

Top 500 Chinese Characters

#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
1	的	de, dì	[structural particle used after an attribute]
2	一	yī	one, a, an
3	是	shì	be
4	了	le, liǎo	[aspect marker indicating realisation of a situation]
5	不	bù, fǒu	no, not
6	在	zài	[indicating location or time, etc.] at, in
7	人	rén	person, human, man
8	有	yǒu, yòu	have, there be
9	我	wǒ	I, me
10	这	zhè, zhèi	this
11	个	gè, gě	[generalised measure word used for nouns without a specific measure te...]
12	他	tā	he, him
13	大	dà, dài	big, large
14	上	shàng, shǎng	up, on, in
15	来	lái	[preceding a verb to indicate the intended or suggested action]
16	要	yào, yāo	want; order
17	们	men, mén	[plural marker for pronouns and some animate nouns]
18	说	shuō, shuì	say, speak, tell
19	到	dào	go to, reach, arrive
20	就	jiù	[used for emphasis] just; then; at once
21	为	wèi, wéi	[introducing purpose, reason, beneficiary, etc.] for, because of
22	会	huì, kuài	can, know how to do
23	地	dì, de	[structural particle introducing an adverbial modifier]
24	和	hé, hè	and
25	以	yǐ	by means of, with, in (some way); according to; because of
26	出	chū	out; produce; happen
27	对	duì	for, to, with regard to
28	时	shí	time when ...
29	家	jiā, jia	[measure word for families or businesses]
30	也	yě	also
31	你	nǐ	you
32	生	shēng	give birth to, bear; become (rusty, ill, etc.); light (a fire)
33	中	zhōng, zhòng	in, within
34	得	dé, děi	[structural particle used after a verb that introduces a complement showi...

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
35	多	duō	many, much, plentiful
36	子	zǐ	son, child
37	后	hòu	behind; after, later
38	那	nà, nài	that
39	过	guò, guo	[aspect marker indicating experience]
40	自	zì	from
41	好	hǎo, hào	good, well
42	能	néng, nài	can
43	么	me, mó	[interrogative particle]
44	可	kě, kè	but, yet
45	下	xià	under, below
46	年	nián	year
47	发	fā, fà	send out, give out, distribute
48	学	xué	learn, study
49	还	hái, huán	still, yet
50	都	dōu, dū	all
51	事	shì	matter, thing
52	去	qù	go
53	成	chéng	become, turn into; succeed
54	天	tiān	[measure word for time] day
55	着	zhe, zhuó	[aspect marker indicating a durative or ongoing situation]
56	方	fāng	side, party; square; direction
57	现	xiàn	now
58	面	miàn	face, surface; side; (wheat) flour
59	作	zuò, zuō	do
60	里	lǐ, lì	in, inside
61	没	méi, mò	not
62	经	jīng, jìng	through, by means of; by way of, via
63	国	guó	country, nation
64	看	kàn, kān	look, view; look after
65	开	kāi	open; operate, drive (car), turn on (light); start (business); hold (meeting...)
66	行	xíng, háng	trip; behaviour
67	小	xiǎo	small, little
68	于	yú	[indicating time, location, direction, etc.] in, at

