



Korean Ladder Study Note

빨강 / 파랑 / 노랑

Your First Korean Colors

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Home & Daily Life	빨강 / 파랑 / 노랑 Your First Korean Colors

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

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

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgBO54gbE6E>

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

여기 빨간 가방이 있어요. There's a red bag right here. So... how do you say 'red' in Korean? Is it 빨강? 빨간? 빨간색?

Okay, true story — last week I pointed at that bag and said '빨강 가방' and Hana gave me a little look.

그 look에는 이유가 있어요. There's a reason for that look. One color word actually has three shapes, and each one has its own job.

첫 번째 모양. The first shape is the pure noun. 빨강 means 'red' itself — red as a thing, like the name of the color.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	이 가방은 무슨 색이에요? —	What color is this bag?



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	그 가방은 빨간색이에요. 빨간 가방이에요. —	That bag is red. It's a red bag.
Junho	그럼 저 우산은요? —	Then what about that umbrella?
Hana	저 우산은 노란색이에요. 노란 우산이에요. —	That umbrella is yellow. It's a yellow umbrella.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
빨강 ppalgang	red (the color, as a noun)	첫 번째 모양. The first shape is the pure noun. 빨강 means 'red' itself — red as a thing, like the name of the color.
빨간색 ppalgansaek	the color red	두 번째. The second shape adds 색, which means 'color.' 빨간색 means 'the color red' — this is the one you say when something simply IS red.
빨간 ppalgan	red (describing a noun)	좋은 질문이에요. 세 번째 모양은 빨간. The third shape, 빨간, is the describing form — it goes right in front of a noun to paint it.
빨간 가방이에요 ppalgan gabangieyo	It's a red bag.	이렇게 써요. Like this: 빨간 가방. The 빨간 leans on 가방 and gives us 'a red bag.'
이거는 빨간색이에요 igeoneun ppalgansaegieyo	This is red.	맞아요. 그런데 noun 없이 그냥 'it is red'을 말하려면, you use 빨간색이에요.
파랑 · 파란색 · 파란 parang · paransaek · paran	blue (noun · color · describing form)	이제 다른 색들. Now the other colors, same pattern. 파랑은 파란색, 그리고 파란. Blue is 파란색, and 파란 before a noun.
노랑 · 노란색 · 노란 norang · noransaek · noran	yellow (noun · color · describing form)	노랑도 같아요. Yellow works the same way: 노랑, 노란색, and 노란 before a noun — 노란 우산, a yellow umbrella.
검은색 · 하얀색 geomeunsaek · hayansaek	black · white	흑과 백도 배워요. And black and white: 검은색 for black, 하얀색 for white — 검은 구두, 하얀 셔츠.



Grammar / Structure Notes

빨강

빨강 — red (the color, as a noun)

the name of the color by itself

빨간색

빨간색 — the color red

색 = color · use it to say 'it is red'

빨간

빨간 — red (describing a noun)

goes directly before the noun: 빨간 + 가방

빨간 가방이에요

빨간 + 가방 + 이에요 — It's a red bag.

이렇게 써요. Like this: 빨간 가방. The 빨간 leans on 가방 and gives us 'a red bag.'

이거는 빨간색이에요

이거 + 는 + 빨간색 + 이에요 — This is red.

맞아요. 그런데 noun 없이 그냥 'it is red'을 말하려면, you use 빨간색이에요.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
빨간색이에요	ppalgansaegieyo
파란 가방	paran gabang

Self-Check

- 1 Say 빨강 / 파랑 / 노랑 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
집 / 방 / 화장실 Rooms and Everyday Things at Home	A1 Vocabulary: compare 집 / 방 / 화장실 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-001
청소 / 빨래 / 설거지 Talking About Household Chores	A2 Vocabulary: compare 청소 / 빨래 / 설거지 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-VOCAB-HOM-001
Counting in Korean Native vs Sino Numbers	A1 Vocabulary: compare Counting in Korean with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-NUM-001
물 / 커피 / 밥 Essential Food Words	A1 Vocabulary: compare 물 / 커피 / 밥 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-FOO-001

My Notes

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