

How to Search Japanese Materials on PITTCat

The purpose of this guide is to inform library users with the basics of Japanese romanization in the library system and facilitate their search of PITTCat, the online catalog for the University of Pittsburgh.

A. Which romanization system to use

PITTCat adopts the modified Hepburn system as employed by the Library of Congress. The modified Hepburn system has been used as the standard in libraries in North America for creating Latin script readings for Japanese characters.

B. What characters to use

PITTCat is capable of displaying both *shin kanji* (new Chinese characters) and *kyu kanji* (old Chinese characters). It also accommodates searching terms in both *shin kanji* and *kyu kanji*.

C. Which search method retrieves the most results

Currently, searches in *shin kanji* on PITTCat will only retrieve records that contains *shin kanji*, and vice versa with searches in *kyu kanji*. Searches in Japanese romanization will retrieve records for both, therefore, to maximize the search results, romanization search is recommended.

D. How to enter search terms in Japanese characters

You'll need to choose Japanese Input Method Editor (IME) available on most computers in the library and the computer labs.

E. What to do when characters do not display properly

In most cases, you'll just need to change the encoding under VIEW of browser into Unicode (UTF-8).

F. What to do when diacritics do not display properly

Depending on which browser you use, there are different steps to follow.

Netscape: Choose Arial Unicode MS as the font for the browser

Internet Explorer: In addition to choosing Arial Unicode MS, please check "Ignore font styles specified on web pages" by clicking on Tools → Internet Options → Accessibility,

G. How to enter search terms in the modified Hepburn to search for Japanese materials

The modified Hepburn system is different from original Hepburn system and Japanese Input Method Editor (IME) on the following points.

Long vowel

Long vowels are described with macron "¯", such as "¯o" and "¯u" in stead of "ou," "oo," "oh" and "uu." in records . However, PittCat ignores macron as search term, so you can type simply "o" and "u" in PittCat, do not type "oo," "ou," "oh" nor "uu."

	In PITTCat	NOT
大江健三郎(おおえ けんざぶろう)	Oe Kenzaburo	Ooe Kenzaburou

万葉集 (まんようしゅう)

Manyoshu

Manyoushuu

Syllabic nasal

In the original Hepburn system, *m* is used preceding *b*, *m*, and *p*, but *n* is always used preceding *b*, *m*, and *p* in PittCat.

朝日新聞 (あさひ しんぶん)

Asahi shinbun

Asahi shimbun

新米 (しんまい)

shinmai

Shimai

ランプ

ranpu

rampu

Double consonant

国会 (こっかい) Kokkai 圧迫 (あっぱく) appaku 突進 (とっしん) tosshin

However, precede *t* before chi (チ), cha (チャ), chu (チュ), cho (チョ).

In PITTCat

NOT

密着 (みっちやく)

mitchaku

micchaku

熱中 (ねっちゅう)

netchu

necchu

[The ALA-LC Romanization Table for Japanese](#) contains details on how to divide words when you enter romanization to search for Japanese materials. You may need to familiar yourself with it in order to do effective and efficient search.

F. Search Tips for Searching Japanese Materials

There are many rules and exceptions in word division for Japanese romanization. In case of doubt, try more than one way to divide. Followings are some tips for word division. These tips apply to Japanese materials only. For search tips on English materials, please refer to [Guide to Searching PITTCat](#)

Type of Search	Example	Search Tips
Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rikucho jidai 六朝時代 Keizaiteki tenbo 経済的展望 yamatodamashii 大和魂 waga machi 我が町 shihaisuru kaikyū 支配する階級 Nihon o do kangaeru 日本をどう考える kofuku e no michi 幸福への道 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write binary compounds as single words. Write trinary and derived compounds as single words as long as they contain no more than one binary or trinary compound. Write compound nouns as single words. Write separately modifiers that are not part of compounds. Write simple and compound inflected verbs, with their auxiliaries, as single words. Write verbs separately from adverbs or inflected adjectives and verbs. Write particles separately from other words and from each other.

Author	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miyazaki Hayao 宮崎駿 • Sugawara no Takasue no Musume 菅原孝標女 • Gotōba-in 五鳥羽院 • Minamoto no Yoshitomo 源義朝 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author's last name then first name • Separate last name and first name • Write exact word order and word division for classic names
Journal Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indo tetsugaku shiyo インド哲学史要 • Ekonomisuto エコノミスト 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key in the title with exact spelling and word order • Write katakana words as a single words
Keyword	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaiko seisho 外交青書 • Manyoshu AND kenkyu 万葉集 AND 研究 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the Keyword search mode when the exact word order of a title or author is uncertain or unknown. • Choose "as a phrase" instead of "any of these" or "all of these" for more accurate results. • One search box for one phrase. • Use either AND, OR, or NOT to connect two or more search boxes.

Special Note on Printing, Saving and E-mailing Search Results

It is possible to successfully print or save Japanese characters using the "Save, Print or E-mail Records" function of PITTCat (found at the bottom of search results and single record displays). However, at this time it is not possible to retain Japanese characters or diacritic marks when E-mailing records.

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