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
69	当	dāng, dàng	just at (time or place)
70	心	xīn	heart; mind; core, centre
71	而	ér	and, yet
72	之	zhī	[archaic equivalent of structural particle 的]
73	用	yòng	use
74	同	tóng, tòng	[indicating relationship, involvement, comparison] with
75	种	zhǒng, zhòng	[indicating species] kind, type
76	道	dào	[measure word for long and narrow objects, doors, orders, questions, dis...]
77	然	rán	correct; right; so; thus; like this; -ly
78	前	qián	before; in front of
79	问	wèn	ask
80	实	shí	solid, firm; true, real, actual
81	所	suǒ	[particle preceding a verb to form a nominal structure]
82	点	diǎn	[measure word for point, item, etc.]; [measure word for small quantities]
83	长	cháng, zhǎng	long
84	动	dòng	move; arouse; change; use
85	想	xiǎng	think
86	些	xiē, suǒ	some, an amount of
87	起	qǐ	get up, rise; up
88	从	cóng	from
89	样	yàng	[measure word for some material objects] type, sort
90	两	liǎng	two
91	进	jìn	enter; advance
92	她	tā, jiě	she, her
93	分	fēn, fèn	divide, separate, differentiate; distribute
94	很	hěn	very
95	理	lǐ	reason; natural science (in relation to humanities)
96	主	zhǔ	main, primary, principal
97	定	dìng	set, fix, decide; subscribe to (newspapers and periodicals, etc.)
98	工	gōng	work, labour; industry; project
99	意	yì	meaning, idea; intention, desire
100	把	bǎ, bà	[ba-structure preposing the object]
101	情	qíng	feeling, passion, sentiment; condition, situation
102	如	rú	like, as, as if; such as

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
103	正	zhèng, zhēng	just, precisely; just (in progress)
104	全	quán	whole, entire, complete
105	最	zuì	[superlative degree] most
106	但	dàn	but
107	儿	ér	[nonsyllabic suffix for retroflexion, especially in the Beijing dialect]
108	外	wài	outside
109	高	gāo	tall, high
110	什	shén, shí	what
111	间	jiān, jiàn	[measure word for rooms]
112	力	lì	power, strength
113	明	míng	bright, light, clear; open, overt, explicit
114	本	běn	(one's) own; this, current
115	法	fǎ	law; method, way, how-to
116	话	huà	word, talk, utterance
117	者	zhě	[suffix for nouns denoting persons] -ist, -er
118	部	bù	[measure word for machines and vehicles, etc.]; [measure word for book...]
119	女	nǚ, rǚ	female, woman
120	等	děng	et cetera
121	业	yè	trade, line of business; profession, occupation; estate, property; underta...
122	老	lǎo	old, veteran
123	已	yǐ	already
124	重	zhòng, chóng	heavy
125	公	gōng	public; official business; father-in-law
126	其	qí, jī	[third person singular or plural] his, her, its, their; that, such
127	因	yīn	because of, as a result of, according to
128	文	wén	script, language; essay, writing
129	知	zhī, zhì	know
130	给	gěi, jǐ	to
131	与	yǔ, yù	[indicating involvement or relationship] with
132	己	jǐ	self
133	次	cì	[measure word indicating number of repetitions or count of actions or ev...]
134	关	guān	close, shut; turn off; concern, involve; shut in, lock up; (business) close d...
135	只	zhī, zhǐ	only
136	民	mín	the people; civilian

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
137	三	sān	three
138	又	yòu	again, once again
139	头	tóu, tou	head; end
140	比	bǐ	[used for comparison] than
141	手	shǒu	hand
142	别	bié, biè	[negative imperative] don't, had better not
143	第	dì	[numeral prefix forming ordinal numbers]
144	回	huí	return; reply; decline (invitation)
145	活	huó	live, survive
146	体	tǐ, tī	body; style; system
147	位	wèi	[measure word for respectable people]
148	做	zuò	do, make
149	水	shuǐ	water
150	无	wú, mó	have no, there be no
151	化	huà, huā	[verb suffix] -ise, -ify
152	打	dǎ, dá	beat, hit, strike; play; typewrite
153	代	dài	generation; historical period, dynasty
154	机	jī	machine
155	表	biǎo	watch; form, table
156	电	diàn	electricity, power; telegram, cable
157	题	tí	title; topic, subject; problem (in exam)
158	相	xiāng, xiàng	each other
159	见	jiàn, xiàn	see, meet
160	先	xiān	first, earlier
161	名	míng	[measure word for persons in general]
162	果	guǒ	fruit
163	几	jǐ, jī	several; how much
164	性	xìng	property, disposition; sex
165	将	jiāng, jiàng	[indicating a future happening] will, be going to
166	常	cháng	often, usually
167	被	bèi, pī	[passive marker]
168	新	xīn	new
169	少	shǎo, shào	few, rare
170	应	yìng, yīng	ought to, should; answer, respond, echo; comply with

