



Korean Ladder Study Note

세탁 / 건조 / 다리다

Your First Laundry Words

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Home & Daily Life	세탁 / 건조 / 다리다 Your First Laundry Words

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-009>

Watch the full video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37LG3TyGLpE>

Visit koreanladder.com for all free lessons

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

I know laundry is 빨래, but when I want to say wash, dry, or iron, I freeze. Do I say 빨래를 세탁해요 for everything?

좋은 질문이에요. 빨래 is the whole laundry idea, but each step has its own natural Korean expression.

The key today is not one magic pattern. It is four useful chunks you can actually say at home.

오늘의 핵심은 자연스러운 표현이에요. 빨래해요, 옷을 세탁해요, 빨래를 말려요, 건조기를 돌려요, 그리고 셔츠를 다리요.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 빨래해요? —	Are you doing laundry today?
Junho	네, 먼저 빨래해요. —	Yes, first I do laundry.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	그다음에 건조기를 돌려요? —	After that, do you run the dryer?
Junho	아니요, 오늘은 빨래를 말려요. —	No, today I dry the laundry by letting it dry.
Hana	셔츠도 다려요? —	Do you iron the shirt too?
Junho	네, 셔츠를 다려요. —	Yes, I iron the shirt.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
빨래해요 ppallaehaeyo	I do laundry	The key today is not one magic pattern. It is four useful chunks you can actually say at home.
세탁 · 건조 · 다리다 setak · geonjo · darida	washing or laundering · drying · to iron	세탁은 washing or laundering이에요. 건조는 drying이에요. 다리다는 to iron이라는 뜻이에요.
옷을 세탁해요 oseul setakaeyo	I wash or launder clothes.	맞아요. If you mean the washing step more clearly, say 옷을 세탁해요. I wash or launder clothes.
빨래를 말려요 ppallaereul mallyeoyo	I dry the laundry. I let the laundry dry.	Now drying. In daily Korean, you may hear 빨래를 말려요, meaning to dry the laundry or let it dry, especially by air.
건조기를 돌려요 geonjogireul dollyeoyo	I run the dryer.	네. And with a dryer machine, say 건조기를 돌려요. Literally, you run the dryer.
빨래를 말려요 · 건조기를 돌려요 —	dry the laundry · run the dryer	So after washing, I say 빨래를 말려요. Or if I use a machine, 건조기를 돌려요.
건조해요 geonjohaeyo	It dries. I dry it.	Exactly. 건조해요 exists, but for A1 daily speech, 건조기를 돌려요 is better when you mean a dryer.
셔츠를 다려요 syeocheureul daryeoyo	I iron a shirt.	Now ironing. 다리다 means to iron, and in 해요-style it becomes 다려요.



Grammar / Structure Notes

빨래해요

빨래해요 — I do laundry

The everyday big routine

빨래해요 · 옷을 세탁해요 · 빨래를 말려요 · 건조기를 돌려요 · 셔츠를 다려요

빨래해요 · 옷을 세탁해요 · 빨래를 말려요 · 건조기를 돌려요 · 셔츠를 다려요 — do laundry · wash clothes · dry laundry · run the dryer · iron a shirt

Learn the chunks separately

세탁 · 건조 · 다리다

세탁 · 건조 · 다리다 — washing or laundering · drying · to iron

세탁 and 건조 are nouns. 다리다 is a verb.

빨래해요

빨래 + 해요 — I do laundry.

First, the whole routine. 빨래해요 means I do laundry. This is very common and easy.

빨래해요

빨래 + 해요 — I do laundry.

So 빨래해요 can mean I do laundry, not just I wash one thing.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
옷을 세탁해요	oseul setakaeyo
빨래를 말려요	ppallaereul mallyeoyo
셔츠를 다려요	syeocheureul daryeoyo
빨래	ppallae
다려요	daryeoyo
빨래해요	ppallaehaeyo
건조기를 돌려요	geonjogireul dollyeoyo

Self-Check

1 Say 세탁 / 건조 / 다리다 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
냄비 / 프라이팬 / 도마 Your First Kitchen Tools	A1 Vocabulary: compare 냄비 / 프라이팬 / 도마 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-008
문 / 벽 / 바닥 / 천장 / 지붕 The Parts That Make a Room	A1 Vocabulary: compare 문 / 벽 / 바닥 / 천장 / 지붕 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-006
빨강 / 파랑 / 노랑 Your First Korean Colors	A1 Vocabulary: compare 빨강 / 파랑 / 노랑 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-002
수건 / 비누 / 치약 / 샴푸 Bathroom Toiletries You Need Every Day	A1 Vocabulary: compare 수건 / 비누 / 치약 / 샴푸 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-007

My Notes

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