

# Guide for Searching the Korean Collection

## Korean Romanization in PITT*Cat*

### ■ Introduction

Unlike Chinese or Japanese, modern Korean rarely uses Chinese characters. Most modern Korean literature is written entirely in the native Korean alphabet, although academic works may still continue to mix the Korean alphabet and Chinese characters (in South Korea, never in North Korea).

The letters of the Korean alphabet are combined and written in syllable blocks, instead of linearly, as in most languages. Each syllable is made in one of the following ways: (1) vowel (2) vowel + consonant (3) consonant + vowel (4) consonant + vowel + consonant.

The Library of Congress follows the McCune-Reischauer system of Romanization for Korean. However, it must be pointed out that the Romanization is based on pronunciation, not on the writing. This rule is different from most of the Romanization rules used by the Library of Congress. Before searching Korean books, therefore, you need to have some knowledge of the pronunciation of Korean words. For example, 백마 is Romanized as [paengma] rather than [paekma]. Because the adjacent consonants ㅍ and ㅁ are assimilated, the sound of 백마 is changed. A detailed explanation and more examples will be provided later.

### ■ Korean Romanization Table

Consonant	McCune-Reischauer Romanization	Vowel	McCune-Reischauer Romanization
ㄱ	k, g	아	a
ㄱㄱ	kk	애	ae
ㄴ	n	야	ya
ㄷ	t, d	얘	yae
ㄷㄷ	tt	어	o
ㄹ	l, r	에	e
ㅁ	m	여	yo
ㅂ	p, b	예	ye
ㅂㅂ	pp	오	o
ㅅ	s	요	yo
ㅅㅅ	ss	와	wa
ㅇ	~ng	왜	wae
ㅈ	ch, j	외	oe
ㅈㅈ	tsch	우	u
ㅊ	ch, j	위	wo
ㅋ	k	웨	we
ㅌ	t	위	wi
ㅍ	p	유	yu

ㅎ	h	으	u
		의	ui
		이	i

■ **Special Provisions for Korean Romanization**

1. The case of assimilation of adjacent consonants

e.g. 백마 [뱅마] Paengma                      신문로 [신문노] Sinmunno  
    종로 [중노] Chongno                      왕십리 [왕심니] Wangsimni  
    신라 [실라] Silla

2. The case of the epenthesis: ㄴ and ㄹ

e.g. 학여울 [항녀울] Hangnyoul              알약 [알략] Allyak

3. The case of palatalization

e.g. 해돋이 [해도지] Haedoji              같이 [가치] Kachi  
    맞히다 [마치다] Machida

4. When ㄱ, ㄷ, ㅂ, and ㅈ are adjacent to ㅎ

e.g. 좋고 [조코] Choko                      놓다 [노타] Nota  
    잡혀 [자펴] Chapyo                      낱지 [나치] Nachi

5. Personal names are written by family name first, followed by a space and the given name. In principle, syllables in given names are separated, or the use of a hyphen between syllables is permitted.

e.g. 민용하 Min Yong Ha (or, Min Yong-Ha)  
    송나리 Song Na Ri (or, Song Na-Ri)

6. Names of geographic features, cultural properties, and man-made structures may be written without hyphens.

e.g. 남산 Namsan                              속리산 Songnisan  
    금강산 Kumgangsán                      독도 Tokto  
    국립경주박물관 Kungnip kyongju pangmulgwan  
    안압지 Anapchi

■ **Examples in PITT*Cat***

독도는 한국땅 인가?  
Tokto nun hanguk ttang inga?

독도연구 문헌집  
Tokto yongu munhonjip

금강산 길라잡이  
**Kumgangsán killa chabi**

여성 청년층 집단의 취업 이행 실태와 정책 과제  
**Yosong chongnyonchung chiptan ui chwiop ihaeng siltae wa chongchaek kwaje**

여성과 법률  
**Yosong kwa pomnyul**