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
171	场	chǎng, cháng	[measure word for processes or courses of occurrence such as rain, snow...
172	真	zhēn	really
173	军	jūn	army
174	向	xiàng	[indicating direction] to, towards
175	才	cái	just
176	身	shēn	body
177	合	hé, gě	shut; suit, agree; combine; add up to
178	目	mù	eye; list
179	此	cǐ	this
180	认	rèn	recognise; admit; resign oneself to
181	总	zǒng	always; anyway, certainly; sooner or later
182	再	zài	again
183	干	gān, gàn	work, do (a job)
184	结	jié, jiē	form; settle; tie, knit, knot; bear (fruit)
185	口	kǒu	[measure word for people in a family or village, and also for pigs, etc.]; [...
186	解	jiě, jiè	untie, undo; explain, solve
187	产	chǎn	produce, yield; reproduce
188	世	shì	the world; lifetime; era, age
189	平	píng	flat, level, even; calm; average, common
190	完	wán	finish, be over; (use) up
191	书	shū	book
192	感	gǎn	feel
193	二	èr	two
194	放	fàng	put, place; let go, let off; lay aside; show, play (movies, etc.)
195	加	jiā	add, increase; put in
196	门	mén	door, gate
197	员	yuán, yún	(bound form) person engaged in a certain field of activity; (bound for...
198	政	zhèng	government, politics
199	气	qì	air; breath; gas
200	信	xìn, shēn	letter, mail
201	走	zǒu	walk; leave
202	今	jīn	today, now
203	更	gèng, gēng	[comparative degree] more
204	并	bìng, bīng	and, besides

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
205	教	jiào, jiāo	teach
206	内	nèi, nà	inside, within
207	系	xì, jì	(academic) department; system, series
208	记	jì	keep in mind, memorise, remember; take note, write down
209	反	fǎn	oppose, combat; reverse; turn against
210	它	tā	[used for non-human things] it
211	使	shǐ	[often used in serial verb constructions] make, cause, enable
212	入	rù	enter
213	车	chē, jū	car, vehicle; cart
214	提	tí, dī	carry; put forward, raise; mention, ask; lift; promote
215	接	jiē	put together, join; receive, answer (call, letter, etc.); meet, pick up (som...
216	通	tōng, tòng	open up by poking; understand, know; connect, communicate; lead to
217	由	yóu	by, from
218	度	dù, duó	[measure word for temperature, angle, electricity, etc.] degree; kwh
219	任	rèn, rén	appoint, occupy or take up a post; give free rein to
220	社	shè	society, club; agency
221	受	shòu	receive; be subject to, suffer; endure, bear
222	让	ràng	give way; let, make; allow
223	思	sī, sāi	think
224	立	lì	stand; erect, set up; establish
225	难	nán, nàn	difficult
226	特	tè	special, unusual
227	西	xī	west
228	原	yuán	former, original
229	处	chù, chǔ	place; department
230	日	rì	day; the sun
231	管	guǎn	manage, run, administer; take care (of), care about
232	制	zhì	make, manufacture
233	物	wù	thing
234	边	biān, bian	side; edge
235	各	gè, gě	each
236	报	bào	newspaper
237	展	zhǎn	exhibition, display
238	市	shì	city, town; market

