CHINESE BOOST

Architecture Chinese vocabulary list

117 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 105 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

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Architecture Chinese vocabulary list on the web
The same words as a CSV, for Anki or a spreadsheet
A free account, which keeps 简体 or 繁體, pinyin or 注音 and the rest of how you read Chinese on every device

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Elementary (HSK 1-3)

楼 樓

lóu floor / house with more than 1 story / storied building / surname Lou

> 我们在三楼。
> Wǒmen zài sān lóu.
> We're on the third floor.

门 門

mén gate / door / doorway / gateway / opening / classifier for courses, fields of study, branches of technology, relatives by marriage, guns etc / family / household / lineage / class / category / division / phylum / sect / school / faction (religious or academic) / surname Men / way to do sth / knack / method / approach / valve / switch / other door-like or gate-like structure / -gate (scandal)

> 他站在门后。
> Tā zhàn zài mén hòu.
> He was standing behind the door.

房子

fángzi house / building (single- or two-story) / apartment / room

> 房子漂亮吗?
> Fángzi piàoliang ma?
> Is the house beautiful?

层 層

céng layer / stratum / floor (of a building) / story / to pile on top of one another / sheaf / classifier for layers

> 你们的办公室在几层?
> Nǐmen de bàngōngshì zài jǐ céng?
> Which floor is your office on?

楼梯 樓梯

lóutī stair / staircase

> 他爬上了楼梯。
> Tā pá shàng le lóutī.
> He climbed the stairs.

电梯 電梯

diàntī elevator / escalator

> 电梯又坏了。
> Diàntī yòu huàile.
> The elevator's out again.

小区 小區

xiǎoqū housing estate / community / neighborhood / cell

> 我们小区晚上很安静。
> Wǒmen xiǎoqū wǎnshang hěn ānjìng.
> Our neighborhood is very quiet at night.

Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

窗户 窗戶

chuānghu window

> 别忘记关窗户。
> Bié wàngjì guān chuānghu.
> Remember to shut the windows.

桥 橋

qiáo bridge
qiāo mountain sledge / mountain-travel conveyance / swift / vigorous / to correct / to straighten / perverse / false

> 那座桥不长。
> Nà zuò qiáo bù cháng.
> That bridge isn't long.

院子

yuànzi courtyard / garden / yard / patio / servant

> 他在院子里等我。
> Tā zài yuànzi lǐ děng wǒ.
> He is waiting for me in the yard.

材料

cáiliào material / data / person who has the potential to do the job

> 材料将被提供。
> Cáiliào jiāng bèi tígōng.
> Materials will be provided.

基础 基礎

jīchǔ base / foundation / basis / basic / fundamental

> 数学是所有科学的基础。
> Shùxué shì suǒyǒu kēxué de jīchǔ.
> Mathematics are the foundation of all sciences.

建筑 建築

jiànzhù building / to construct

> 他设计了新建筑。
> Tā shèjìle xīn jiànzhù.
> He designed the new building.

墙 牆

qiáng wall / to block (a website) (usu. in the passive: 被牆|被墙 [bei4 qiang2])

> 画挂在墙上。
> Huà guà zài qiáng shàng.
> The picture is hanging on the wall.

屋顶 屋頂

wūdǐng roof

高楼 高樓

gāolóu high building / multistory building / skyscraper

> 城市里的高楼越来越多。
> Chéngshì lǐ de gāolóu yuèláiyuè duō.
> There are more and more tall buildings in the city.

大厦 大廈

dàshà (used in the names of grand buildings such as 百老匯大厦|百老汇大厦 Broadway Mansions (in Shanghai) or 帝國大廈|帝国大厦 Empire State Building etc)

> 请问，海洋大厦怎么走?
> Qǐngwèn, hǎiyáng dàshà zěnme zǒu?
> Excuse me, how do I get to Ocean Mansions?

