

# -(으)매

since, inasmuch as

A reason stated in the oldest register the language still uses. Short, weighty, and almost entirely confined to scripture, poetry, and formal proclamations.

## HOW TO ATTACH IT

|                     |        |                       |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Ends in a vowel     | -매     | 하다 → 하매               |
| Ends in a consonant | -으매    | 있다 → 있으매              |
| Ends in ㄹ           | -매     | 만들다 → 만들매             |
| Past                | -았/었으매 | 하였으매                  |
| Not the same as     | -(으)ㅁ에 | 있음에 — noun + particle |
| Modern equivalent   | -(으)므로 | 있으므로                  |

## WHEN TO USE IT

Vowel stems take -매, consonant stems -으매, and a ㄹ stem adds nothing: 만들매. It is written joined, and tense may appear inside: 하였으매.

It gives a reason, exactly as -(으)므로 does: 뜻이 있으매 길이 열렸다.

Do not confuse it with the nominalising -(으)ㅁ에. 있으매 is a connective ending; 있음에 is the noun form 있음 plus a particle. They sound alike and are written differently.

The register is the most archaic of the causal endings — older than 고로, older than 은즉. In modern prose it appears only for deliberate effect.

## IN USE

- 1 뜻이 있으매 길이 열리는 법이다.  
Where there is a will, a way opens.
- 2 밤이 깊으매 등불을 밝혔다.  
The night being deep, they lit the lamps.
- 3 약속을 하였으매 지키는 것이 도리다.  
A promise having been made, it is right to keep it.
- 4 근본이 바르매 흔들림이 없다.  
The root being sound, there is no wavering.
- 5 손수 만들매 그 값을 아는 것이다.  
Making it oneself, one knows its worth.

## 6 때가 이르매 모두 자리에서 일어섰다.

The hour having come, all rose from their seats.

### COMPARED WITH

#### -(으)므로

The modern equivalent. **므로** is standard formal Korean; **매** belongs to an older layer entirely.

뜻이 있으므로 (formal) / 뜻이 있매 (classical)

#### -(으)ㄴ/는 고로

Both archaic. **고로** uses the Sino-Korean 故 and reads like classical argument; **매** is a native ending and reads like scripture or verse.

그러한 고로 연기하였다. (argument) / 뜻이 있매 길이 열렸다. (verse)

#### -(으)ㅁ에

The one to keep straight. **있음에** is the noun **있음** with a particle; **있으매** is a connective ending. Different words that sound the same.

그가 있음에 감사한다. (grateful for his being there) / 뜻이 있매 길이 열린다. (since there is a will)

### WATCH OUT

**X** 뜻이 있음에 길이 열렸다. — meaning "since there was a will"

**O** 뜻이 있매 길이 열렸다.

있음에 is a noun with a particle. The causal connective is 있으매.

**X** 손수 만들으매 그 값을 안다.

**O** 손수 만들매 그 값을 안다.

A stem ending in ㅁ takes -매 directly, without the 으.

**X** 야, 배고프매 밥 먹자.

**O** 야, 배고프니까 밥 먹자.

-(으)매 is classical. In conversation it sounds like reciting from an old text.