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
239	路	lù	road; distance
240	该	gāi	this, that, the mentioned
241	听	tīng	listen
242	变	biàn	change
243	界	jiè	the circle or world of
244	战	zhàn	fight
245	队	duì	team; queue
246	办	bàn	do
247	候	hòu	to wait; to inquire after; to watch; season; climate; (old) period of...
248	交	jiāo	hand in, submit, deliver
249	觉	jué, jiào	feel; become aware
250	件	jiàn	[measure word for clothes, furniture, affairs, etc.] item, article
251	直	zhí	straight, directly; keep (doing something), continuously
252	条	tiáo, tiāo	[measure word for things of a long and thin shape (e.g. string and river)...
253	四	sì	four
254	期	qī, jī	[measure word for things arranged by periods] issue (of a periodical)
255	论	lùn, lún	discuss, talk about, expound; decide on
256	怎	zěn	how, why
257	像	xiàng	look like, resemble; look as if
258	带	dài	carry, bring, take
259	品	pǐn	taste, sample
260	快	kuài	fast, quick
261	太	tài	too, excessively; very
262	呢	ne, ní	[particle used at the end of a question or declarative sentence to indicat...
263	利	lì	advantage; benefit, profit, gain
264	风	fēng, fěng	wind
265	量	liáng, liàng	quantity, amount, capacity
266	非	fēi	non-
267	月	yuè	moon; month
268	十	shí	ten
269	资	zī	money, capital, investment; endowment; qualifications
270	东	dōng	east
271	每	měi	each
272	建	jiàn	establish; construct, build

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
273	保	bǎo	protect, defend; guarantee; preserve, maintain; bail
274	决	jué	decide; (of a dam or dyke) burst
275	往	wǎng	towards
276	神	shén	god
277	至	zhì	arrive, reach
278	住	zhù	live, stay
279	强	qiáng, qiǎng	strong, powerful, better
280	命	mìng	life; fate, destiny; order
281	告	gào	tell, make known; sue
282	流	liú	flow
283	司	sī	department (in a ministry); firm, company
284	清	qīng	clear
285	指	zhǐ	mean, refer to; point to
286	区	qū, ōu	area, district
287	师	shī	teacher; person with a particular professional skill; division
288	美	měi	beautiful, pretty
289	数	shù, shǔ	several
290	声	shēng	sound, noise; voice
291	望	wàng	have a look; hope
292	亲	qīn, qìng	close, intimate
293	爱	ài	love, like
294	求	qiú	beg, request, strike for, seek
295	义	yì	meaning, sense; justice, righteousness
296	始	shǐ	begin, start
297	传	chuán, zhuàn	pass on, spread; hand down
298	谈	tán	talk
299	术	shù, shú	way, practice; (surgical) operation
300	孩	hái	(bound form) child
301	改	gǎi	change, revise, modify
302	领	lǐng	lead
303	金	jīn	gold, golden; metal; money
304	吃	chī	eat
305	形	xíng	shape, form
306	叫	jiào	name, call; shout; order (somebody to do something); order (meal, taxi...

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
307	安	ān	calm, at ease
308	友	yǒu	friend
309	视	shì	look; regard (... as)
310	象	xiàng	elephant; image, shape
311	观	guān, guàn	watch, look at
312	识	shí, zhì	know
313	讲	jiǎng	speak, tell
314	何	hé, hē	what, how, when, where, why
315	色	sè, shǎi	colour; countenance, look; type; female charm
316	程	chéng	rule; order; regulations; formula; journey; procedure; sequence
317	院	yuàn	courtyard; academy, institute, hospital
318	收	shōu	receive, collect; accept
319	及	jí	and
320	近	jìn	near
321	或	huò	or
322	影	yǐng	shadow, reflected image; trace; film
323	百	bǎi	hundred
324	服	fú, fù	take (medicine); be convinced, obey
325	式	shì	type, style
326	许	xǔ, hǔ	allow
327	字	zì	(Chinese) character
328	光	guāng	light, brightness; glory, honour
329	统	tǒng	to gather; to unite; to unify; whole
330	深	shēn	deep
331	计	jì	count, calculate, number; haggle over
332	吗	ma, má	[question tag]
333	单	dān, shàn	single, solitary; odd
334	跟	gēn	[indicating relationship, involvement, or comparison] with
335	白	bái	white
336	吧	ba, bā	[modal particle indicating a suggestion or request; marking a question re...
337	治	zhì	rule, govern; treat, cure; control, harness; punish
338	整	zhěng	whole, entire
339	死	sǐ	die
340	花	huā	spend

