

LESSON NOTES

# Learn Cantonese in Three Minutes #9 Measure Words

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# VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
對	deoi3	pair of	measure word
個	go3	(measure word)	measure word
件	gin6	unit	classifier
條	tiu4	a piece of	measure word
幾錢	gei2 cin2	How much...?	phrase

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

一對襪子 <i>jat1 deoi3 maat6 zi2</i> pair of socks	我有兩個姊姊。 <i>ngo5 jau5 loeng5 go3 ze4 ze1.</i> I have two older sisters.
我需要二十件呢個型號嘅。 <i>ngo5 seoi1 jiu3 ji6 sap6 gin6 ni1 go3 jing4 hou6 ge3.</i> I need twenty units of this model.	呢條線。 <i>ni1 tiu4 sin3.</i> This line.
嗰個幾錢? <i>go2 go3 gei2 cin2?</i> How much is that?	

## GRAMMAR

**The focus of this lesson is using Cantonese measure words.**

**Topic 1: How to use Cantonese Measure Words.**

1. "How much is this?" while pointing to a shirt, just substitute 個 *go3* with the measure word for "shirt," 件 *gin6*. 依件幾錢呀? *ji1 gin6 gei2 cin2 aa6?*
2. If you know the Cantonese word for "shirt," 衫 *saam1*, feel free to add it AFTER the measure word.  
依件衫幾錢呀? *ji1 gin6 saam1 gei2 cin2 aa6?*  
"How much is this shirt?"
3. Do you remember how to say "how much is that" from last lesson?  
嗰個幾錢呀? *go2 go3 gei2 cin2 aa6?*  
Now, how to ask "how much is that?" while pointing to a shirt? It is 嗰件幾錢呀?  
*go2 gin6 gei2 cin2 aa6?*
4. To say "four shirts" in Cantonese, start with the amount number, then the measure word, followed by the noun. 四件衫 *sei3 gin6 saam1*

### Language Tip!

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The measure word 件 *gin6* generally covers all tops, shirt, t-shirt, and jackets.

For clothing that you wear on the lower body, like pants, dresses, or leggings, the measure word is 條 *tiu4*

Example: 一條裙 *yat1 tiu4 kwan4* "one dress"

For anything that comes in a pair, like shoes and gloves, we use 對 *deoi*

Example: 一對鞋 *yat1 deoi3 haai4* "one pair of shoes"

Note that in Cantonese, pants and leggings are not considered a pair!