

-(으)ㄹ 정도로

to the point that, so much that

Measures intensity by naming what it would take. Korean often reaches for a vivid image here where English would just say "very."

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Ends in a vowel	-ㄹ 정도로	아프다 → 아플 정도로
Ends in a consonant	-을 정도로	죽다 → 죽을 정도로
Ends in ㄹ	nothing added	만들다 → 만들 정도로
Degree at the end	-(으)ㄹ 정도이다	아플 정도였어요
With a noun	roughly, about	한 시간 정도
Similar	-(으)ㄹ 만큼	아플 만큼

WHEN TO USE IT

Attachment is the standard rule with the ㄹ short form: 만들다 gives 만들 정도로. 정도 is a noun, so it takes a space.

The clause before it describes the degree, and what follows is the thing being measured: 배가 아플 정도로 많이 웃었어요 — I laughed to the point of stomach ache.

Reversing the order gives -(으)ㄹ 정도이다, which puts the degree at the end: 배가 아플 정도였어요.

With a noun, 정도 means "about, roughly": 한 시간 정도, 열 명 정도. Same word, quite different job.

IN USE

- 배가 아플 정도로 많이 웃었어요.
I laughed until my stomach hurt.
- 눈을 뜰 수 없을 정도로 눈이 부셨어요.
It was so bright I couldn't open my eyes.
- 숨을 쉬기 힘들 정도로 매웠어요.
It was spicy enough to make breathing difficult.
- 직접 만들 정도로 요리를 좋아해요.
She likes cooking enough to make everything herself.
- 그날은 걷기 힘들 정도였어요.
That day it got to the point where walking was hard.
- 믿을 수 없을 정도로 실력이 늘었어요.
His skill has improved to an unbelievable degree.

COMPARED WITH

-(으)만큼

Very close. 만큼 emphasises matching an amount; 정도로 emphasises reaching a threshold. Either usually works.

아플 만큼 웃었어요. / 아플 정도로 웃었어요.

-게

-게 also turns a clause into a manner or degree phrase, but plainly. 정도로 paints a specific picture of how far it went.

크게 웃었어요. (laughed loudly) / 배가 아플 정도로 웃었어요. (laughed till it hurt)

Noun + 정도

After a bare noun the word means "approximately." The two uses share a form but are rarely confused in context.

아플 정도로 (to the point of pain) / 한 시간 정도 (about an hour)

WATCH OUT

X 직접 만들 **을** 정도로 요리를 좋아해요.

O 직접 만들 **정도**로 요리를 좋아해요.

A stem ending in ㄴ already supplies it, as with 만들 거예요 and 만들 만해요.

X 배가 아플**정도**로 웃었어요.

O 배가 아플 **정도**로 웃었어요.

정도 is a noun and takes a space after the modifier.

X 많이 웃을 **정도**로 배가 아팠어요.

O 배가 아플 **정도**로 많이 웃었어요.

The clause before 정도로 states the extreme, and the main clause states what reached it. Reversing them inverts the meaning.