

English:
outside

On-Yomi:
ガイ
ゲ

Kun-Yomi:
そと
ほか
はず.す
はず.れる
と-
うい
け
ふか

Bushu (Radical) Info: 夕 (ゆうべ) - evening

Henshall Mnemonic: crescent moon with crack on outside

Levels: JLPT N5 | JLPT 4 (old) | Grade 2

Frequency: #81 of the 2500 most used kanji in newspapers

Common Words and/or Phrases Using this Kanji:

Click any individual kanji to view a similar information sheet for it.

Click [K] to look up the word's individual character(s) at WWWJDIC.

Click [D] to look up the word at WWWJDIC (definition is the same but other useful features exist).

Click [Jisho] to look up the word at Jisho.org.

JLPT N5 Words

- [外](#) [そと]
(n) (1) outside; exterior; (2) open air; (3) other place [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外](#) [ほか]
(n) other place; the rest [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外国](#) [がいくこく]
(n) foreign country [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外国人](#) [がいくこくじん]
(n) foreigner [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

JLPT N4 Words

- [以外](#) [いがい]
(n-adv) with the exception of; excepting [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [郊外](#) [こうがい]
(n) suburb; outskirts [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

JLPT N3 Words

- [意外](#) [いがい]
(adj-na,n) unexpected; surprising [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [海外](#) [かいがい]
(n) foreign; abroad; overseas [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

- [外す](#) [はずす]
(v5s) (1) to unfasten; (2) to remove; (3) to bump off (sl) [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外交](#) [がいかう]
(n) diplomacy [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外出](#) [がいしゅつ]
(n,vs) outing; going out [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

JLPT N2 Words

- [その外](#) [そのほか]
besides; in addition; the rest [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [案外](#) [あんがい]
(adj-na,n-adv) unexpectedly [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [屋外](#) [おくがい]
(n) outdoors [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外れる](#) [はずれる]
(v1,vi) to be disconnected; to get out of place; to be off; to be out (e.g. of gear) [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外科](#) [げか]
(n) surgical department [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外部](#) [がいぶ]
(n) the outside; external [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [例外](#) [れいがい]
(adj-no,n) exception [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

JLPT N1 Words

- [域外](#) [いきがい]
(n) outside the area [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外貨](#) [がいか]
(n) imported goods; foreign money [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外観](#) [がいかん]
(n) appearance; exterior; facade [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外相](#) [がいしょう]
(n) Foreign Minister [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外来](#) [がいらい]
(n) (abbr) imported; outpatient clinic [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [除外](#) [じょがい]
(n,vs) exception; exclusion [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [野外](#) [やがい]
(adj-no,n) fields; outskirts; open air; suburbs [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

Other Popular Words Not Classified by JLPT

- [外に](#) [ほかに]
in addition; besides [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外れ](#) [はずれ]
(n) (1) end; verge; extremity; tip; outskirts; (2) miss; failure [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外圧](#) [がいあつ]
(n) external pressure [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外苑](#) [がいえん]
(n) outer garden [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外科医](#) [げかい]
(n) surgeon [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)
- [外界](#) [がいがい]
(n) outside world [\[K\]](#) [\[D\]](#) [\[Jisho\]](#)

- (n) physical world; the externals [K] [D] [Jisho]
- **外角** [がいかく]
(n) outside corner; external angle [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外郭** [がいかく]
(n) (1) outer wall (e.g. castle); outer block (enclosure); (2) outline; contour [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外郭団体** [がいかくだんたい]
auxiliary organization [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外気** [がいき]
(n) open air [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外見** [がいけん]
(n) outward appearance [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外交官** [がいこうかん]
(n) diplomat [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外国語** [がいこくご]
(n) foreign language [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外資** [がいし]
(n) foreign capital [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外車** [がいしゃ]
(n) foreign automobile [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外需** [がいじゅ]
(n) foreign consumption [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外傷** [がいしょう]
(n) external wound [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外食** [がいしょく]
(n) eating out [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外信** [がいしん]
(n) external communication [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外人** [がいじん]
(n) foreigner [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外側** [そとがわ]
(n) exterior; outside; extraneous [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外電** [がいでん]
(n) foreign telegram [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外米** [がいまい]
(n) foreign rice [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外壁** [がいへき]
(n) outer wall [K] [D] [Jisho]
 - **外堀** [そとぼり]
(n) outer moat (castle) [K] [D] [Jisho]

Find more details for 外 at jisho.org, Yookoso! or WWWJDIC

Acknowledgments

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NOTE: I converted the sources just mentioned years ago and have never really updated so there may be some missing or incorrect information that has been addressed in the original sources but not here.

The first Stroke Order image used on this page is courtesy of Ulrich Apel's excellent open source [KanjiVG project](#). The second image is from the folks at the excellent [Jisho Japanese-English dictionary](#) site and it too is [based on](#) KanjiVG.

Classifying the kanji and popular vocabulary by the new JLPT levels was done by consulting Jonathan Waller's [JLPT Resources](#) page, [renshuu](#), [Wictionary](#), and [Nihongo Ichiban](#).

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If you are curious about the lexicography shown in the word definitions, visit the WWWJDIC [abbreviations and codes](#) guide and the JMdict/Edict [Lexicographical details](#) page.