

How to say 'Good' in Korean

Formal: 좋습니다 (jo-seum-ni-da): If you want to say something or a situation is good to someone of higher status than you, then use this. (126)

Polite: 좋아요 (jo-a-yo): To say something is good to someone you don't know well, use this. (127)

Casual: 좋아 (jal hae): Drop the '요' to use the casual form with your close friends and family. (128)

How to say 'What are you doing' in Korean

Formal: 뭐 하십니까? (mweo ha-sim-ni-kka): The chances are very low that you would use this in a formal situation except for maybe you're on the street and someone is acting weird. You could then use this question to inquire what they are doing while still sounding respectful. (129)

Polite: 뭐 하세요? (mweo ha-se-yo) / 뭐 해요? (mweo hae-yo): If someone is not that close to you, you can use these two. However, the first one is a bit more polite so use this one just to be safe. (130)

Casual: 뭐 해? (mweo hae) / 뭐 하니? (mweo ha-ni): Use these with close people you know. The last one is very casual. The '니' is used in casual forms when asking a question. (131)

How to say 'Happy' in Korean

Formal: 행복합니다 (haeng-bok-ham-ni-da): The verb form of happy is '행복하다'. Use this to people older than you or in formal situations like meetings, interviews, etc. (132)

기쁩니다 (gi-ppeum-ni-da): This second word is similar to happy but is better translated as glad. (133)

Polite: 행복해요 (haeng-bok-hae-yo) / 기뻐요 (gi-ppeo-yo): Change the endings to '요' to make these polite, but not too formal when talking to people you don't know. (134)

Casual: 행복해 (haeng-bok-hae) / 기뻐 (gi-ppeo): The casual forms you can use with your close friends and family. (135)

How to say 'Really' in Korean

Formal: 정말입니까? (jeong-mal-im-ni-kka): This is the formal form of 'really' phrased into a question. If you were at a business meeting with your boss, he may ask this to confirm something. It's basically the equivalent of "Did you really?", "Is that really true?". (136)

정말입니다 (jeong-mal-im-ni-da): You can use this to answer when someone uses the formal question above. (137)

Polite: 정말요 (jeongmallyo) / 진짜요 (jin-ja-yo): These are to be used with people older than you or

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with people you don't know very well or just met. Like the formal version, these can also be phrased as questions to confirm what someone said or to act surprised (Really? Seriously?) (138)

Casual: 정말 (jeongmal) / 진짜 (jin-ja): Use these with close friends and family. (139)

How to say 'You' in Korean

For the word you, we are going to show you the basic forms. However, it is better to address a person by their name or title as saying you can be rude or confrontational. To be safe, don't use these at all until you've become a bit more advanced at learning Korean

너 (neo): This has many different forms, but we will just stick with the basics. You would only find yourself using this towards a child. This is usually considered rude although lots of older people may use this towards younger people (not considered rude). (140)

당신 (dang-shin): This is very confrontational and you don't need to worry about using this one. (141)

As we said above, it is better to address someone by their name or title. So we are going to list some ways to do this below:

~씨 (sshi): You can add this to someone's name in order to be polite. You wouldn't do this to someone you know well, but to someone like a coworker or someone you just met. (142)

Ex: 흐선씨, 도미닉씨, 은지씨, 현수씨 (143)

선생님 (seon-saeng-nim): Teacher. Can also refer to a doctor or anyone that teaches something. (144)

사장님 (sa-jang-nim): Head of a company. (145)

아저씨 (a-jeo(sshi)): A middle aged man. (146)

아줌마 (a-jum-ma): A middle aged woman. (147)

할아버지 (hal-a-beo-ji): A term that normally means grandpa, but can be used to refer to an elderly man. (148)

할머니 (hal-meo-ni): A term that normally means grandma, but can be used to refer to an elderly woman. (149)

How to say 'I' in Korean

Formal: 저 (jeo): Use this to refer to yourself when you are around someone older than yourself or if you are in a formal setting like an interview or business meeting with your boss. (150)

Polite: 나 (na): Use this with people you just met or with people you know well. (151)