盖 蓋

gài to build / to cover / to conceal / lid / top / cover / canopy / to stamp (a seal) / to surpass / to outdo / probably / for (giving a reason)
gě surname Ge

> 冬天我盖一条被子。
> Dōngtiān wǒ gài yìtiáo bèizi.
> In winter, I cover myself with a quilt.

建

jiàn to establish / to found / to set up / to build / to construct

> 这是谁建的?
> Zhè shì shéi jiàn de?
> Who built it?

建造

jiànzào to construct / to build

> 桥在建造中。
> Qiáo zài jiànzào zhōng.
> The bridge is under construction.

建设 建設

jiànshè to build / to construct / to establish / to develop / to institute

> 城市建设为什么要以人为本?
> Chéngshì jiànshè wèishénme yào yǐrénwéiběn?
> Why should urban development be people-oriented?

设计 設計

shèjì to design / to plan / design / plan

> 他设计了新建筑。
> Tā shèjìle xīn jiànzhù.
> He designed the new building.

结构 結構

jiégòu structure / composition / makeup / architecture

> 这座桥的结构很特别。
> Zhè zuò qiáo de jiégòu hěn tèbié.
> The structure of this bridge is very unusual.

风格 風格

fēnggé style

> 不是你的风格。
> Bú shì nǐ de fēnggé.
> It's not your style.

古代

gǔdài ancient times

> 他喜欢读古代经典。
> Tā xǐhuan dú gǔdài jīngdiǎn.
> He likes reading the ancient classics.

传统 傳統

chuántǒng tradition / traditional

> 中华传统节日有很多。
> Zhōnghuá chuántǒng jiérì yǒu hěn duō.
> There are many traditional Chinese festivals.

古老

gǔlǎo ancient / old / age-old

> 希腊是个古老的国家。
> Xīlà shì gè gǔlǎo de guójiā.
> Greece is an old country.

木头 木頭

mùtou wood / log / wooden; expressionless / blockhead / dolt

> 一个木头碗。
> Yí gè mùtou wǎn.
> A wooden bowl.

阳台 陽臺

yángtái balcony / porch

> 我在阳台上。
> Wǒ zài yángtái shàng.
> I'm on the balcony.

大门 大門

dàmén entrance / door / gate / large and influential family / the Doors, US rock band

> 学校的大门是红色的。
> Xuéxiào de dàmén shì hóngsè de.
> The school gate is red.

广场 廣場

guǎngchǎng public square / plaza

> 我要去广场。
> Wǒ yào qù guǎngchǎng.
> I'm going to the square.

工程

gōngchéng engineering / an engineering project / project / undertaking

> 新桥工程什么时候完成?
> Xīn qiáo gōngchéng shénme shíhou wánchéng?
> When will the new bridge project be finished?

工程师 工程師

gōngchéngshī engineer

> 我是一名工程师。
> Wǒ shì yì míng gōngchéngshī.
> I'm an engineer.

装修 裝修

zhuāngxiū to decorate / interior decoration / to fit up / to renovate

> 装修还不错。
> Zhuāngxiū hái búcuò.
> The decorating isn't bad.

装饰 裝飾

zhuāngshì to decorate / decoration / decorative / ornamental

> 这座楼的装饰很简单。
> Zhè zuò lóu de zhuāngshì hěn jiǎndān.
> The decoration of this building is very simple.

拆

chāi to tear apart / to tear open / to tear down / to open

> 请帮我拆这个快递。
> Qǐng bāng wǒ chāi zhège kuàidì.
> Please help me open this package.

现代化 現代化

xiàndàihuà modernization

> 农业现代化让农民的生活好多了。
> Nóngyè xiàndàihuà ràng nóngmín de shēnghuó hǎo duō le.
> Agricultural modernization has made farmers' lives much better.

空间 空間

kōngjiān space / room / scope / leeway / outer space / (physics, math.) space

> 床占了很多空间。
> Chuáng zhànle hěn duō kōngjiān.
> The bed took up a lot of space.

