



Survival Phrases S1 Parting Cantonese Greetings

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Traditional Chinese

再見
再見喇
拜拜
遲啲見

Jyutping

zoi3 gin3
zoi3 gin3 laa6
baai1 baai3
ci4 di1 gin3

English

Good-bye.(formal)
Good-bye.
Bye bye.
See you later.

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Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
再見	zoi3 gin3	good-bye
再見喇	zoi3 gin3 laa1	good-bye
拜拜	baai1 baai3	bye-bye
遲啲見	ci4 di1 gin3	see you later

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

下次再見。
再見喇。
拜拜。

haa6 ci3 zoi3 gin3.
zoi3 gin3 laa6.
baai1 baai3.

See you next time.
Good-bye.
Bye-bye.

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遲啲見。

ci4 di1 gin3.

See you later.

Grammar Points

A parting greeting suitable for any occasion is 再見 (zoi3 gin3), which literally means "again see." Both of the syllables zoi3 and gin3 are mid, flat tones. This parting greeting is also perfect for occasions that are more formal. You can make this less formal by using 再見喇 (zoi3 gin3 laa6), which is commonly used between close friends. Cantonese has also taken a loanword from English, and it is not uncommon to hear 拜拜 (baai1 baai3) being used instead of 再見, especially among the younger generation. Finally, a casual way of saying "See you later" is 遲啲見 (ci4 di1 gin3). The direct translation is "Later see." 遲 (ci4) is the lowest tone and means "later," while 啲 is the Cantonese version of "-er" in English. 見 (gin3) is the verb "to see."

Cultural Insight

Quick Tip: 1

Many native Hong Kongers have completely adopted the English word "Good-bye" pronouncing it 拜拜 (baai1 baai3).