix for subjective qualities (e.g., 楽しみ enjoyment)
～目		suffix	Ordinal suffix (e.g., second); also indicates point of view
様	sama	suffix	honorific (very polite)
君	kun	suffix	written familiar
ら	ra	suffix	plural (casual)
方	kata	suffix	polite person
的	teki	suffix	-al, -ic
力	ryoku	suffix	power, ability