Click to prove you're human



Hello folks! I have been learning Japanese with Marugoto's free online course and I want to share my experiences with it. I've used the course for over a year now and progressed in a steady pace through their A1, and A2 books which some sources say would put me somewhere in the N4 level. The first four courses have been amazing. I loved the interactivity, the mix of listening, speaking (recording) and grammar lessons all oriented by somewhat real-life scenarios and situations. It really helped me and I could feel the progress I did and was so motivated when I started to pick up more and more stuff in Japanese media. I'd recommend it to anyone who's starting out. But it all started to change in the later A2 books, where the amount & frequency of new grammar points and vocabulary ramped up quite a lot. This is also the part where I first started to experience some frustration with the online course format. With each lesson you watch a drama with some new grammar points that you're supposed to revisit during the course and get a deeper understanding of. Which sounds great in theory but what it boils down to in the later lessons is 3 different grammar points back to back with minimal explanation first and then exercises. The explanations are downloadable PDFs with a break down of a grammar point like " V- なく なりました " along with often just a single sentence explaining the usage like "Say this if you want to say your freezer broke" without ever really delving into the grammar / linguistics along with 4-6 example sentences. Another recent example was " V1- ないで V2" which was explained with: " Used when doing something without doing a certain action." - somehow my brain just didn't understand that wording at all 😅 It got clear after watching a YT vid delving a bit deeper with some easier example sentences. Pair that with grammar exercises that are sometimes too difficult, be it because I didn't understand the explanations before as well as I thought I did or because new vocabulary is randomly introduced. I get that you can't expect to know every single word but often these are crucial words to understand. Often they also inject grammar points you've learned a few lessons back into the exercises for new grammar points. Which is good I guess but it's also often frustrating when you feel like you haven't even grasped the basic concept yet and the first exercise is to conjugate this verb you've never seen into the past tense and also apply this new grammar point (just a made up example). I feel like this has to do with the fact that Marugoto started out as a classroom book and especially with these later courses I get the feeling that they're probably more supplemental and would really benefit you having someone there to explain certain points in detail. It also doesn't help that there's way more material on every other textbook like Genki or Minna no Nihongo. I guess I'm also a bit frustrated because I enjoyed the earlier courses so much and hit a slope with this one. But I hope at least that this writeup gives you some insight if you've been thinking about giving the series a try Ask the publishers to restore access to 500,000+ books. MARUGOTO+ (MARUGOTO Plus) is a website where users can learn about Japanese languageand culture alongside the contents of "Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture",a coursebook which uses the JF Standard as a basis. We apologize for any inconvenience. Period: Mar 10, 2025 from 10:00 to 12:00 (Japan time) OTextbookMarugoto 日本語教科書：まるごと 日本のことばと文化 入門 (A1) りかいPDFと音声MP3ダウンロード! Marugoto: Japanese language and culture Starter (A1) Rikai Coursebook for communicative language competences, provides download of Japanese learning materials PDF files, including answers and MP3 listening audio. www.otextbook.com Testpaper: JLPT | EJU | HSK | YCTDownload NowFree sharing of resourcesThe minimal fee is only used as the basic maintenance fee for the platform. All content sourced from the internet. close You can download materials for use with Marugoto, such as audio recordings and vocabulary lists Login is required to download audio recordings. Please click on a book below. * You can also download the resources for teachers (mainly in Japanese) from here. Rikai Rikai Rikai Download by typeof materialsA1A2A2/B1 StarterElementary 1Elementary 2Pre-Intermediate KatsudooRikaiKatsudooRikaiKatsudooRikai Digital audio files●●●●●●● Supplementarymaterials Can-do Check ● ● ● Word book ●● Vocabulary index ●●●●●●● Phrase index ●●●●●●● Task sheets for writing ● ● ● Lesson Review (Can-do Conversation) ● ● ● Kanji word list ● ● ●● Nihongo Check ● ● ● Sakubun worksheets ● ● ● Notes for talking ● Topic Review(Can-do Conversation) ● Download by typeof materialsB1 Intermediate1Intermediate2 Digital audio files●● Supplementarymaterials Vocabulary List ●● Translations of Listening Scriptsand Text in the Textbook ●● Kanji word list ●● Learning Record ●● "Write" Sheet ●● News Download the books from the Marugoto and learn how to download books from Google books too!If