

# hokkaido *Life*

## GETTING A MOBILE PHONE

*The links in these documents contain information to make your life in Hokkaido easier and more enjoyable. Access each link and add it to your favourites list.*

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Here is what you'll need to get a mobile phone:

- Hanko or official personal seal (your office should have made one for you before you got here, or should now be in the process of making one).
- Gaijin Card (Passport may not cut it.)
- Money (Depending on how much the phone you want you might want to bring 30,000円. Check out prices before you go.)
- Your address & home phone number (in Japanese if you can, it should be on your Gaijin Card though)
- Credit Card if you want to pay that way, otherwise you can be billed and pay by convenience store.
- You can also bring your bank account information to have it debited, but you'll need an official seal to do that (an inkan).
- You may need your Japan Health Insurance Card for ID purposes. A receipt with your address, such as a gas bill, should work too.
- It also might be a good idea to bring along a Japanese friend to help explain the multitude of different plans available. Usually, the paperwork is done in under an hour, and you should be talking very quickly.
- For [\[NTT Docomo\]](#), bring this number in case you need it: 012-036-4463. It's their English help line, and if the store doesn't call first, you can and they will help you.

- For [[au](#)], bring this number: 0077-7-111. It's their English help line, and if the store doesn't call first, you can and they will help you.
- For [[SoftBank](#)], bring this number: 0088-21-2000 and then press '8' for English support. If the store doesn't call first, you can and they will help you.

Check out their websites first to review the cell phones and service plans so you know what you want ahead of time. As far as coverage goes, NTT Docomo is the best followed by au and SoftBank. All have English speaking support. Don't worry though; the store will help you through everything. Service is great here in Japan. You might want to find out what your friends/teachers have so you can be on the same network to save money.

Also, pretty much any mobile phone for sale in Japan today has the ability to send and receive e-mail to and from any computer in the world. You can use your phone to connect to the internet, but unless you have packet-hodai (unlimited use), it will cost you.

As always, the official [hajat|forum](#) is where you will find all the answers to any questions you may have regarding life in Hokkaido.

*HAJET kindly asks you to use paper wisely and only print this document if you really, really must. LOVE HOKKAIDO, LOVE THE ENVIRONMENT!*

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## USEFUL RESOURCES

HAJET   Forum	<a href="http://www.hokkaidojets.org">www.hokkaidojets.org</a>
JNTO	<a href="http://www.jnto.go.jp">www.jnto.go.jp</a>
Japan Visitor	<a href="http://www.japanvisitor.com">www.japanvisitor.com</a>
NTT Docomo	<a href="http://www.nttdocomo.co.jp/english/">www.nttdocomo.co.jp/english/</a>
au	<a href="http://www.au.kddi.com/english/">www.au.kddi.com/english/</a>
Softbank	<a href="http://mb.softbank.jp">http://mb.softbank.jp</a>

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