

# Mastering the Clock in Korean

Learning to tell the time in Korean can be a fun and engaging experience. In Korean, telling time involves blending Native Korean and Sino-Korean numbers. This blog post will guide you through the essentials of reading the clock in Korean, including using AM and PM, and some useful phrases.

## The Basics: Hours and Minutes

In Korean, Native Korean numbers are used to express hours, while Sino-Korean numbers are used for minutes and seconds. Here's a quick breakdown:

### Native Korean Numbers (Hours)

1. 하나 (hana) - 1
2. 둘 (dul) - 2
3. 셋 (set) - 3
4. 넷 (net) - 4
5. 다섯 (daseot) - 5
6. 여섯 (yeoseot) - 6
7. 일곱 (ilgop) - 7
8. 여덟 (yeodeol) - 8
9. 아홉 (ahop) - 9
10. 열 (yeol) - 10

### Sino-Korean Numbers (Minutes and Seconds)

1. 일 (il) - 1
2. 이 (i) - 2
3. 삼 (sam) - 3
4. 사 (sa) - 4
5. 오 (o) - 5
6. 육 (yuk) - 6
7. 칠 (chil) - 7
8. 팔 (pal) - 8
9. 구 (gu) - 9
10. 십 (sip) - 10

# Telling the Hour

When stating the hour, use Native Korean numbers followed by "시" (si), which means "hour."

- 1시 (한 시, han si)
- 2시 (두 시, du si)
- 3시 (세 시, se si)
- 4시 (네 시, ne si)
- 5시 (다섯 시, daseot si)
- 6시 (여섯 시, yeoseot si)
- 7시 (일곱 시, ilgop si)
- 8시 (여덟 시, yeodeol si)
- 9시 (아홉 시, ahop si)
- 10시 (열 시, yeol si)
- 11시 (열한 시, yeolhan si)
- 12시 (열두 시, yeoldu si)

# Telling the Minutes and Seconds

Use Sino-Korean numbers for minutes and seconds, followed by "분" (bun) for minutes and "초" (cho) for seconds.

- **12:03**
- - 열두 시 삼 분 (yeoldu si sam bun)
- **10:23:12**
- - 열시 이십삼분 십이초 (yeolsi isip-sam bun sipi-cho)

# AM and PM

To distinguish between AM and PM, use "오전" (ojeon) for AM and "오후" (ohu) for PM.

- **9 AM**
- - 오전 아홉 시 (ojeon ahop si)
- **9 PM**
- - 오후 아홉 시 (ohu ahop si)



## Common Phrases and Translations

Here are some useful phrases for telling time in Korean:

- **1 o'clock**
- - 한 시 (han si)
- **9 AM**
- - 오전 아홉 시 (ojeon ahop si)
- **9 PM**
- - 오후 아홉 시 (ohu ahop si)
- **12:03**
- - 열두 시 삼 분 (yeoldu si sam bun)
- **10:23:12**
- - 열시 이십삼분 십이초 (yeolsi isip-sam bun sipi-cho)

By mastering these basics, you'll be well on your way to confidently telling time in Korean. Happy learning!