

Typing in Japanese in Mellel for OS X

If you know how a word is pronounced, you can type the word phonetically and Mellel will offer not only the hiragana and katakana but a selection of kanji with the relevant pronunciation. If you know only how a word looks you can pick it out visually using the kana palette and the character palette.

To enable Japanese input methods:

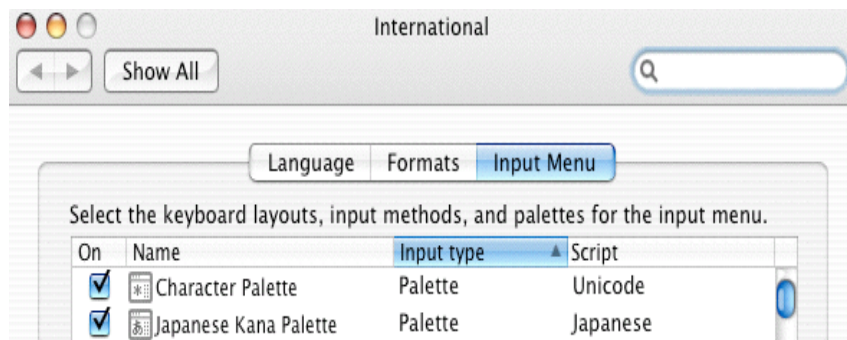
- 1 Click on the systems preference icon



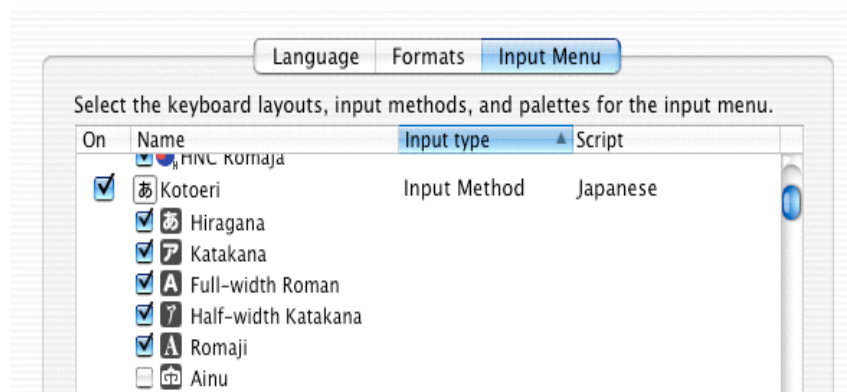
in the dock (the bar of icons across the bottom of your screen).



- 2 Click on International.
- 3 Click on Input Menu.
- 4 Check the boxes next to Character Palette and Japanese Kana Palette:

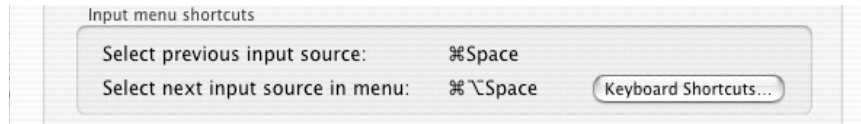


- 5 Scroll down. Check the box marked Kotoeri. Under Kotoeri check Hiragana, Katakana and any other options you think you may need:

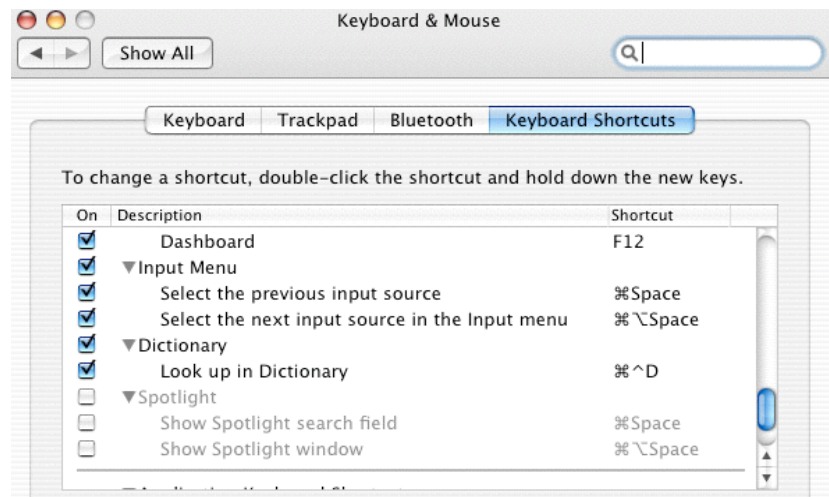


6 Note that the Input Menu offers you Keyboard Shortcuts to switch languages. If you are using OS 10.4 (Tiger) or later, these keyboard shortcuts for accessing the Input Menu will not be active, because Apple has reassigned them to Spotlight (a search tool for searching for text within files). You therefore need to reactivate these shortcuts.