面积 面積

miànjī area (of a floor, piece of land etc) / surface area / tract of land

> 这家店的面积大于那家。
> Zhè jiā diàn de miànjī dàyú nà jiā.
> This shop is bigger in area than that one.

公寓

gōngyù apartment building / block of flats (may be a public housing block or a condominium etc)

> 公寓有花园吗?
> Gōngyù yǒu huāyuán ma?
> Does the apartment have a garden?

车库 車庫

chēkù garage

> 你有车库吗?
> Nǐ yǒu chēkù ma?
> Do you have a garage?

修建

xiūjiàn to build / to construct

> 那座桥是罗马人修建的。
> Nà zuò qiáo shì Luómǎ rén xiūjiàn de.
> The bridge was built by the Romans.

台阶 臺階

táijiē steps / flight of steps / step (over obstacle) / fig. way out of an embarrassing situation / bench (geology)

> 小心，台阶很滑!
> Xiǎoxīn, táijiē hěn huá!
> Careful, the steps are slippery!

塔

tǎ pagoda (abbr. for 塔婆[ta3 po2], a loanword from Sanskrit stūpa) / tower / pylon / (pastry) tart

> 那是一座塔。
> Nà shì yí zuò tǎ.
> That's a tower.

砖 磚

zhuān brick / tile (floor or wall, not roof)

tuán to knead into a lump / to press together

> 工人正在用砖盖一堵墙。
> Gōngrén zhèngzài yòng zhuān gài yì dǔ qiáng.
> The workers are building a wall with bricks.

水泥

shuǐní cement

> 工人正在用水泥铺这条路。
> Gōngrén zhèngzài yòng shuǐní pū zhè tiáo lù.
> The workers are paving this road with cement.

走廊

zǒuláng corridor / aisle / hallway / passageway / veranda

> 窗户还是走廊?
> Chuānghu háishi zǒuláng?
> Window or aisle?

园林 園林

yuánlín gardens / park / landscape garden

> 我爷爷退休后在园林里工作。
> Wǒ yéye tuìxiū hòu zài yuánlín lǐ gōngzuò.
> After retiring, my grandfather worked in a park.

工地

gōngdì construction site

> 工地上发生了意外。
> Gōngdì shàng fāshēngle yìwài.
> There was an accident at the building site.

改造

gǎizào to transform / to reform / to remodel / to remold

> 我们打算改造厨房。
> Wǒmen dǎsuàn gǎizào chúfáng.
> We plan to remodel the kitchen.

修复 修復

xiūfù to restore / to renovate / to repair (a corrupted file etc)

> 坏掉的文件能修复吗?
> Huàidiào de wénjiàn néng xiūfù ma?
> Can the corrupted file be repaired?

坚固 堅固

jiāngù firm / firmly / hard / stable

> 这座老桥看起来很坚固。
> Zhè zuò lǎo qiáo kànqǐlai hěn jiāngù.
> This old bridge looks very sturdy.

对称 對稱
duìchèn symmetry / symmetrical
> 蝴蝶的翅膀左右对称。
> Húdié de chìbǎng zuǒyòu duìchèn.
> A butterfly's wings are symmetrical left and right.

住宅
zhùzhái residence / dwelling / abode
> 住宅附近有超市吗?
> Zhùzhái fùjìn yǒu chāoshì ma?
> Is there a supermarket near the residence?

构造 構造
gòuzào structure / composition / tectonic (geology)
> 这台机器的构造很复杂。
> Zhè tái jīqì de gòuzào hěn fùzá.
> The structure of this machine is very complicated.

桥梁 橋梁
qiáoliáng bridge (lit. and fig.)
> 翻译是语言之间的桥梁。
> Fānyì shì yǔyán zhījiān de qiáoliáng.
> Translation is a bridge between languages.

拆除
chāichú to tear down / to demolish / to dismantle / to remove
> 那座旧楼下个月就要拆除了。
> Nà zuò jiù lóuxià ge yuè jiùyào chāichúle.
> That old building will be demolished next month.

