



Korean Ladder Study Note

많이 드세요 / 살피 가세요 / 편히 계세요

Caring Honorific Send-Offs

Level	Topic	Focus
A2 · Elementary TOPIK 2	Honorifics Subject Honorifics	많이 드세요 / 살피 가세요 / 편히 계세요 Caring Honorific Send-Offs

Study Links

Open this lesson on Korean Ladder

<https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-HON-SUB-005>

Watch the full video on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGaTbg_TMPM

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

<https://www.koreanladder.com>

Core Idea

Here's my problem. If 세요 can mean please do something, why does 많이 드세요 not sound like I'm ordering my grandma to eat a lot?

The key is context. At the table or at the door, many 세요 phrases are caring set phrases, not strict orders.

So when I say 많이 드세요, I'm not pushing food. I'm being kind and respectful.

오늘의 패턴은 the ending 세요, and after a consonant, 으세요. It raises respect toward the person doing the action.

Conversation Snapshot

Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	오늘 와 주셔서 감사해요. 많이 드셨어요? —	Thank you for coming today. Did you eat well?
Junho	네, 정말 잘 먹었어요. —	Yes, I really enjoyed the meal.



Speaker	Korean	Meaning
Hana	살펴 가세요. —	Please go carefully.
Junho	네, 편히 계세요. —	Yes, please stay comfortably.

Vocabulary & Useful Expressions

Word	Meaning	Example
많이 드세요 mani deuseyo	Please have plenty. / Enjoy the food.	좋은 질문이에요. 많이 드세요 is often a warm wish at a meal. In English, it feels like, please enjoy and have plenty.
-(으)세요 -(eu)seyo	honorific polite ending: please do / please be / may you	The key is context. At the table or at the door, many 세요 phrases are caring set phrases, not strict orders.
동사 + -(으)세요 dongsa + -(eu)seyo	verb + honorific polite ending	오늘의 패턴은 the ending 세요, and after a consonant, 으세요. It raises respect toward the person doing the action.
많이 드세요 · 살펴 가세요 · 편히 계세요 mani deuseyo · salpyeo gaseyo · pyeonhi gyeseyo	Have plenty · Go carefully · Stay comfortably	Today we focus on three warm phrases: 많이 드세요, 살펴 가세요, and 편히 계세요.
살펴 가세요 salpyeo gaseyo	Please go carefully. / Take care on your way.	Next, 살펴 가세요. It literally has the feeling of looking after yourself as you go. In English, go carefully, or take care on your way.
편히 계세요 pyeonhi gyeseyo	Please stay comfortably. / Please make yourself comfortable.	Third phrase, 편히 계세요. 편히 means comfortably. 계세요 is the honorific form of 있어요, when someone stays or is somewhere.
있어요 → 계세요 isseoyo → gyeseyo	is / stays → honorific is / stays	Exactly. And 계세요 honors the guest or elder. It is not about your own staying. It honors the person who is there.
드세요 · 가세요 · 계세요 deuseyo · gaseyo · gyeseyo	please have · please go · please stay	Very good. In all three, the ending 세요 is soft, respectful, and caring.



Grammar / Structure Notes

많이 드세요

많이 + 드세요 — Please have plenty. / Enjoy the food.

좋은 질문이에요. 많이 드세요 is often a warm wish at a meal. In English, it feels like, please enjoy and have plenty.

-(으)세요

-(으)세요 — honorific polite ending: please do / please be / may you

In set phrases, it often sounds like a respectful wish.

동사 + -(으)세요

동사 + -(으)세요 — verb + honorific polite ending

Used for respectful requests, invitations, wishes, and set phrases.

많이 드세요 · 살피 가세요 · 편히 계세요

많이 드세요 · 살피 가세요 · 편히 계세요 — Have plenty · Go carefully · Stay comfortably

Meal and doorway phrases for elders and guests.

많이 드세요

많이 + 드세요 — Please have plenty. / Please enjoy.

드세요 comes from 드시다, the honorific form for eat or drink. So 많이 드세요 is more respectful than 많이 먹으세요.

Pronunciation Loop

Phrase	How to practice
많이 드세요	mani deuseyo
살피 가세요	salpyeo gaseyo
편히 계세요	pyeonhi gyeseyo

Self-Check

- 1 Say 많이 드세요 / 살피 가세요 / 편히 계세요 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
Korean Honorifics 세요 and 께서	A2 Honorifics: compare Korean Honorifics with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-HON-SUB-001
성함이 어떻게 되세요 Politely Asking Personal Questions	A2 Honorifics: compare 성함이 어떻게 되세요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-HON-SUB-003
식사하셨어요 Everyday Subject Honorific Phrases	A2 Honorifics: compare 식사하셨어요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-HON-SUB-002
여기 앉으세요 / 이쪽으로 오세요 Politely Offering a Seat and Guiding an Elder	A2 Honorifics: compare 여기 앉으세요 / 이쪽으로 오세요 with this lesson so the boundary becomes clearer.	Open lesson https://www.koreanladder.com/lesson.html?id=KOR-A2-HON-SUB-004

My Notes

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