7 Click on Keyboard Shortcuts.



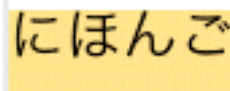
8 You should now see the Keyboard and Mouse panel, with Keyboard Shortcuts selected. Scroll down the menu, uncheck the Spotlight commands and check the Input Menu boxes.



To type hiragana, katakana or kanji by phonetic input:

- 1 Click in a document.
- 2 Click on the Input Menu icon (flag near the top right of your screen).
- 3 For hiragana and kanji by phonetic input, select Hiragana. For katakana, select Katakana.

If you know the pronunciation of the word, start typing the English transliteration -- for example, nihongo. If you selected hiragana, the hiragana will appear on the page, highlighted.



にほんご

If this is what you want, press Return. The word will remain on the page: にほんご

If you leave the word highlighted and press the spacebar, a word in kanji will appear in the highlight:



日本語

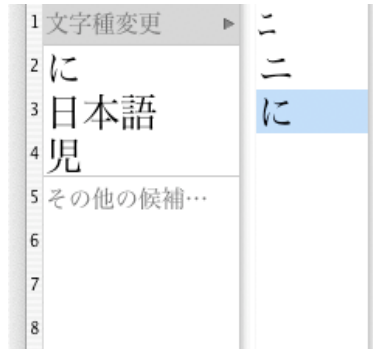
If this is what you want, press Return. The kanji will remain on the page: 日本語

If you want to keep looking, leave the word highlighted and press the spacebar again; you'll be offered other options:

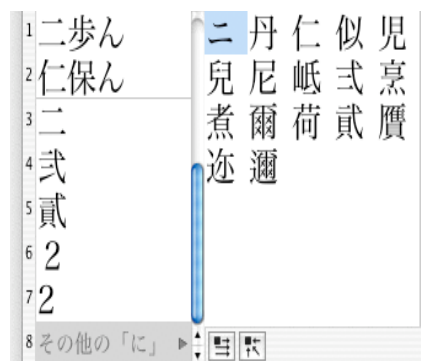


If you see the one you want, select it and press Return.

The menu also offers further options, helpfully described in Japanese. The first item, moji-shuhenko, change shape of letters, offers the opportunity to change to various forms of katakana and hiragana.

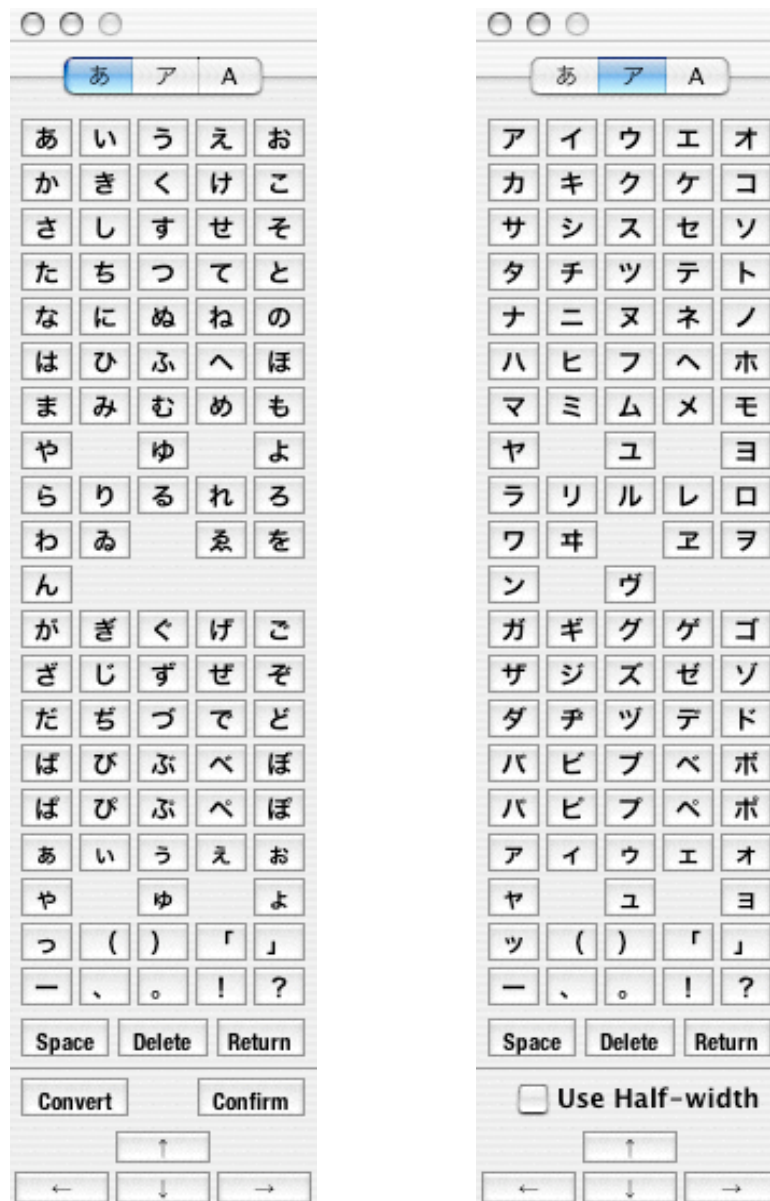


Selecting the last item, sono na to kouho, other candidates, leads first to a longer drop-down list of alternatives for the first syllable, then to a panel of kanji alternatives



Note that you can now switch between Japanese and English (or other original language) by using the keyboard shortcut ⌘ Space. You can go through all languages/input methods in the Input Menu by using the keyboard shortcut ⌘ Space.

