

-(으)ㄴ수록

the more... the more

Links two things that rise together. Korean usually doubles the verb, putting -(으)면 on the first copy — a pattern English has no equivalent for.

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Ends in a vowel	-ㄴ수록	배우다 → 배울수록
Ends in a consonant	-을수록	많다 → 많을수록
Ends in ㄹ	nothing added	만들다 → 만들수록
Idiomatic doubling	-(으)면 -(으)ㄴ수록	배우면 배울수록
이다	-일수록	학생일수록
Never takes tense	plain stem only	배웠을수록 is wrong

WHEN TO USE IT

Attachment is the standard rule with the ㄴ short form: 만들다 gives 만들수록. 수록 is written joined to the modifier, with no space.

The idiomatic pattern repeats the verb: 배우면 배울수록 재미있어요. The 면 copy is optional but very common, and leaving it out sounds flatter to a Korean ear.

Tense never appears in front. The relationship it describes is general, so the past goes on the final verb if it goes anywhere.

A few fixed expressions are worth learning whole: 갈수록 (increasingly, as time goes on), 시간이 갈수록, 많으면 많을수록 좋다.

IN USE

- 한국어는 배우면 배울수록 재미있어요.
The more you learn Korean, the more interesting it gets.
- 사람이 많을수록 좋아요.
The more people the better.
- 시간이 갈수록 상황이 나아지고 있어요.
The situation is improving as time goes on.
- 직접 만들수록 실력이 늘어요.
The more you make it yourself, the better you get.
- 생각할수록 이상해요.
The more I think about it, the stranger it seems.

6 바쁜 사람일수록 시간 관리를 잘해요.

The busier the person, the better they manage their time.

COMPARED WITH

점점

점점 says something changes gradually on its own. -(으)ㄴ수록 ties the change to a cause that is also increasing.

점점 재미있어져요. (it's getting more fun) / 배울수록 재미있어요. (the more you learn, the more fun)

-(으)면

-(으)면 sets a single condition; -(으)ㄴ수록 makes the condition a sliding scale. The doubled form uses both at once.

배우면 재미있어요. (if you learn it, it's fun) / 배울수록 재미있어요. (the more you learn)

갈수록

A frozen form meaning "increasingly, as time passes." It works as an adverb on its own and is worth memorising as vocabulary.

갈수록 어려워져요. / 시간이 갈수록 좋아졌어요.

WATCH OUT

X 직접 만들수록 실력이 늘어요.

O 직접 만들수록 실력이 늘어요.

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

X 한국어를 배웠을수록 재미있었어요.

O 한국어를 배울수록 재미있었어요.

-(으)ㄴ수록 never carries tense. The relationship is general; the past belongs on the final verb.

X 사람이 많을 수록 좋아요.

O 사람이 많을수록 좋아요.

수록 is written joined, unlike 수 있다 or 것 where the noun takes a space.