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Editor's Note: This is the original Okinawa Hai post on Makeman. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2065. We've left all of your original comments in place on this post, but we thought after 7 years you might want a fresher take on the place.

CONTRIBUTED BY JEANINE CZUBIK

When I joined the Okinawa Hai editing team, I was surprised to learn that there was not a post on Makeman hardware/do it yourself store, so here it is to make the blog more complete. Many of you have been to one, but for those who haven't yet ventured there or are new to the island, this is the place most commonly referred to as the "monkey store".



There are several Makeman locations on Okinawa to fill your Home Depot-type needs of lumber, hardware, plant and gardening accessories, power tools, plumbing, and a wide range of household repair supplies.

In addition to the traditional hardware section, Makeman has a variety of mini-shops within the structure including house wares, personal goods, auto supplies and pet items.

The Mihama American Village Makeman boasts a great diving store, 100 yen shop and even a little furniture - like bunk beds. The location just south of the Makiminato intersection on 58 has a separate auto parts area and the gardening and pet shops are housed in buildings across the side street.

Living off-base, Makeman has been indispensable. Prices for the items I've purchased (bricks to close the balcony partition gap to prevent the kitties from visiting the neighbors, concrete drill bits and wall anchors to hang pictures in our mix of concrete and hollow walls, etc) have been very reasonably priced. I have also noticed great savings over the base exchanges on gardening items such as pots and tools.

What have been your must have Makeman purchases?