

Toilet Trouble in Tokyo

Last year, Ben travelled to Japan for a two-week holiday. He loved the food, the people, and the technology. But one day, something very strange happened.

He was visiting a shopping mall in Tokyo when he needed to use the toilet. He found a clean, high-tech bathroom with many buttons. While he was sitting, he saw the control panel next to him. It had pictures, but no English.

Ben was curious. “What does this button do?” he thought.

He pressed one.

Suddenly, water sprayed everywhere—on the wall, the door, and his pants!

He jumped up and shouted, “No, no, stop!” But the toilet didn’t understand.

While Ben was dancing around, trying to stop the water, the door opened. An old Japanese man looked inside, saw the wet foreigner, and slowly closed the door again.

Ben said later, “I just wanted to flush!”

It turned out that button was not the flush button. It was for the **bidet** — a water spray for cleaning. Japanese toilets often have many buttons for different functions, and sometimes it's easy to press the wrong one!