Maudric
Everyday Japanese, one walk at a time

Hiragana: や and わ rows

やゆよ・わをん



や ya

Yap!

Sounds like the ya in yap.

Yap! A little dog yapping: the short stroke is its ear, the cross stroke its open mouth, the long stroke its front leg, and the big curve is the yap flying out.





ゆ yu

Unicorn!

Sounds like the u in unicorn (said "yoo").

Unicorn! The loop is its head, the top of the tall stroke is its golden horn, and the line on the left is its flowing mane.





よ yo

Yo-yo!

Sounds like the yo in yo-yo, but shorter.

Yo-yo! The tall stroke is the string, the loop at the bottom is the spinning yo-yo, and the little dash is the finger the string is tied to.





わ wa

Wagon!

Sounds like the wa in wagon.

Wagon! A covered wagon: the big round curve is its canvas cover, and the tall stroke is the driver's whip.





を wo

Wok!

Sounds like the wo in wok, but usually said just "o", like お.

Wok! A wok tossing food: the curve at the bottom is the wok's round base, and the strokes above are the food flying up.





ん n

Fan!

Sounds like the n at the end of fan.

Fan! A folding fan opened out: the long stroke is its left edge, and the tail flicking up is its right edge.



Writing practice: trace the grey letters, then write your own

や や や

ゆ ゆ ゆ

よ よ よ

わ わ わ

を を を

ん ん ん

Stroke order, all the rows and a free weekly kana quiz:
maudric.com/kana/pictures/ya

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