

The Korean Alphabet System: 한글 *Han'Geul*

I. Consonants & Vowels

1. **Initial Consonants:** The following 19 consonants can be placed in the initial position (represented with **C** on the next page) in the syllabic construction:

ㄱ	ㄲ	ㄴ	ㄷ	ㄸ	ㄹ	ㅁ	ㅂ	ㅃ	
[g]	[gg] [tense g]	[n]	[d]	[dd] [tense t]	[l, r]	[m]	[b, v]	[bb] [tense p]	
ㄱ	ㄲ	ㅇ*	ㅈ	ㅉ	ㅊ	ㅋ	ㅌ	ㅍ	ㅎ
[s, sh]	[ss] [tense s]	No sound value	[j]	[jj] [tense j, tch]	[ch]	[k]	[t]	[p; f]	[h]

* When the consonant ㅇ is placed in the final position in the syllabic construction, it has the sound value of [ng].

2. **Vowels:** There are 21 vowels, represented with **V**, **V'**, and **V''** on the next page.

- (**V**) : These vowels are written on the right of a consonant:

ㅏ	ㅑ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ	ㅜ	ㅠ	ㅡ
[ah]	[ae]	[yah]	[yae]	[uh]	[eh]	[yuh]	[yeh]	[ee]

- (**V'**) : These vowel are written beneath a consonant:

ㅘ	ㅙ	ㅚ	ㅜ	ㅡ
[oh]	[yo]	[oo]	[yoo]	[_] [as in bristle]

- (**V**) : The first component of the compound vowel is written beneath a consonant and the other component on the right side.

ㅏ (ㅏ+ㅏ)	ㅑ (ㅏ+ㅑ)	ㅓ (ㅏ+ㅓ)	ㅕ (ㅏ+ㅕ)	ㅗ (ㅏ+ㅗ)
[wah]	[wae]	[weh]	[wuh]	[wooh]
ㅗ (ㅗ+ㅗ)	ㅛ (ㅗ+ㅛ)			
[wee]	[_ee]			

3. Final Consonants: The following consonants can come in the final position in the syllabic construction. There are 16 single consonant and 11 double consonants, represented with C` on the next page. The consonants in the parentheses can only come in the final position, and never in the initial position in the syllabic construction.

ㄱ : ㄱ ㄱㄱ (ㄱㅅ) (ㄱㅇ) Ex> 각; 깎다; (읽다)

ㄴ : ㄴ (ㄴㅅ) (ㄴㅇ) Ex> 난; (앉다; 앓다)

ㄷ : ㄷ Ex> 달다

ㄹ : ㄹ (ㄹㅇ) (ㄹㅅ) (ㄹㅈ) (ㄹㅊ) (ㄹㅌ) (ㄹㅎ) Ex> 랄라랜드; (읽다; 기슭; 젊다; 잃다)

ㅁ : ㅁ (ㅁㅇ) Ex> 맘마; (젊다)

ㅂ : ㅂ (ㅂㅅ) (ㅂㅇ) Ex> 밥; (값)

入： 入 𠀇 (𠀇) (𠀇) (𠀇)

Ex> 잇다; 찼다; (읽다; 값; 없다)

○： ○ Ex> 양코르; 앵두

𠀇： 𠀇 (𠀇) Ex> 갖다; (앓다)

𠀇： 𠀇 Ex> 좇불

𠀇： 𠀇 Ex> 부엌

𠀇： 𠀇 (𠀇) Ex> 팔 ; (훔다)

𠀇： 𠀇 (𠀇) Ex> 잎 leaf; (웁다)

𠀇： 𠀇 (𠀇) Ex> 좋다; (않다; 옳다)

II. Syllabic Construction

C = Consonant

V = Vowel

<table><tr><td>C</td><td>V</td></tr></table>	C	V	<table><tr><td>C</td><td>V</td></tr><tr><td>C</td><td></td></tr></table>	C	V	C					
C	V										
C	V										
C											
<table><tr><td>C</td></tr><tr><td>V'</td></tr></table>	C	V'	<table><tr><td>C</td></tr><tr><td>V'</td></tr><tr><td>C'</td></tr></table>	C	V'	C'					
C											
V'											
C											
V'											
C'											
<table><tr><td>C</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">V''</td></tr></table>	C		V''		<table><tr><td>C</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">V''</td></tr><tr><td>C'</td><td></td></tr></table>	C		V''		C'	
C											
V''											
C											
V''											
C'											

