

-(으)ㄴ 마당에

at a time like this, when things are this bad

Names a dire situation and uses it to dismiss something as unthinkable. 마당 means a yard — figuratively, the ground you find yourself standing on.

How it attaches

Situation	Form	Example
Ends in a vowel	-ㄴ 마당에	망하다 → 망할 마당에
Ends in a consonant	-을 마당에	먹다 → 먹을 마당에
Completed situation	-(으)ㄴ 마당에	헤어진 마당에
Ends in ㄴ	nothing added	만들다 → 만들 마당에
Second clause	dismissal, often a question	... 무슨 소용이에요?
Situation must be	serious	ordinary situations don't fit

Notes

Attachment is the standard rule with the ㄴ short form: 만들다 gives 만들 마당에. The completed form -(으)ㄴ 마당에 is equally common. 마당 takes a space.

The situation named is serious or desperate — a business failing, a deadline collapsing, a relationship ending. It does not work with ordinary circumstances.

The second clause dismisses something as out of the question, and it very often takes the form of a rhetorical question: 회사가 망할 마당에 승진이 무슨 소용이에요?

The tone is emphatic and emotional. It belongs to speech and to dramatic writing rather than neutral reports.

Examples

- 1 회사가 망할 마당에 승진이 무슨 소용이에요?
With the company about to go under, what use is a promotion?
- 2 이미 헤어진 마당에 이유를 따져서 뭐 하겠어요.
Now that we've split up, what's the point of arguing over why?
- 3 마감이 내일인 마당에 새로 시작할 수는 없다.
With the deadline tomorrow, we can't start over.
- 4 당장 먹을 것도 없는 마당에 여행이라니요.
We haven't even got food, and you're talking about a trip?
- 5 다시 만들 마당에 굳이 고칠 필요가 있을까요?
If we're going to remake it anyway, is there any point in repairing it?
- 6 이렇게 된 마당에 숨길 이유가 없습니다.
Things being as they are, there's no reason to hide it.

Compared with

-(으)ㄴ/는 이상

이상 takes a settled fact and states an obligation; 마당에 takes a crisis and dismisses an option. One commits, the other rules out.

시작한 이상 끝내야 한다. (we must finish) / 망할 마당에 무슨 소용인가. (what use is it)

-(으)ㄴ 지경이다

지경이다 describes the extreme state itself; 마당에 uses it as a premise for dismissing something else.

쓰러질 지경이에요. (I'm about to collapse) / 쓰러질 마당에 일이라니요. (work, in this state?)

-는데

-는데 sets up background neutrally; 마당에 loads it with urgency and usually leads to a rhetorical question.

바쁜데 어떻게 가요? (I'm busy) / 망할 마당에 어떻게 가요? (with everything collapsing)

Watch out

✗ 날씨가 좋을 마당에 산책을 갔어요.

○ 날씨가 좋아서 산책을 갔어요.

마당에 requires a serious or desperate situation. For ordinary circumstances, use a plain reason ending.

✗ 다시 만들 마당에 고칠 필요가 있을까요?

○ 다시 만들 마당에 고칠 필요가 있을까요?

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

✗ 회사가 망할 마당에 승진했어요.

○ 회사가 망할 마당에 승진이 무슨 소용이에요?

The second clause dismisses something as pointless. A plain statement of fact leaves the construction unresolved.