Editor's Note: This is the original Okinawa Hai post on Eagle Hardware. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2015. 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. That newer post can be seen at: http://okinawahai.com/eagle-hardware/

CONTRIBUTED BY JULIE BROWN

Do you live on base? Need lightbulbs? Screws? Baby safety gates? FOR FREE?? You need to check out Eagle hardware. I'm a military newbie so I was especially surprised to discover Eagle Hardware on Kadena AFB. It's a hardware store for folks who have on base housing. They supply basic essentials that you may need for your house.

These include things like energy saving light bulbs, air filters, shower heads, fire extinguishers, trash cans, sand bags, and plungers. There are also larger items like mini blinds and ceiling fans that you can install yourself. My favorite section is the one with all the baby safety locks and latches. You can also borrow drills to hang pictures in those darn cement walls and lawn equipment like hedgers and weed eaters. They even have machines for cleaning carpets!

There are some restrictions on how much stuff you can take. For example, each family is limited to two baby gates and 4 cans of paint a month. Also their inventory varies A LOT depending on time of year and whether they just got a new shipment in. Other than that the only other restriction is a $2000 maximum per family per year which, trust me, there's no way you can use all of.

When you check out, simply give them your house number and they charge a dollar amount for what you've bought and that comes off your yearly total. There's also an equivalent hardware store on Foster and some of the other bases but I've never been to them. It's a nice resource though given that some of this stuff on the Japanese market is very pricey and Home Depot is not exactly around the corner.