



Korean Ladder Study Note

동그라미 / 네모 / 세모 / 하트

Everyday Shape Words

Level	Topic	Focus
A1 · Beginner TOPIK 1	Vocabulary Home & Daily Life	동그라미 / 네모 / 세모 / 하트 Everyday Shape Words

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-029>

Watch the full video on YouTube

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

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Okay, here's my story. I pointed at a plate and called it a circle in Korean. Then a Korean friend described a plate as round, and it was a different form of the word.

So is a plate a circle, or is a plate round? I honestly wasn't sure which word to use.

Great question, Alice. Both words share the same root, 동그. One names the shape, and the other describes a thing.

오늘의 핵심은 두 가지예요. First, the shape names: 동그라미, 네모, 세모, 하트. Second, how to describe real objects with them.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	안녕하세요. 저기 동그란 쿠키 하나 주세요. —	Hi. One of those round cookies over there, please.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Junho	네, 네모난 상자에 담아 드릴게요. —	Sure, I'll put it in a square box for you.
Hana	그리고 하트 모양 쿠키도 있어요? —	And do you have heart-shaped cookies too?
Junho	네, 저기 있어요. 오늘 새로 만들었어요. —	Yes, over there. We made them fresh today.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
동그라미 · 네모 · 세모 · 하트 dong-geu-ra-mi · ne-mo · se-mo · ha-teu	circle · square · triangle · heart	오늘의 핵심은 두 가지예요. First, the shape names: 동그라미, 네모, 세모, 하트. Second, how to describe real objects with them.
동그라미 dong-geu-ra-mi	circle	네, 조금 어색해요. 곧 고쳐 볼게요. 먼저 단어부터 볼게요. 동그라미. 동그라미는 원이에요. A circle, like the O you draw with a pencil.
네모 ne-mo	square, rectangle (four corners)	네모. 책, 휴대폰, 창문, 다 네모 모양이에요. 모양 means shape. Books, phones, windows, they're all four-cornered shapes.
세모 se-mo	triangle	세모. 삼각김밥도 세모, 샌드위치 반쪽도 세모 모양이에요. A triangle, like a rice ball from the convenience store.
하트 ha-teu	heart (shape)	하트. 영어랑 똑같아요. It's borrowed straight from English. 하트 이모티콘, 하트 모양 쿠키.
동그라미 버튼 dong-geu-ra-mi beo-teun	circle button	동그라미는 버튼 이름으로도 써요. 게임기에 동그라미 버튼, 세모 버튼, 네모 버튼이 있어요. On a game controller, the buttons are named by shape.
○ 맞아요 · △ 반쯤 맞아요 · ✕ 틀려요 ma-ja-yo · ban-jjeum ma-ja-yo · teul-lyeo-yo	correct · half right · wrong	한국 시험에서 동그라미는 맞았다는 뜻이에요. 세모는 반쯤 맞았다는 뜻이고, 엑스는 틀렸다는 뜻이에요. In Korea, a circle means correct, a triangle means half right, and an X means wrong.
동그랗다 dong-geu-ra-ta	to be round	So the noun is the shape you draw. But a plate isn't a drawing. It's a thing that happens to be round.



Grammar / Structure Notes

동그라미 · 네모 · 세모 · 하트

동그라미 · 네모 · 세모 · 하트 — circle · square · triangle · heart

오늘의 핵심은 두 가지예요. First, the shape names: 동그라미, 네모, 세모, 하트. Second, how to describe real objects with them.

동그라미 · 네모 · 세모 · 하트

동그라미 · 네모 · 세모 · 하트 — circle · square · triangle · heart

이 단어들을 알면 물건을 쉽게 설명할 수 있어요. Buttons, signs, plates, boxes. You can describe almost anything at home.

동그라미

동그라미 — circle

○ the shape itself

네모

네모 — square, rectangle (four corners)

모양 = shape · 네모 모양 = square shape

네모

네모 — square, rectangle (four corners)

☐ ☒ both are 네모

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
동그래요	dong-geu-rae-yo
동그라미	dong-geu-ra-mi

Self-Check

- 1 Say 동그라미 / 네모 / 세모 / 하트 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
널다 / 건조대 / 빨래집게 Drying Laundry at Home	A1 Vocabulary: compare 널다 / 건조대 / 빨래집게 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-015
달력 / 시계 / 액자 Everyday Objects You See Every Day at Home	A1 Vocabulary: compare 달력 / 시계 / 액자 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-024
도어락 / 비밀번호 / 카드키 Unlocking a Korean Front Door	A1 Vocabulary: compare 도어락 / 비밀번호 / 카드키 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A1-VOCAB-HOM-013

My Notes

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