If you know how a character in one of the syllabaries looks but don't know how it's pronounced you can pick it out from the kana palette. Scroll down to the bottom of the Input Menu and choose Kana Palette. The default palette (left) shows the hiragana; clicking on the central tab brings up katakana (right). Insert characters by clicking on the appropriate symbol.



If you enter hiragana using the palette, either pressing Return or selecting Confirm in the palette places the chosen hiragana in the text. Pressing the spacebar or selecting Convert in the palette offers a kanji with the same pronunciation as the hiragana; pressing spacebar again brings up further alternatives. Note that you can enter hiragana or katakana using the

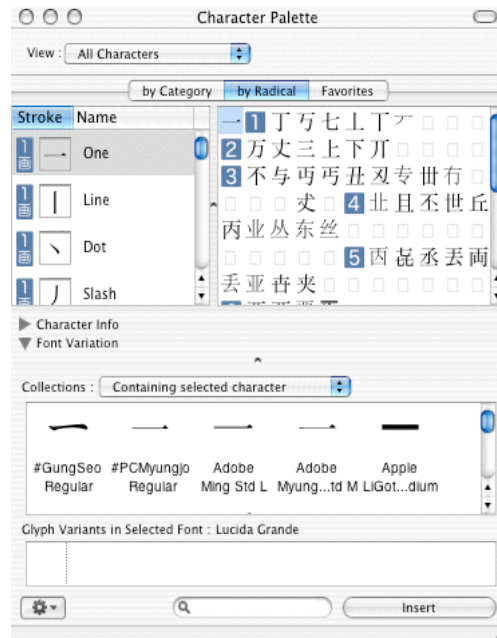
palettes without changing your input language; if you do this the hiragana or katakana will be entered into the text without other options.

To type kanji:

If you know how a character looks but don't know the pronunciation, you can search for it by radical using the Character Palette. This can be reached in three ways.

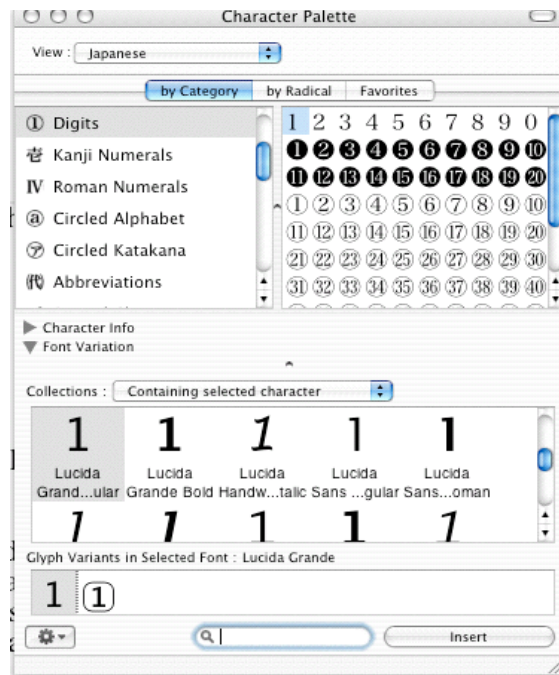
- 1 The quickest way is to use the Special Characters keystroke shortcut $\backslash \text{⌘} T$. You can also
- 2 Choose *Edit > Special Characters* using the menu bar.
- 3 Click on the Input Menu icon (the flag you used to select Japanese input in the first place). Scroll to the bottom and select Character Palette.

Whichever method you use, you should then see a window that looks like this:



To insert a kanji in your document, place the cursor on the desired character; then either double click, drag-and-drop to the document or click the Insert button at the bottom right of the panel.

Note that to get the kanji tables the middle tab, *By Radical*, must be selected. If one of the other two tabs is highlighted you need to click the *By Radical* tab. If you select *By Category*, you'll find some other useful character sets for Japanese: numerals both plain and circled, kanji numerals, circled alphabet, circled katakana, some abbreviations.



While we're in the Character Palette, note that all sorts of other useful symbols are available. *By Category > All Characters > Technical* brings up a palette that includes the Apple command symbols (⌘, ⌘ and so on). If you're not already familiar with what it has to offer it's worth taking a look around.

Mellel does not currently offer the option of typing ruby (the glosses in small type that are sometimes used to give a phonetic transcription of kanji). Vertical typing is also not currently available. (Both are under consideration for future releases.)