III. Writing: Syllables in the Consonant-Vowel Construction

$\begin{matrix} C \\ V \end{matrix}$	ㄱ	ㄲ	ㄴ	ㄷ	ㄸ	ㄹ	ㅁ	ㅂ	ㅃ	ㅅ	ㅆ	ㅇ	ㅈ	ㅊ	ㅋ	ㆁ	ㆅ	ㆆ	ㆇ
the syllabic construction in which a vowel is written on the right of a consonant:																			
ㅏ																			
ㅑ																			
ㅓ																			
ㅕ																			
ㅗ																			
ㅛ																			
ㅜ																			
ㅠ																			
ㅡ																			
the syllabic construction in which a vowel is written beneath a consonant:																			
ㄱ																			
ㄴ																			
ㄷ																			
ㄹ																			
ㅁ																			
the syllabic construction in which the first component of a compound vowel is written beneath a consonant and the other component to the right of the consonant:																			
ㅏ																			
ㅑ																			
ㅓ																			
ㅕ																			
ㅗ																			
ㅛ																			
ㅜ																			
ㅠ																			

IV. Writing: Syllables in the Consonant-Vowel-Consonant construction

Direction: Construct a syllable by combining a consonant and a vowel followed by the adjacent consonant in the final position. Remember, not all consonants can appear in the final position. If the adjacent consonant is one of those consonants, then just write the syllable in the consonant-vowel construction. A few are done as examples.

$\begin{matrix} C \\ v \end{matrix}$	ㄱ	ㄲ	ㄴ	ㄷ	ㄸ	ㄹ	ㅁ	ㅂ	ㅃ	ㅅ	ㅆ	ㅇ	ㅈ	ㅉ	ㅊ	ㅋ	ㅌ	ㅍ	ㅎ
ㅏ							ㅁㅏ												
ㅑ				ㄷㅑ															
ㅓ																			
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ㅗ																			
ㅛ													ㅈㅛ	ㅉㅛ					
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ㅡ																			
ㅚ																			
ㅞ																			
ㅙ																			
ㅜ																			
ㅠ																			
ㅡ																			

V. Writing Practice: Loan Words

Direction: Use the table below to romanize a few English words on the following page. Compare your representation with the conventional representation on the last page.

< Consonant Sound >					< Vowel Sound >			
B	ㅂ	NG	ㅇ		ah	ㅏ	yae	ㅑ
BB	ㅃ	P	ㅍ		ae	ㅓ	yah	ㅕ
CH	ㅈ	R	ㄹ		ee	ㅗ	yeh	ㅛ
D	ㄷ	S	ㅅ		eh	ㅜ	yo	ㅠ
DD	ㄸ	SH	ㅆ		oe	ㅛ	yoo	ㅠ
G	ㄱ	SS	ㅈ		oh	ㅜ	yuh	ㅠ
GG	ㄲ	T	ㅌ		oo	ㅜ		
H	ㅎ	V	ㅈ		uh	ㅜ		
J	ㅈ	Z	ㅈ		wah	ㅑ		
JJ	ㅉ	M	ㅁ		wee	ㅑ		
K	ㅋ	N	ㄴ		weh	ㅑ		
L	ㄴ	NG	ㅇ		wuh	ㅑ		
M	ㅁ	T	ㅌ		wooh	ㅑ		
N	ㄴ	V	ㅈ		_ee	ㅑ		
		Z	ㅈ					
		NG	ㅇ					
		P	ㅍ					

English	한글			English	한글		
TV				pasta			
café				Hawaii			
coffee				Ohio			
tie				spaghetti			
shirt				Virginia			
dress				Louisiana			
mouse				Massachusetts			
monitor				North Dakota			

New York				restaurant				
Burger King				MacDonald				
hamburger				Starbucks				
computer				Connecticut				
tuxedo				California				

English	한글	English	한글
TV	티비	pasta	파스타
café	카페	Hawaii	하와이
coffee	커피	Ohio	오하이오
tie	타이	spaghetti	스파게티
shirt	셔츠	Virginia	버지니아
dress	드레스	Louisiana	루이지애나
mouse	마우스	Massachusetts	매사추세츠
monitor	모니터	North Dakota	노스 다코타
New York	뉴욕	restaurant	레스토랑
Burger King	버거킹	MacDonald	맥도날드
hamburger	햄버거	Starbucks	스타벅스
computer	컴퓨터	Connecticut	코네티컷
tuxedo	턱시도	California	캘리포니아