

-(으)ㄴ/는 셈치고

treating it as if, writing it off as

Adopts a convenient fiction so you can move on. 셈치다 means to count something as something else — you know it isn't true, and you proceed anyway.

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Verb, present	-는 셈치고	속다 → 속는 셈치고
Completed action	-(으)ㄴ 셈치고	잃어버리다 → 잃어버린 셈치고
With a noun	noun + 셈치고	공부 셈치고
Ends in ㄹ	ㄹ drops	만들다 → 만드는 셈치고
Set phrase	속는 셈치고	on the off chance
Actually true	-(으)ㄴ/는 셈이다	끝난 셈이에요

WHEN TO USE IT

The form follows the modifier system: verbs take -는 셈치고, completed actions -(으)ㄴ 셈치고. With a noun, 셈치고 attaches directly. 셈치다 is written as one word.

You are proposing a pretence you both know is false, in order to make a decision easier: 잃어버린 셈치고 잊어버리세요 — write it off as lost and forget about it.

The single most common instance is 속는 셈치고 — "on the off chance," literally "counting yourself as being deceived." It introduces something you doubt but will try anyway.

Keep it apart from -(으)ㄴ/는 셈이다, which claims something is actually near enough true. 셈치고 knows it is not.

IN USE

- 1 속는 셈치고 한번 해 보세요.
Give it a go on the off chance.
- 2 잃어버린 셈치고 잊어버리려고요.
I'm going to write it off as lost and forget about it.
- 3 운동하는 셈치고 한 정거장 걸었어요.
I walked a stop, counting it as exercise.
- 4 공부 셈치고 이번 일을 맡아 보겠습니다.
I'll take this on, treating it as a learning experience.
- 5 직접 만드는 셈치고 재료비만 받을게요.
Let's call it self-service — I'll only charge for the ingredients.

6 기부한 셈치고 마음 편히 가지세요.

Think of it as a donation and put your mind at rest.

COMPARED WITH

-(으)ㄴ/는 셈이다

셈이다 claims something is close enough to true; 셈치고 knows it is false and adopts it anyway as a convenience.

끝난 셈이에요. (effectively finished) / 끝난 셈치고 (let's pretend it's finished)

-(으)ㄴ/는 척하다

척하다 deceives someone else; 셈치고 is an arrangement you make with yourself in order to move on.

모르는 척했어요. (pretended not to know) / 잃어버린 셈치고 (writing it off)

속는 셈치고

The one instance worth memorising whole. It softens a suggestion by admitting in advance that it may not work.

속는 셈치고 한번 드셔 보세요.

WATCH OUT

X 숙제를 다 했으니까 끝난 셈치고 쉬어요.

O 숙제를 다 했으니까 끝난 셈이니 쉬어요.

If it really is finished, the form is 셈이다. 셈치고 adopts a fiction you know to be false.

X 직접 만드는 셈치고 재료비만 받을게요.

O 직접 만드는 셈치고 재료비만 받을게요.

Stems ending in ㄹ drop it before -는, as everywhere in the modifier system.

X 속는 셈 치고 해 보세요.

O 속는 셈치고 해 보세요.

셈치다 is a single verb and is written joined.