

### LEVEL 1 LESSON 4

After listening to this lesson, you will be able to say “I am sorry” or “I apologize” and you will also be able to get someone’s attention when you want to say something to them or order something in a restaurant.

## 죄송합니다. [joe-song-hap-mi-da]

Do you remember how to say “Thank you” in Korean?

It is **감사합니다**. [gam-sa-ham-ni-da]

If you also remember that **감사합니다** is basically **감사** (“appreciation” or “thankfulness”) plus **합니다** (“I do”), you can assume that **죄송합니다** is also **죄송** plus **합니다**.

**죄송** [joe-song] means “apology”, “being sorry” or “feeling ashamed”, and **합니다** [hap-nida] means “I do”, so **죄송합니다** [joe-song-hap-ni-da] means “I am sorry.” or “I apologize.”

## 죄송합니다 is NOT always “I’m sorry”.

Even though **죄송합니다** [joe-song-hap-ni-da] is BASICALLY “I’m sorry”, you can’t use **죄송합니다** when you want to say “**I am sorry to hear that.**”

Many Korean people actually get confused when they talk about some bad news to their English-speaking friends and hear “I’m sorry” from them.

If you say “I’m sorry.” after you hear a piece of bad news from your Korean friend, he or she might say “**Why are YOU apologizing for that?**” to you.

This is because **죄송합니다** ONLY means “I apologize.”, “It was my bad.”, “Excuse me.” or “I shouldn’t have done that.” It can never mean “I’m sorry to hear that.”

## 저기요. [jeo-gi-yo]

In English, you can use the expression “Excuse me.” in all of the following situations.

- 1) when you are passing through a crowd of people
- 2) when you are leaving the room for a second
- 3) when you want to get someone’s attention and talk to them or let them know something
- 4) when you want to call the waiter in a restaurant or a cafe to order something

**저기요** [jeo-gi-yo] is an expression that can be translated to “Excuse me” but this Korean expression, 저기요 is ONLY used for situation number 3 and 4 above.

## How do you say “Excuse me.” when you want to pass through?

You can say:

**잠시만요.** [jam-si-man-yo] (literal meaning: “Just a second.”)

**죄송합니다.** [joe-song-ham-ni-da] (literal meaning: “I am sorry.”)

**잠깐만요.** [jam-kkan-man-yo] (literal meaning: “Just a second.”)

\*\* Yes, “jamsimanyo” and “jamkkanmanyo” are the same thing.

These are the most commonly used expressions. You don’t have to memorize them right now, but they are just good to know!