






## HouseTalk Download: What do you call your Thai housekeeper?


In the west, maid used to be the job description of choice but if you are striving to be politically correct it's since been replaced by housekeeper and other supposedly kinder terminology.

Thailand has gone through a change similar to the west so instead of สาวใช้ /sǎao-chái/ (girl who is used) or คนใช้ /kon-chái/ (person who is used), the generic term is now แม่บ้าน /mâe-bâan/ (housekeeper).

I'm also told that the Thai pronunciation of maid is not uncommon: เมต /mâyt/

To help you pronounce the Thai vocabulary correctly, below are the sound files with Thai script and transliteration. Repeatedly click the box next to the word to hear the sound (apologies in advance about being forced to make multiple clicks but this is the best I can do).

-  แม่บ้าน /mâe-bâan/  
Housekeeper (house mother)
-  เมต /mâyt/  
Housekeeper
-  คน ช่วย ทำงานบ้าน /kon chûay tam-nga-an-bâan/  
Person who helps with housework

 พี่เลี้ยง /pêe-líang/  
Nanny

 พี่ /pêe/  
Used when talking to someone older

น้อง /nóng/  
Used when talking to someone younger


น้า /náa/  
Mother's younger sister

ป้า /bpâa/  
Aunt, elder sister of parents

สาวใช้ /săao-chái/  
Girl who is used

คนใช้ /kon-chái/  
Person who is used

รับใช้ /ráp-chái/  
To serve

 ใช้ ไป ซื้อ /chái bpai séu/  
To send (someone) to buy

Note: The transliteration comes direct from [Thai2English.com](http://Thai2English.com) and is to be used for ballpark pronunciation only.

Oh, and these materials are for your own personal use only.

Read more: [HouseTalk: What Do You Call Your Thai Housekeeper?](#)

Catherine Wentworth  
Women Learning Thai... and some men too ;-)