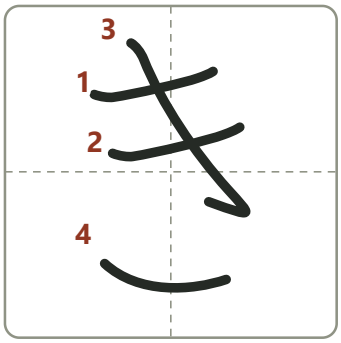
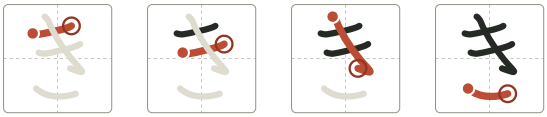
き · ki

Ki in hiragana is き. Written by hand it has 4 strokes; print often joins the lower part.



Writing model

Joined, in print: read it, but copy the writing model



1 2 3 4

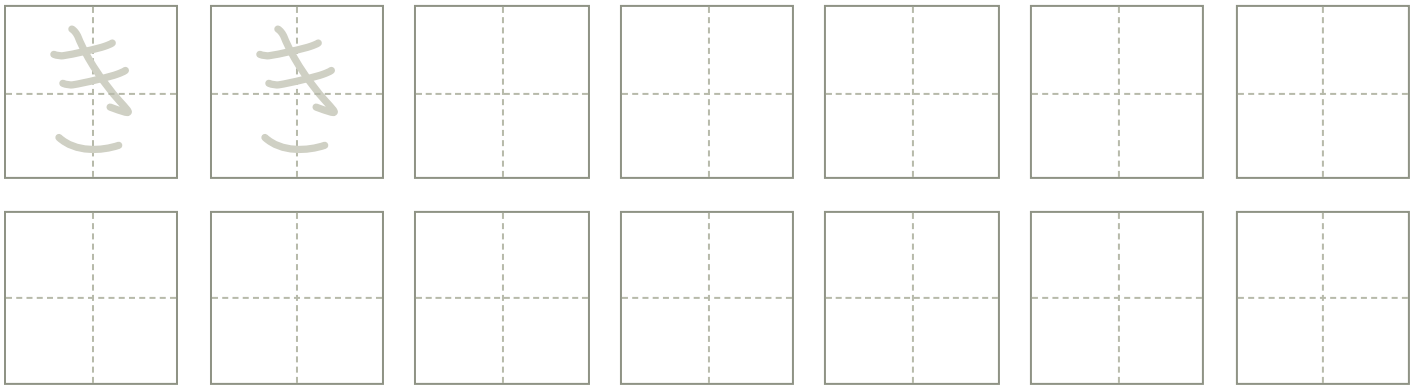
Write it, stroke by stroke.

1. Starts left of center, near the top; a short line rising gently right. — stop (とめ)
2. Starts under stroke 1, above the middle; a second, slightly longer line. — stop (とめ)
3. Starts at the top; slants down across both lines, then flicks left. — hook (はね)
4. A separate stroke: starts low left and curves right like a shallow bowl. — stop (とめ)

Watch for: Writing the two top lines far apart. **Fix:** Keep the second line above the horizontal center line, as far below the first as in the model: not far apart, not squeezed together.

えき · eki · station　　きく · kiku · to listen; to hear; to ask　　きれい · kirei · pretty; clean

Trace, copy, then cover the model and write from memory.



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Printed example: Hiragana letter Ki, Person or Persons Unknown, outlined from Noto Serif CJK JP · CC BY-SA 4.0 · commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hiragana_letter_Ki.svg

Draft teaching content; Japanese educator review pending. Generated audio: see full guide.
Full guide and sources: minimachi.com/hiragana/ki/