

漢字でわかる魚のかんじ

Japan, an island country surrounded by water on all four sides, is inhabited by approximately 3,700 species of fish. Since the fish and shellfish make an indispensable part of the Japanese food culture, fishing and aquaculture are highly important industries there. The appearance and biology of fishes can be known by looking at their names in kanji (or Chinese character). The same applies below. Among the different versions about the origins of Fish names in kanji, the most common accepted explanations are shown in the table below.

鯊 (Shark), 鰻 (Eel), 鱧 (Conger eel), 穴子 (Conger eel), 鰯 (Sardine), 鯖 (Herring), 鮫 (Gizzard shad), 魚 (Sweetfish), 鮎 (Pond smelt), 公魚 (Shogun). Each entry includes Kanji, pronunciation, an image of the fish, and a text box explaining the kanji's etymology and biological features.

柳葉魚 (Smelt), 魚 (Salmon), 鱒 (Trout), 鱈 (Cod), 鮎 (Angler fish), 鱚 (Pacific Saury), 秋刀魚 (Pacific Saury), 鱈 (Sea bass), 甘鯛 (Tilefish), 魚 (Horse mackerel), 魚 (Horse mackerel). Each entry includes Kanji, pronunciation, an image of the fish, and a text box explaining the kanji's etymology and biological features.

鯢 (Yellowtail), 魚 (Greater amberjack), 魚 (Sea bream), 魚 (Sailfin Sandfish), 魚 (Cutlass fish), 魚 (Cutlass fish), 魚 (Mackerel), 魚 (Tuna), 魚 (Skipjack tuna), 魚 (Skipjack tuna), 魚 (Spanish mackerel), 魚 (Spanish mackerel). Each entry includes Kanji, pronunciation, an image of the fish, and a text box explaining the kanji's etymology and biological features.

魚 (Bastard halibut), 魚 (Flounder), 魚 (Blowfish), 魚 (Blowfish), 魚 (Blowfish), 魚 (Blowfish), 魚 (Abalone), 魚 (Abalone), 魚 (Squid), 魚 (Squid), 魚 (Octopus), 魚 (Octopus), 魚 (Scallop), 魚 (Scallop), 魚 (Oyster), 魚 (Oyster), 魚 (Short-neck clam), 魚 (Short-neck clam). Each entry includes Kanji, pronunciation, an image of the fish/shell, and a text box explaining the kanji's etymology and biological features.

海老 (Shrimp), 蟹 (Crab), 海胆 (Sea urchin), 海鼠 (Sea cucumber), 海鞘 (Sea squirt), 海苔 (Laver), 昆布 (Kelp). Each entry includes Kanji, pronunciation, an image of the seafood, and a text box explaining the kanji's etymology and biological features.

主に漢字の左側に位置する部分のこと。魚の漢字は「魚偏」をつけることが多い。 A component of kanji that is predominantly located on their left-hand side. Kanji for fish names are often found with the "fish radical (魚)".

主に漢字の右側に位置する部分のこと。生き物の姿や生態を表していることが多い。 A component of kanji that is predominantly located on their right-hand side. It often represents the appearance or biology of a living thing.

魚の美味しい時期、または獲れる量が多い時期。地域により異なることがあるので、自分の住んでいる地域ではいつが旬なのか調べてみよう。 The best time to taste a specific fish, or a period when the catch is high. Since the season of fish may differ by the region, try to find the time when certain fish are in season in your area. 春→spring, 夏→summer, 秋→autumn, 冬→winter