

-기 나름이다

it all depends on how you ...

Puts the outcome down to approach rather than circumstance. Another fixed -기 pattern, and a favourite in advice and encouragement.

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Any verb	-기 나름이다	생각하다 → 생각하기 나름이에요
ㄹ stems keep the ㄹ	-기 나름이다	만들다 → 만들기 나름이에요
Broadest instance	하기 나름이다	다 하기 나름이에요
With a noun	noun + 나름이다	사람 나름이에요
Never takes tense	plain stem only	생각했기 나름이다 is wrong
Different expression	나름대로	in one's own way

WHEN TO USE IT

Attach -기 나름이다 to a verb stem — no vowel rule, ㄹ stays, no tense in front. 나름 is a noun and takes a space.

The claim is that the result is not fixed but follows from how you do it: 모든 일은 생각하기 나름이에요 — it all depends how you look at it.

A handful of stems account for most instances: 생각하다, 하다, 쓰다, 먹다, 마음먹다. The pattern 하기 나름이다 is the broadest of them.

The related 나름대로 is a different word meaning "in one's own way": 나름대로 노력했어요. Same noun, separate expression.

IN USE

- 모든 일은 생각하기 나름이에요.
It all depends how you look at it.
- 성공하느냐 마느냐는 하기 나름입니다.
Whether you succeed comes down to how you go about it.
- 같은 도구라도 쓰기 나름이지요.
Even the same tool depends on how it's used.
- 아이는 부모가 가르치기 나름이라고 해요.
They say a child turns out according to how the parents teach.
- 재료가 같아도 만들기 나름이에요.
Even with the same ingredients, it depends how you make it.

- 6 그건 사람 나름이에요.
That depends on the person.

COMPARED WITH

-에 따라

에 따라 says the result varies with some factor; -기 나름이다 puts it specifically down to how you act.

상황에 따라 달라요. (depends on the situation) / 하기 나름이에요. (depends how you do it)

-기 마련이다

Direct opposites. 마련이다 says the outcome is inevitable; 나름이다 says it is entirely up to you.

실수하기 마련이에요. (bound to happen) / 하기 나름이에요. (it's up to you)

나름대로

A separate expression meaning "in one's own way," usually defending an effort as genuine even if imperfect.

하기 나름이에요. (depends how) / 나름대로 노력했어요. (I tried in my own way)

WATCH OUT

X 모든 일은 생각했기 나름이에요.

O 모든 일은 생각하기 나름이에요.

-기 never carries tense. The claim is about approach in general, not a past instance.

X 재료가 같아도 만들기나름이에요.

O 재료가 같아도 만들기 나름이에요.

나름 is a noun and takes a space.

X 저는 하기 나름으로 노력했어요.

O 저는 나름대로 노력했어요.

To say you tried in your own way, the expression is 나름대로. -기 나름이다 states that outcomes depend on approach.