

Japanese nicknames

One way of making nicknames in Japanese is to add the suffix [-tʃAN] to a shortened form of the name. Here are some nicknames formed this way.

- What kind of phonological restriction does the suffix [-tʃAN] place on its base?

(a) [hanako] → [hana-tʃAN] [osamu] → [osa-tʃAN]

(b) [ʃu:suke] → [ʃu:tʃAN] [keiko] → [kei-tʃAN]
[dʒuŋko] → [dʒun-tʃAN]

(c) [akiko] → [ako-tʃAN] [masako] → [mako-tʃAN]

(d) [hiroko] → [hii-tʃAN] [natsuko] → [nat-tʃAN]
[jasuko] → [jat-tʃAN]