Intermediate (HSK 4-6), part 2

建筑物 建築物
jiànzhùwù building / structure / edifice
> 我在建筑物后面停车。
> Wǒ zài jiànzhùwù hòumian tíngchē.
> I parked behind the building.

墙壁 牆壁
qiángbì wall
> 请不要在墙壁上乱画。
> Qǐng búyào zài qiángbì shàng luànhuà.
> Please don't scribble on the walls.

栋 棟
dòng classifier for houses or buildings / ridgepole (old)
> 那栋房子很大。
> Nà dòng fángzi hěn dà.
> That house is big.

楼道 樓道
lóudào corridor / passageway (in storied building)
> 楼道里的灯坏了。
> Lóudào lǐ de dēng huàile.
> The light in the corridor is broken.

Advanced (HSK 7-9)

宫殿 宮殿
gōngdiàn palace
> 国王住在高高的宫殿里。
> Guówáng zhù zài gāo gāo de gōngdiàn lǐ.
> The king lives in a tall palace.

寺庙 寺廟
sìmiào temple / monastery / shrine
> 让我们明天参观一些寺庙。
> Ràng wǒmen míngtiān cānguān yìxiē sìmiào.
> Let's visit some temples tomorrow.

民居
mínjū houses / homes
> 洪水冲进了附近的民居。
> Hóngshuǐ chōngjìnle fùjìn de mínjū.
> The flood rushed into the nearby homes.

四合院
sìhéyuàn courtyard house with a fully enclosed courtyard (type of Chinese residence)

窑洞 窯洞
yáodòng yaodong (a kind of cave dwelling in the Loess Plateau in northwest China)
> 你去过西北，住过窑洞吗?
> Nǐ qùguo Xīběi, zhùguo yáodòng ma?
> Have you been to the northwest and stayed in a cave dwelling?

土楼 土樓
tǔlóu traditional Hakka communal residence in Fujian, typically a large multistory circular structure built around a central shrine
> 你去过福建的土楼吗?
> Nǐ qùguo Fújiàn de tǔlóu ma?
> Have you ever been to the earthen roundhouses in Fujian?

蒙古包
měnggǔbāo yurt
> 蒙古包拆装起来很方便。
> Měnggǔbāo chāizhuāng qǐlai hěn fāngbiàn.
> A yurt is very easy to take down and put up.

瓦
wǎ roof tile / made of baked clay / earthenware / watt
wà to lay tiles on a roof
> 老房子的瓦是红色的。
> Lǎo fángzi de wǎ shì hóngsè de.
> The tiles on the old house are red.

钢筋 鋼筋
gāngjīn steel reinforcing bar

混凝土
hùnníngtǔ concrete (building material)

地基
dìjī foundations (of a building) / base

梁
liáng bridge / roof beam / surname Liang / beam (structure) / Liang Dynasty (502–557) / Later Liang Dynasty (907–923)

> 房子的梁断了，快出来！
> Fángzi de liáng duànle, kuài chūlái!
> The beam of the house has snapped, get out quickly!

柱子
zhùzi pillar

> 他的头撞到了一根柱子。
> Tā de tóu zhuàng dàole yìgēn zhùzi.
> He bumped his head against a post.

屋檐 屋簷
wūyán eaves / roof (i.e. home)

> 屋檐下放个桶承接雨水。
> Wūyán xiàfàng gè tǒng chéngjiē yǔshuǐ.
> Put a bucket under the eaves to catch the rainwater.

围墙 圍牆
wéiqiáng perimeter wall / fence

> 藤蔓缠绕着旧围墙。
> Téngwàn chánràozhe jiù wéiqiáng.
> Vines are twining around the old wall.

城墙 城牆
chéngqiáng city wall

> 城墙上架着一门炮。
> Chéngqiáng shàng jià zhe yìmén pào.
> A cannon is mounted on the city wall.

