Genkouyoushi Grids: Square Character Cells for Japanese Writing Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A grid has 6 columns with a 12 mm square cell and no furigana strip. What is the writing-area width?

Answer: 72 mm.

Reason: 6 columns times 12 mm per column equals 72 mm.

Check: Multiply column count by cell width and verify with repeated addition: 12+12+12+12+12+12=72.

Task 2

A furigana variant uses a 9 mm square cell and a 3 mm strip. What is the column pitch, and is the main cell still square?

Answer: Column pitch is 12 mm; the main cell remains 9 mm by 9 mm and is square.

Reason: Pitch is cell plus strip: 9+3=12 mm. The strip is separate, so the cell dimensions do not change.

Check: Confirm cell width equals cell height (9 mm = 9 mm) and pitch equals 12 mm.

Task 3

Design a short practice page with 5 rows and 4 columns, one character per cell, and state the reading direction.

Answer: A valid design uses a 4-column by 5-row grid, one character per square cell, with a stated direction such as vertical columns read top to bottom and right to left.

Reason: Multiple layouts are valid; the key is square cells, clear guides, and an explicit direction.

Check: Use the rubric: square cells, clear guides, one character per cell, direction stated.

Task 4

You want furigana beside each cell but your column pitch is 14 mm and your cell is 10 mm. What strip width remains, and what caution applies?

Answer: The strip width is 4 mm. Caution: keep the strip narrower than the cell and measure your actual paper and printer; 14 mm is a hypothetical planning value.

Reason: Subtract cell width from pitch: 14-10=4 mm. The strip must remain an annotation area, not a second character cell.

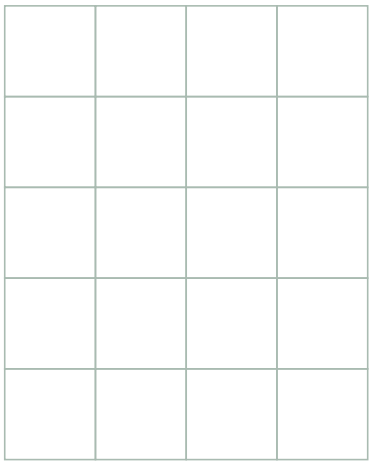
Check: Verify 10+4=14 mm and confirm the strip is visually narrower than the cell.

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Task 3 / square-cell layout example

Task 3: 4 columns x 5 rows; one character per square cell.

Schematic cell size; task does not specify physical cell dimensions.



Reading-direction example: down each column, with columns ordered from right to left. Empty cells are deliberate: supply your own characters, one per cell.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Every main character cell is square within the stated tolerance.
- [ ] Row and column guides clearly separate cells.
- [ ] Furigana strip, if present, is narrower than the main cell and consistently placed.
- [ ] One character occupies one main cell in the practice sample.
- [ ] Legend or instructions state writing direction and furigana convention.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?