

# Handling Japanese without a Japanese Operating System

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## ABSTRACT:

The HyperCard environment of the Macintosh has become a popular platform for Japanese Language courseware because of its flexibility and ease of programming. However, due to the requirements for the KanjiTalk operating system and the difficulties in using Japanese scripts in the English environment system, the scope of the present courseware has been severely limited. This project involved creating Japanese bitmap font files for the JIS Levels 1 and 2, and writing XFCN's for font manipulation, Japanese *kana* input, and answer correction for the English system. With these tools, both the variety and quality of future development of Japanese language courseware will be improved.

**KEYWORDS:** Japanese operating system, *romaji*, *kanji*, *kana*, JIS Levels 1 and 2, XFCN, string match, Shift-JIS code

## I. Introduction

There are two ways to display the Japanese *kana* and *kanji* in HyperCard: (1) using KanjiTalk (the Japanese operating system) or SweetJam (a Japanese language support system for the English operating system), and (2) using pasted bitmapped images of *kana* and *kanji* under the English system.

## II. The Font files

A series of font files were created for the new system. It was necessary to create new files since the font files being used by KanjiTalk and SweetJam are not compatible with the English system's format.

Kanji is used for many content words such as nouns, verbs and adjectives, especially words of Chinese origin. In this lesson you will learn hiragana and the Japanese sound system. Hiragana was developed through the simplification of Chinese characters during Heian period. (Yamada, 1990)

1. Alabama
2. Texas
3. Massachusetts
4. Indiana
5. Rhode Island
6. Arizona
78. Illinois
89. Utah
99. New Mexico
100. Florida

## References

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