亭子
tíngzi pavilion

> 快躲进亭子里避雨吧！
> Kuài duǒ jìn tíngzi lǐ bìyǔ ba!
> Quick, take shelter from the rain in the pavilion!

施工
shīgōng construction / to carry out construction or large-scale repairs

> 我们立即开始施工。
> Wǒmen lìjí kāishǐ shīgōng.
> We'll begin work soon.

建筑师 建築師
jiànzhùshī architect

设计师 設計師
shèjìshī designer / architect

图纸 圖紙
túzhǐ blueprint / drawing / design plans / graph paper

> 你会绘制建筑图纸吗？
> Nǐ huì huìzhì jiànzhù túzhǐ ma?
> Can you draw architectural blueprints?

拆迁 拆遷
chāiqiān to demolish a building and relocate the inhabitants

> 这个老小区明年就要拆迁了。
> Zhège lǎo xiǎoqū míngnián jiùyào chāiqiānle.
> This old neighborhood will be demolished next year.

宏伟 宏偉
hóngwěi grand / imposing / magnificent

> 他有一个宏伟的目标。
> Tā yǒu yí gè hóngwěi de mùbiāo.
> He has a grand goal.

雄伟 雄偉
xióngwěi grand / imposing / magnificent / majestic

> 长城看起来非常雄伟。
> Chángchéng kànqǐlai fēicháng xióngwěi.
> The Great Wall looks very grand.

壮观 壯觀
zhuàngguān spectacular / magnificent sight

> 壮观的景色震撼了游客。
> Zhuàngguān de jǐngsè zhènhànle yóukè.
> The magnificent scenery stunned the tourists.

豪华 豪華
háohuá luxurious

> 邻居家的客厅装修得非常豪华。
> Línjū jiā de kètīng zhuāngxiū de fēicháng háohuá.
> The neighbor's living room is decorated very luxuriously.

布局 佈局
bùjú arrangement / composition / layout / opening (chess jargon)

> 这间房子的布局很合理。
> Zhè jiān fángzi de bùjú hěn hélǐ.
> The layout of this house is very sensible.

格局
géjú structure / pattern / layout

> 这套房子的格局你满意吗？
> Zhè tào fángzi de géjú nǐ mǎnyì ma?
> Are you happy with the layout of this apartment?

采光 採光
cǎiguāng to get natural light (e.g. through a window)

> 这间客厅的采光很好。
> Zhè jiān kètīng de cǎiguāng hěn hǎo.
> This living room gets a lot of natural light.

抗震
kàngzhèn anti-seismic measures / seismic defenses / earthquake resistant

摩天大楼 摩天大樓
mótiāndàlóu skyscraper

别墅 別墅
biéshù villa

> 这栋别墅的主人是谁？
> Zhè dòng biéshù de zhǔrén shì shéi?
> Who owns this villa?

厂房 廠房
chǎngfáng a building used as a factory / factory (building)

雕刻
diāokè to carve / to engrave / carving

> 能在杯子上雕刻几个字吗？
> Néng zài bēizi shàng diāokè jǐ ge zì ma?
> Can you engrave a few words on this cup?

兴建 興建
xīngjiàn to build / to construct

> 村里要兴建一条新公路。
> Cūnlǐ yào xīngjiàn yìtiáo xīn gōnglù.
> The village is going to construct a new road.

扩建 擴建
kuòjiàn to extend (a building, an airport runway etc)

> 市政府打算扩建这座机场。
> Shìzhèngfǔ dǎsuàn kuòjiàn zhè zuò jīchǎng.
> The city government plans to extend this airport.

建筑群 建築群
jiànzhùqún building complex / cluster of buildings

> 故宫是一个很大的建筑群。
> Gùgōng shì yí gè hěn dà de jiànzhùqún.
> The Forbidden City is a very large building complex.