you are just starting out or want to use a reliable source to learn Japanese, the Japan Foundation has made your book available for free download.Accessing the Japan Foundation website you will find many materials to support your journey to learn the Japanese language. They have a lot of content, but there are some links that no longer work (article was published in 2013 that must be one of the reasons), but there is still a lot of content about Nihongo.They answer the main questions about the FJSP's Marugoto Japanese Language Course.The content that is offered to both teachers and students who are just learning the language.The goal of the article is to make it available where you can download the Marugoto books that the Japan Foundation is currently offering for free.Marugoto is well known for the book, created by Japan Foundation, however it is also a portal/site that not only offers the possibility to learn from the book, but also has a lot of material and audio to support it.You can either use the book or study through their website with all the material that is made available.From what I've told you are being made available 7 Marugoto books for free download and they are;Japanese language and culture Starter A1 Coursebook for communicative language activities “Katsukoo”Japanese language and culture Starter A1 Coursebook for communicative language competences “Rikai”Japanese language and culture Elementary1 A2 Coursebook for communicative language activities “Katsudoo”Japanese language and culture Elementary1 A2 Coursebook for communicative language competences “Rikai”Japanese language and culture Elementary2 A2 Coursebook for communicative language activities “Katsudoo”Japanese language and culture Elementary2 A2 Coursebook for communicative language competences “Rikai”Japanese language and culture Pre-Intermediate A2/B1To download books Click here.If you want to see what they're offering, check out Hiro's video (Kotoba):As Hiro said you can choose Katsukoo (Activities) or Rikai (understanding).In the video he too indicate this site which has complementary activities. It's needed create an account and then log in to be able to download the materials.Marugoto – Complementary Activities and AudiosSee too:Japanese course with animeFree Japanese course for beginnersThe problem is that in the video he comments that we can only add to our Google Books library (Google books). Wouldn't it be nice to download Marugoto's PDF books?if you want to have the book Marugoto in PDF it's a good option to use a program called google books downloader. To download the program Click here.Its operation is very simple, in minutes you can download the book in PDF, JPEG or PNG format.If you have problems running the application on Windows and it shows an error such as “runtime error at 8 217 format result longer than 4096 characters” access this link to see how to download by other alternatives.Run the program and you will see a screen similar to the image below:Google Book Downloaderclicking on Start you already start downloading the book to the folder on your computer that you selected.Did you find it difficult to perform this procedure? See the video I made right after showing a step by step:Don't forget that Marugoto books are available for a limited time and I don't know when they will be taken down.Did you like the tip? Don't forget to share!Sources consulted on the GDB and Image Conversion to Doc Digital audio files Supplementary materials Lesson1 Play Download Lesson2 Play Download Lesson3 Play Download Lesson4 Play Download Lesson5 Play Download Lesson6 Play Download Lesson7 Play Download Lesson8 Play Download Lesson9 Play Download Lesson10 Play Download Lesson11 Play Download Lesson12 Play Download Lesson13 Play Download Lesson14 Play Download Lesson15 Play Download Lesson16 Play Download Lesson17 Play Download Lesson18 Play Download Lesson Review (Can-do) Play Download All Topics (Lesson1-Lesson18) Download (287MB) Task sheets for writing (2.60MB) Lesson Review (Can-do Conversation) (216KB) If you’re looking for top-notch, free online Japanese course, Marugoto is quite good. Based on the popular coursebook with the same name, Marugoto is suitable for A1 to A2 (CEFR) level learners (N5 on the JLPT) which you can determine by taking their online placement test. You have two options with Marugoto: “Katsudoo” or “Katsudoo + Rikai”. The first option is the easier, more relaxed learning path and the latter is intensive (it’s basically the same content as the “Katsudoo” option but with additional grammar and literacy components). Marugoto is outstanding for a free resource - high quality audio dialogues, vocabulary and quizzes to test you. It’s not sufficient on its own but an excellent resource nonetheless (see these Japanese resources too). The course is completely free but there are optional classes you can take for a fee. Used Marugoto before? What are your thoughts? Comment below! Pricing: Free (optional paid classes) Cite article Grab the link to this articleCopy Link Courses Vocabulary Literacy Show Me