



Korean Ladder Study Note

새해 복 많이 받으세요

The Korean New Year Greeting Everyone Uses

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Culture Holidays	새해 복 많이 받으세요 The Korean New Year Greeting Everyone Uses

Study Links

[Open this lesson on Korean Ladder](https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-HOL-001)

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-HOL-001>

[Watch the full video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIYer3UWU-0)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIYer3UWU-0>

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

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Core Idea

Okay, real question. If a Korean auntie says this to me and bows a little, what do I do back?

Yes, that is the moment. You hear 새해 복 많이 받으세요, and if you freeze, it feels long.

I think I would panic and say, uh, you too, maybe in English.

Today we fix that. You need one main phrase, one natural reply, and one simple bow.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Happy New Year. Please receive lots of new-year luck.
Junho	하나 선생님도 새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Teacher Hana, Happy New Year to you too.
Hana	새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Happy New Year.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Yes, Happy New Year to you too.
Hana	새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Happy New Year.
Junho	감사합니다. —	Thank you.
Hana	네, 새해 복 많이 받으세요. —	Yes, Happy New Year.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
새해 복 많이 받으세요 saehae bok mani badeuseyo	Please receive lots of luck in the new year	The key pattern is 새해 복 많이 받으세요. This is the greeting beginners must know for 설날.
설날에 자주 들어요 seollare jaju deureoyo	You hear it often on Seollal	You can say it around New Year, but for many learners the big cultural moment is 설날, Korean Lunar New Year.
받으세요 badeuseyo	The Korean New Year Greeting Everyone Uses	I hear that the middle is easy, but 받으세요 feels long.
복 bok	luck; blessing; good fortune	And 복 means luck or blessing, right?
인사할 때 써요 insahal ttae sseoyo	Use it when greeting people	Now, when do you say it? You say it when greeting family, elders, coworkers, neighbors, many people at New Year time.
가볍게 인사해도 돼요 gabyeopge insahaedo dwaeyo	A light polite greeting is okay	맞아요. For most beginner situations, a light bow is enough.
선생님도 새해 복 많이 받으세요 seonsaengnimdo saehae bok mani badeuseyo	You too, Teacher — Happy New Year	Did you hear the reply? 하나 선생님도 새해 복 많이 받으세요. The 도 means too.
그대로 돌려서 말하면 돼요 geudaero dollyeoseo malhameon dwaeyo	You can just say the same phrase back	So I can just say the same sentence back.



Grammar / Structure Notes

새해 복 많이 받으세요

새해 복 많이 받으세요 — Please receive lots of luck in the new year

The standard polite New Year greeting

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설날에 자주 들어요

설날에 자주 들어요 — You hear it often on Seollal

Also used broadly in New Year season

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
새해 복 많이 받으세요	saehae bok mani badeuseyo
받으세요	badeuseyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 새해 복 많이 받으세요 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
생일 / 돌잔치 / 미역국 Korean Birthday Traditions	A2 Culture: compare 생일 / 돌잔치 / 미역국 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-CULTURE-HOL-001
설날 / 추석 Korea's Two Biggest Holidays	B1 Culture: compare 설날 / 추석 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-B1-CULTURE-HOL-001
김치 / 반찬 / 밥 Korean Table Basics	A1 Culture: compare 김치 / 반찬 / 밥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-FCL-001
두 손으로 주세요 Why Koreans Give and Receive with Two Hands	A1 Culture: compare 두 손으로 주세요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-CULTURE-ETQ-002

My Notes

Free Korean lessons, one rung at a time. This PDF, the website, and the video lessons are free for personal study.