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
341	商	shāng	discuss, consult
342	算	suàn	calculate; regard as
343	步	bù	pace; step
344	眼	yǎn	eye
345	必	bì	must, certainly
346	导	dǎo	to transmit; to lead; to guide; to conduct; to direct
347	调	tiáo, diào	transfer, shift; adjust, turn; harmonise
348	钱	qián	money
349	际	jì	border; edge; boundary; interval; between; inter-; to meet; time; occa...
350	务	wù	affair; business; matter; to be engaged in; to attend to; by all means
351	五	wǔ	five
352	万	wàn, mò	10,000
353	持	chí	hold, maintain
354	张	zhāng	[measure word for flat objects and things with a flat surface, and also for...
355	容	róng	hold, contain; tolerate; allow, permit
356	越	yuè	[as in 越...越] (the more ...) the more
357	准	zhǔn	allow, permit
358	城	chéng	town, city; city wall
359	团	tuán	something with a round shape, ball, wad; group; regiment; [short form fo...
360	根	gēn	[measure word for long and slender objects]
361	包	bāo	pack, wrap; assure, guarantee; undertake the whole thing; hire
362	历	lì	—
363	满	mǎn	full
364	运	yùn	transport
365	造	zào	make, build; make up
366	空	kōng, kòng	empty, hollow; blank; vacant
367	元	yuán	[Chinese currency unit] yuan
368	写	xiě	write
369	转	zhuǎn, zhuàn	change, shift; pass on; rotate, resolve; turn
370	找	zhǎo	look for
371	男	nán	male, man
372	取	qǔ	get, take, fetch
373	精	jīng	clever, shrewd; refined; exquisite; adept, skilled
374	究	jiū	after all; to investigate; to study carefully; Taiwan pr.

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375	山	shān	mountain, hill
376	言	yán	speech, word
377	啊	a, ā	[modal particle showing affirmation, approval, or consent]
378	且	qiě, jū	(both ...) and; even, furthermore
379	科	kē	branch of study; division, section
380	片	piàn, piān	[measure word for flat and thin pieces] slice; [with — as in 一片 used for...
381	济	jì, jǐ	used in place names associated with the Ji River 济水; surname Ji
382	半	bàn	half
383	远	yuǎn, yuàn	far
384	便	biàn, pián	[similar to 就] soon afterwards, just
385	考	kǎo	take an examination, test or quiz, test
386	失	shī	lose
387	况	kuàng	moreover; situation
388	组	zǔ	group; set
389	连	lián	[as in 连...都(也) ...] even
390	基	jī	base, foundation
391	早	zǎo	early
392	确	què	indeed, really
393	级	jí	[measure word for levels, grades and ranks, etc.]; [measure word for stai...
394	请	qǐng	please (do something); ask (somebody to do something); invite
395	设	shè	set up, establish
396	海	hǎi	sea
397	乐	lè, yuè	happy, joyful
398	议	yì	to comment on; to discuss; to suggest
399	火	huǒ	fire
400	争	zhēng	contend for, vie for; argue
401	照	zhào	shine, beam, light up; reflect, mirror
402	病	bìng	illness, ailment
403	离	lí	leave, be away
404	类	lèi	[measure word for a class of similar persons or things] category, kind, sort
405	极	jí	extremely
406	断	duàn	break
407	达	dá	attain, reach; amount to
408	较	jiào	[preceding an adjective or adverb to form a comparison] relatively

