

Mistakes Koreans Make: “Make A Girlfriend”

babo level: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

You cannot make a girlfriend. Sorry... Try "finding" or "getting" a girlfriend instead!

Incorrect

"I hope I can make a girlfriend when I start university next month.

"All of my friends made boyfriends, except for me. Hopefully I can make one too!

"It's hard to make a girlfriend when you have no money."

Correct

"I hope I can find a girlfriend when I start university next month.

"All of my friends found boyfriends, except me. Hopefully I can get one too!"

"It's hard to find a girlfriend when you have no money."

Tips:

While it sounds strange to use the verb "make" when we talk about girlfriends or boyfriends, it is completely okay to use "make" when talking about friends. For instance, "I want to make a girlfriend" sounds strange. However, "I want to make some friends." is okay.

When we are talking about our friends who we are not in a relationship with we often use the words "male" and "female" to let the listener know the form of the relationship. For example, as a man, if I say "I spend a lot of time with my girlfriends." people will think I have many sexual relationships with many women. The correct way to say this would be "I spend a lot of time with my female friends."

If you are a male be careful not to say "boyfriends", unless of course, you are in fact, actually gay. For instance, "I play basketball during the week with my boyfriends and go for coffee on the weekends with my girlfriends." sounds very strange and confusing. The correct way would be to say: "I play basketball during the week with my male friends and go for coffee during the weekend with my female friends."

One last tip, most Koreans often use the word "hunting" when they go out to try to meet women on the weekend. The word "hunting" can be seen as very intimidating in the English language. Therefore, we actually use the words "chasing" or "looking for" instead. So, "lets go looking for some girls tonight." or "Sung Jin is always chasing girls." is more appropriate than "Let's go hunting for some girls tonight." or "Sung Jin is always hunting girls."

Daily Expressions & Idioms:

1.) **"turn on"**: Means to find a quality attractive or sexy.

"Women with long legs really turn me on."

"I find guys who exercise to be a turn on."

2.) **"turn-off"**: A quality you do not find attractive or sexy.

"Nothing turns me off more than a woman who smokes. It's disgusting."

"I'm turned off by men who are shorter than me."