AiBow Genkou

v1.0 — Japanese manuscript paper (genkou youshi) with text layout, for After Effects (Windows)

The easiest way to install and license is by using the aescripts + aeplugins manager: https://aescripts.com/learn/aescripts-aeplugins-manager-app/ To install a trial you can select 'Add Trial' from the 'Account' menu.

AiBow Genkou draws Japanese manuscript paper — the squared writing sheet used for essays and novels — in vertical (tategaki) or horizontal (yokogaki) layout, and fills it with your text, one character per cell, following the rules of Japanese typesetting.

Use it for title cards, lyric videos, literature and education content, or anywhere a handwritten-manuscript look is wanted. Cells can appear in reading order with one keyframed slider.

Installation

Manual installation:
1. Quit After Effects.
2. Copy `AiBowGenkou.aex` to `C:\Program Files\Adobe\Common\Plug-ins\7.0\MediaCore` (administrator rights required).
3. Restart After Effects. The effect appears under **Effect > AiBow Tools > AiBow Genkou**.

Licensing: apply the effect, click **Options...** next to the effect name in the Effect Controls panel, paste your license code and click **Activate**. Without a license the effect runs as a trial and draws a faint X over its output. If the X is still visible right after activating, After Effects is showing cached frames: choose **Edit > Purge > All Memory & Disk Cache** (or change any parameter).

System requirements: Windows 10/11 (64-bit), After Effects 2024 or later. 8, 16 and 32 bpc.

Quick start

1. Create a solid the size of the sheet and apply **Effect > AiBow Tools > AiBow Genkou**. A standard 20 × 20 vertical sheet appears.
2. To add text: make a text layer containing your text (you can hide it), choose it in **Text > Text Source**, and click **Generate**. One text layer per line is created and parented to the sheet.
3. Keyframe **Animation > Reveal** from 0 to 100 % to show the cells in reading order.

> Generated lines are normal text layers: add animators or effects to them freely. Generate again after editing the text (the previous lines are replaced); Remove deletes them.

Parameters

Writing	Vertical (right to left) or Horizontal (top to bottom).
Lines / Cells per Line	Grid size.
Fit to Layer / Fit Margin	Size the sheet to the layer automatically, with a margin in px. Off: use Cell Size.
Scale / Center	Overall size and position.

Line Gap / Cell Gap	Space between lines (for ruby) and between cells, as a fraction of a cell.
Center Gutter / Gutter Width	The central column with the fishtail mark, for even line counts.
Line Color, widths, Double Frame	Ruling color and widths of cells and frame.
Gutter Marks	Fishtail (gyobi) and bar, their color, positions and size.
Paper Fill / Composite	None, Whole Layer or Sheet Only; over, under or replacing the layer.
Reveal / Reveal Softness	Cells appear in reading order; softness = how many cells fade at once.
Text Size	Character size as a fraction of a cell.
Full-Width ASCII	Converts half-width letters and digits to full width so they fill one cell each.
Kinsoku	Line-start punctuation hangs at the end of the previous line, as in Japanese typesetting.

Support: please use the support tab on the product page at aescripts.com. Include your After Effects version, OS and steps to reproduce.
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