营造 營造
yíngzào to build (housing) / to construct / to make

> 他想营造浪漫的情调。
> Tā xiǎng yíngzào làngmàn de qíngdiào.
> He wants to create a romantic mood.

框架
kuàngjià frame / framework

> 整个框架由铁金属制成。
> Zhěnggè kuàngjià yóu tiě jīnshǔ zhìchéng.
> The whole framework was made of iron.

栏杆 欄杆
lángān railing / banister

> 他在栏杆之后。
> Tā zài lángān zhīhòu.
> He is behind the railing.

棚
péng shed / shack / canopy

> 太阳太大，快到棚下面坐吧。
> Tàiyang tài dà, kuài dào péng xiàmiàn zuò ba.
> The sun is too strong, so come sit under the canopy.

竣工
jùngōng to complete a project

> 新学校下个月就能竣工了。
> Xīn xuéxiào xiàgeyuè jiù néng jùngōngle.
> The new school can be completed next month.

落成
luòchéng to complete a construction project

> 新图书馆明年春天就要落成了。
> Xīn túshūguǎn míngnián chūntiān jiùyào luòchéngle.
> The new library will be completed next spring.

绘制 繪製
huìzhì to draw / to draft (a map, blueprint, diagram, illustration etc)

> 你会绘制建筑图纸吗？
> Nǐ huì huìzhì jiànzhù túzhǐ ma?
> Can you draw architectural blueprints?

幢
zhuàng classifier for buildings / curtain hung over boat or carriage windows
chuáng banner / pennant (in ancient China)

> 这是幢老楼。
> Zhè shì zhuàng lǎo lóu.
> This is an old building.

动工 動工
dònggōng to start (a building project)

> 新医院下个月就要动工了。
> Xīn yīyuàn xiàgeyuè jiùyào dònggōng le.
> Construction of the new hospital will start next month.

庄园 莊園
zhuāngyuán manor / feudal land / villa and park

> 周末去庄园摘葡萄吧。
> Zhōumò qù zhuāngyuán zhāi pútao ba.
> Let's go pick grapes at the manor this weekend.

倒塌
dǎotā to collapse (of building) / to topple over

> 这堵旧墙会不会倒塌？
> Zhè dǔ jiù qiáng huì búhuì dǎotā?
> Might this old wall collapse?

阁楼 閣樓
gélóu garret / loft / attic

> 阁楼上积了灰。
> Gélóu shàng jīle huī.
> Dust had accumulated in the attic.

平房
píngfáng bungalow / single-story house

> 这一片的平房都要拆了。
> Zhè yípiàn de píngfáng dōu yào chāile.
> All the single-story houses in this area are going to be torn down.

Advanced (HSK 7-9), part 2

高层建筑 高層建築
gāocéngjiànzhù high-rise building / skyscraper

> 住在高层建筑里，风景很好。
> Zhù zài gāocéngjiànzhù lǐ, fēngjǐng hěn hǎo.
> Living in a high-rise building, you get a great view.

Outside HSK

斗拱

dǒugǒng dougong – an interlocking wooden bracket system between the top of a column and a crossbeam, used in traditional Chinese architecture to support overhanging roofs, composed of blocks and arms fitted together without nails

> 斗拱是中国古建筑的特色。
> Dǒugǒng shì Zhōngguó gǔ jiànzhù de tèsè.
> Dougong is a distinctive feature of ancient Chinese architecture.

牌坊

páifāng memorial arch

天窗

tiānchuāng hatchway / skylight / sun roof

> 阳光从天窗照进了房间。
> Yángguāng cóng tiānchuāng zhào jìnle fángjiān.
> Sunlight shone into the room through the skylight.

脚手架 腳手架

jiǎoshǒujià scaffolding

> 脚手架这么高，危险吗？
> Jiǎoshǒujià zhème gāo, wēixiǎn ma?
> The scaffolding is so high. Isn't it dangerous?

承重墙 承重牆

chéngzhòngqiáng load-bearing wall