

-(으)ㄴ 채로

still in that state, without changing it

Describes a condition left in place while something else happens. 채 means "as it stands," and the state is almost always one that should have been undone.

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Ends in a vowel	-ㄴ 채로	켜다 → 켜 채로
Ends in a consonant	-은 채로	신다 → 신은 채로
Ends in ㄹ	ㄹ drops	열다 → 연 채로
Without 로	-(으)ㄴ 채	앉은 채
Never	-는 채로	the state must be complete
Neutral simultaneity	-(으)면서	앉아서 / 앉으면서

WHEN TO USE IT

The form uses the past modifier, so ㄹ drops: 열다 gives 연 채로. The 로 is optional — 채 alone works too.

The first action is complete and its result is still standing when the second happens: 신발을 신은 채로 들어왔어요 (he came in with his shoes still on). This is why it takes the past modifier and never -는.

The tone is usually critical or unusual. The state described is one that ought to have been changed — shoes left on, a window left open, falling asleep with the light burning. Neutral simultaneity belongs to -(으)면서.

Both clauses share a subject, and the verb must produce a state that can persist. Verbs like 가다 leave nothing behind, so 간 채로 does not work.

IN USE

- 신발을 신은 채로 방에 들어왔어요.
He came into the room with his shoes still on.
- 불을 켜 채로 잠이 들었어요.
I fell asleep with the light still on.
- 창문을 연 채로 나갔어요.
I went out leaving the window open.
- 눈을 감은 채로 음악을 들었어요.
I listened to music with my eyes closed.
- 코트를 입은 채 앉아 있었어요.
She sat there with her coat still on.

- 6 아무 말도 못 한 채로 헤어졌어요.
We parted without having said a word.

COMPARED WITH

-(으)면서

-(으)면서 has two actions running together; -(으)ㄴ 채로 has one finished action whose result persists during the other.

음악을 들으면서 공부해요. (both at once) / 눈을 감은 채로 들었어요. (eyes closed throughout)

-아/어 있다

-아/어 있다 states the resulting condition as the main point; -(으)ㄴ 채로 puts it in the background while something else happens.

창문이 열려 있어요. (the window is open) / 창문을 연 채로 나갔어요. (left with it open)

-아/어 놓고

-아/어 놓고 keeps the agent in view and often implies deliberate action; -(으)ㄴ 채로 simply reports the state that remained.

창문을 열어 놓고 나갔어요. (deliberately left it open) / 연 채로 나갔어요. (went out with it still open)

WATCH OUT

- X 신발을 신는 채로 들어왔어요.
O 신발을 신은 채로 들어왔어요.

The state has to be complete before the second action, so the modifier is always past. -는 채로 does not exist.

- X 창문을 열린 채로 나갔어요.
O 창문을 연 채로 나갔어요.

Stems ending in ㄹ drop it before -(으)ㄴ, as in 연 문 and 만든 음식.

- X 학교에 간 채로 공부했어요.
O 학교에 가서 공부했어요.

가다 leaves no lingering state to hold. This construction needs a verb whose result can persist, like 신다, 열다, 켜다, 앉다.