

-기에

since, as — written cause

The written counterpart of -길래. Same structure, same restrictions, but at home in reports and formal prose rather than conversation.

HOW TO ATTACH IT

Any verb or adjective	-기에	저렴하다 → 저렴하기에
ㄹ stems keep the ㄹ	-기에	만들다 → 만들기에
Past	-았/었기에	갔기에
First clause subject	not yourself	가격이 저렴하기에
No commands after	statements only	저렴하기에 사세요 is wrong
Spoken version	-길래	저렴하길래

WHEN TO USE IT

Attach -기에 to any stem — no vowel rule, ㄹ stays, and tense may appear in front: 갔기에.

As with -길래, the first clause reports something outside the speaker, and the second reports the speaker's own response: 가격이 저렴하기에 구입했습니다.

It does not take commands or suggestions afterwards. The second clause states what was already done.

A separate use of the same shape appears in phrases like 먹기에 좋다 and 읽기에 편하다, where -기 is the nominaliser and 에 the ordinary particle. Context keeps the two apart easily.

IN USE

- 1 가격이 저렴하기에 두 개를 구입했습니다.
The price was low, so I bought two.
- 2 날씨가 좋기에 잠시 산책을 했다.
The weather was fine, so I took a short walk.
- 3 문의가 많았기에 안내를 드립니다.
As we have had many enquiries, we are issuing this notice.
- 4 아무도 만들지 않기에 제가 준비했습니다.
Since nobody else was making it, I prepared it myself.
- 5 중요한 사안이기에 신중히 검토하였다.
As it was an important matter, we reviewed it carefully.
- 6 자료가 방대하기에 요약본을 따로 준비했습니다.
The material is vast, so I prepared a separate summary.

COMPARED WITH

-길래

Identical structure, different register. -길래 is conversational; -기에 belongs to writing and formal speech.

싸길래 샀어요. (speech) / 저렴하기에 구입했습니다. (writing)

-기 때문에

때문에 states a cause neutrally and accepts any subject. -기에 frames the reason as something observed and leads to your own action.

저렴하기 때문에 인기가 많다. (because it's cheap) / 저렴하기에 구입했다. (seeing it was cheap, I bought it)

-기에 좋다

The same letters in a different construction: here -기 nominalises and 에 is an ordinary particle. It means "good for doing."

저렴하기에 샀다. (since it was cheap) / 읽기에 좋다. (good to read)

WATCH OUT

X 제가 배고프기에 밥을 먹었습니다.

O 배가 고파서 식사를 했습니다.

-기에 frames the reason as something observed outside yourself. Your own hunger is not observed that way.

X 가격이 저렴하기에 구입하세요.

O 가격이 저렴하니 구입하시기 바랍니다.

-기에 cannot be followed by a command. The second clause reports what was already done.

X 야, 싸기에 샀어.

O 야, 싸길래 샀어.

-기에 is a written form. In casual speech the equivalent is -길래.