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409	热	rè	hot
410	首	shǒu	head
411	规	guī	—
412	集	jí	gather, collect; centre on
413	校	xiào, jiào	school
414	众	zhòng	numerous
415	球	qiú	ball
416	节	jié, jiē	festival, holiday; section, division; node, joint; critical juncture
417	专	zhuān	specially, specifically
418	共	gòng, gōng	all together
419	权	quán	power, authority; right
420	却	què	but
421	兴	xīng, xìng	prevail, be in fashion; promote; permit, allow
422	研	yán, yàn	to grind; study; research
423	据	jù, jū	according to
424	房	fáng	room
425	选	xuǎn	choose
426	台	tái, tāi	[measure word for machines, and also performances, etc.]
427	史	shǐ	history
428	切	qiè, qiē	cut, carve
429	农	nóng	agriculture, farming
430	备	bèi	get ready; prepare against; be available, be equipped with
431	格	gé, gē	used in 格登; used in 格格
432	功	gōng	merit, achievement; skill
433	千	qiān	1,000
434	质	zhì	quality; substance
435	客	kè	guest; customer
436	落	luò, là	fall, drop; lower; fall behind
437	哪	nǎ, na	what, which, where, how
438	价	jià, jiè	price
439	响	xiǎng	loud; noisy
440	则	zé	[indicating cause, condition, contrast, etc.] then
441	念	niàn	read aloud; think of, miss; attend school
442	参	cān, shēn	used in 参差

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#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
443	段	duàn	section, part; length (of time or distance); paragraph
444	育	yù, yō	give birth; raise, keep; educate
445	欢	huān	—
446	证	zhèng	certificate, papers; proof, evidence
447	党	dǎng	(political) party
448	示	shì	show
449	士	shì	member of the senior ministerial class (old); scholar (old); bachelor...
450	企	qǐ	(bound form) to stand on tiptoe and look; to anticipate; to look forwa...
451	易	yì	easy
452	需	xū	need, require
453	随	suí	along with
454	标	biāo	mark; sign; label; to mark with a symbol, label, lettering etc; to bea...
455	习	xí	(bound form) to practice; to study; habit; custom
456	消	xiāo	disappear, cause to disappear
457	息	xī	(bank) interest; breath; news
458	装	zhuāng	pack, load; fix, install; pretend; play the role of
459	举	jǔ	lift, raise; enumerate, give (an example)
460	医	yī	medical science, medicine; doctor, physician
461	底	dǐ, de	bottom, base; end (of month or year); draft copy, duplicate copy for file...
462	注	zhù	annotate; pour, inject; concentrate
463	轻	qīng	light
464	青	qīng	blue, green, cyan
465	谁	shuí, shéi	who
466	呀	ya, yā	[sentence final particle]
467	支	zhī	[measure word used for long and inflexible objects such as pens, arrows...
468	晚	wǎn	late
469	官	guān	official, officer
470	具	jù	possess, have
471	演	yǎn	perform, play, show
472	府	fǔ	seat of government; government repository (archive); official residenc...
473	土	tǔ	earth, soil
474	紧	jǐn	tight
475	态	tài	form, appearance; state
476	够	gòu	enough, sufficient

Top 500 Chinese Characters

#	Character	Pinyin	Meaning
477	妈	mā	ma, mum
478	突	tū	to dash; to move forward quickly; to bulge; to protrude; to break thro...
479	局	jú	bureau, office; state of affairs
480	线	xiàn	line; thread
481	技	jì	skill
482	八	bā	eight
483	费	fèi	expend; consume too much, be wasteful
484	号	hào, háo	[measure word for workmen]; kind, sort
485	刚	gāng	just, barely; just now
486	推	tuī	push
487	即	jí	is; that is
488	笑	xiào	laugh, smile
489	存	cún	exist; deposit; accumulate; check (luggage), leave something with some...
490	引	yǐn	cause, make; guide, lead; quote, cite
491	喜	xǐ	happy, delighted, joyful
492	留	liú	remain, stay; reserve, save for future use; leave behind
493	势	shì	power, influence; momentum, tendency; situation
494	马	mǎ	horse
495	双	shuāng	double; even (as opposed to odd)
496	复	fù	again
497	足	zú	enough, adequate, sufficient
498	严	yán	strict, stern; (air- or water-) tight
499	终	zhōng	finally
500	站	zhàn	stand