

# The Most Basic Chinese: All You Need to Know to Get By in One of the Most Basic Languages

**Common Mandarin Phrases**

nǐ hǎo <b>你好</b> Hello.	nǐ hǎo ma <b>你好吗</b> How are you?
hǎo/hǎo de <b>好/好的</b> OK/Good	qǐng wèn <b>请问</b> May I ask...
jiù mìng <b>救命</b> Help!	duì bu qǐ <b>对不起</b> I'm sorry.
bú yòng xiè <b>不用谢</b> You're welcome	xiè xiè <b>谢谢</b> Thank you

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Do you dream of visiting China and immersing yourself in its rich culture? Have you always been fascinated by the beautiful Chinese language but don't know

where to start? Look no further! In this article, we will provide you with the most basic Chinese phrases and tips to get by in this ancient and fundamental language.

## The Importance of Basic Chinese Knowledge

Chinese, also known as Mandarin, is the most widely spoken language in the world, with over a billion native speakers. Learning Chinese, even just the basics, can greatly enhance your travel experiences, open up new career opportunities, and deepen your understanding of one of the oldest civilizations in history.



## The Most Basic Chinese - All You Need to Know to Get By (Most Basic Languages)

by James McGlasson (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 131 KB  
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Having a grasp of the most fundamental Chinese phrases will allow you to communicate with locals, order food, ask for directions, and make friends wherever you go in China.

## Essential Chinese Phrases

Now, let's dive into the most basic Chinese phrases you need to know:

- **1. Greetings:** Learn how to say "hello" and "thank you." These simple phrases can go a long way in building rapport with the locals.
- **2. Basic Questions:** Master key questions like "Where is the bathroom?" and "How much does this cost?" These questions will help you navigate everyday situations with ease.
- **3. Ordering Food:** Familiarize yourself with ordering common dishes like dumplings, noodles, and rice. Exploring Chinese cuisine is a must-do, and knowing how to order your favorite delicacies will make your culinary adventures even more enjoyable.
- **4. Numbers:** Understand how to count from one to ten. Numbers are essential when navigating transportation, bargaining, or making simple purchases.

## Tips for Learning Basic Chinese

Learning a new language can be challenging, but with these tips, you'll be on your way to mastering the basics of Chinese:

- **1. Start with Pinyin:** Pinyin is a Romanization system that helps you pronounce Chinese characters. Begin by familiarizing yourself with Pinyin to build a strong foundation in pronunciation.
- **2. Practice Speaking:** Consistent speaking practice is key. Find language exchange partners or consider taking conversational Chinese classes to improve your pronunciation and fluency.
- **3. Immerse Yourself:** Surround yourself with Chinese media such as movies, TV shows, and music to immerse yourself in the language and

improve your listening skills.

- **4. Use Language Learning Apps:** Make use of language learning apps that offer interactive exercises and instant feedback. These apps can be a great supplement to your learning journey.
- **5. Don't Be Afraid to Make Mistakes:** Learning a new language involves making mistakes. Embrace them as valuable opportunities for growth and keep practicing.

Learning the most basic Chinese phrases is an excellent first step towards discovering the beauty of the Chinese language and culture. With dedication and practice, you can gain confidence in communicating with native speakers and make your trips to China truly memorable.

So, what are you waiting for? Start learning Chinese today and unlock a world of new experiences!



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\*\*\*\*\* UPDATE - This book has been Amazon's Number 1 Chinese E-book for 2012, 2013 and so far in 2014.

Most comments have been very positive but there were the odd negative ones - I did listen and have recently updated the book (May 2013) to answer the concerns expressed by some - these mostly centered around tones and organisation - Tones are now included, and Simplified Chinese characters are also available to be emailed for those who wish. I have also restructured the book to be better organised and easier to follow, so I hope you find the book even more useful. I have kept the same low price, and hope it continues to be of use to a lot of people. \*\*\*\*\*

‘The Most Basic Chinese’ teaches all the Mandarin you need to survive, enabling you to learn everything you need simply and effortlessly.

To begin, let’s get one thing straight – it is extremely easy to learn all the Basic Chinese you will need if you are travelling to or intending to live in China.

This booklet gives you all of that language and is presented in a simple way. It can be easily studied on the plane journey over or any other time, and is entirely sufficient to be able to get by in Mandarin on arrival. So don’t be fooled by the booklet length – once you have mastered this small amount of Basic Chinese, you will have reached the same level as thousands of people who have lived, worked and survived in China for years.

It begins with the very simple (10 most useful phrases for a newcomer), then builds on this in easy stages to demonstrate how easy it is to speak Basic Chinese as well as give you the language and knowledge to do so.

With this booklet, you will already have picked up a great deal of the language and grammar as well as a great sense of how easy it is to speak Basic Chinese.

As mentioned at the top, and due to requests from several readers, I have now updated the book to include the tones, and can also supply the simplified Chinese characters for those who would like them.

However, don't be scared off by the tonal system to get by in Basic Chinese - we are actually well understood without using it, so I consider it an added extra which you can choose whether to learn or not. My own direct experience of living in China was that I didn't actually need the tones to be understood, although learning them would have given me a better standard of Chinese.

In addition to the above, you will find 'The Most Basic Chinese' an invaluable tool to keep with you for its simple presentation of the language needed for various situations – e.g. in a taxi, restaurant, bar or shop.

Good luck and safe travels!

NB. This book is also available in German, named "Grundkenntnisse in Chinesisch".

Also note that I have updated the format of this book to remove the tables, since they were not always showing properly on Kindle Fire - the format should now be ok for this too.



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