



Korean Ladder Study Note

메뉴판 좀 주세요 / 뭐가 맛있어요

Asking for the Menu and Recommendations

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Conversation Restaurant & Cafe	메뉴판 좀 주세요 / 뭐가 맛있어요 Asking for the Menu and Recommendations

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-RES-002>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRnwDIqm9G0>

Visit [koreanladder.com](https://www.koreanladder.com) for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, real talk. I walk into a Korean restaurant, the door slides open, and I freeze. How do I even ask for the menu without pointing and panicking?

This is the exact fear everyone has. The good news — you only need three little sentences today, and the first one just gets the menu into your hands.

First, you have to get the server's attention. In Korea, you don't wave silently — you say 저기요. It's a polite 'excuse me' that means 'over here, please.'

저기요는 식당에서 아주 자연스러워요. In English, 저기요 is completely natural in a restaurant — say it warmly, not shyly, and a server will come.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	저기요, 메뉴판 좀 주세요. —	Excuse me, the menu please.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	네, 여기 있어요. —	Sure, here you go.
Junho	뭐가 맛있어요? —	What's good here?
Hana	비빔밥이 맛있어요. —	The bibimbap is tasty.
Junho	그럼 이거 하나 주세요. —	Then give me one of this.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
저기요 jeoggiyo	Excuse me / over here (calling a server)	First, you have to get the server's attention. In Korea, you don't wave silently — you say 저기요. It's a polite 'excuse me' that means 'over here, please.'
메뉴판 좀 주세요 menupan jom juseyo	Please give me the menu.	Now the star sentence: 메뉴판 좀 주세요. Let's break it apart piece by piece.
___ 주세요 ___ juseyo	Please give me ____.	메뉴판은 'menu board' — the physical menu. 주세요 means 'please give me.' So the frame is simple: noun plus 주세요 equals 'please give me that noun.'
좀 jom	softener — 'a little / if you could'	좋은 질문이에요. Good question — 좀 literally means 'a little,' but here it's a softener. It makes your request gentle and polite, like adding 'if you could' in English.
메뉴판 주세요 menupan juseyo	Give me the menu. (correct, a touch plainer)	You can drop 좀 and 메뉴판 주세요 is still correct. But 메뉴판 좀 주세요 sounds warmer — Koreans use 좀 constantly to soften small requests.
이거 하나 주세요 igeo hana juseyo	Please give me one of this.	The server points and says '이거요' — 'this one.' Now you can order it without ever reading its name: 이거 하나 주세요.
하나 hana	one (native Korean number)	하나는 'one.' In English, 하나 is the counting 'one,' so 이거 하나 주세요 is 'this one, please.' You can point at the menu photo and say it — totally natural.
맛있어요 masisseoyo	Asking for the Menu and Recommendations	좋아요. That rise at the end was perfect. One tiny thing — link it smoothly: 맛있어요 sounds like 'ma-si-sseo-yo,' no hard stops.



Grammar / Structure Notes

저기요

저기요 — Excuse me / over here (calling a server)

The normal, polite way to flag staff — not rude at all.

저기요

저기요 — polite 'excuse me' to call staff

저기요는 식당에서 아주 자연스러워요. In English, 저기요 is completely natural in a restaurant — say it warmly, not shyly, and a server will come.

메뉴판 좀 주세요

메뉴판 + 좀 + 주세요 — Please give me the menu.

Now the star sentence: 메뉴판 좀 주세요. Let's break it apart piece by piece.

___ 주세요

___ 주세요 — Please give me ___.

Your universal ordering tool.

좀

좀 — softener — 'a little / if you could'

Optional but makes you sound kind and natural.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
메뉴판 좀 주세요	menupan jom juseyo
뭐가 맛있어요?	mwoga masisseoyo?
맛있어요	masisseoyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 메뉴판 좀 주세요 / 뭐가 맛있어요 three times: slow, natural, then inside a short sentence.
- 2 Write one original sentence that was not in the video.
- 3 Rewatch the YouTube lesson and pause when the same pattern appears.

Related / Subsequent Studies



Lesson	Why study it next	Link
물 좀 주세요 / 계산해 주세요 Your First Words Inside a Korean Restaurant	A1 Conversation: compare 물 좀 주세요 / 계산해 주세요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CONV-RES-001
단체 예약 / 코스 / 계산은 제가 하겠습니다 Hosting a Dinner	C1 Conversation: compare 단체 예약 / 코스 / 계산은 제가 하겠습니다 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-C1-CONV-RES-001
따로따로 해 주세요 / 카드 돼요 Splitting the Bill and Paying	A2 Conversation: compare 따로따로 해 주세요 / 카드 돼요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-CONV-RES-003
메뉴 추천해 주세요 Asking for Restaurant Recommendations	A2 Conversation: compare 메뉴 추천해 주세요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-CONV-RES-001

My Notes

Your ladder to fluent Korean. This PDF, the website, and the video lessons are free for personal study.