## Transcription rules

### Vowel letters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ㅏ** | **ㅓ** | **ㅗ** | **ㅜ** | **ㅡ** | **ㅣ** | **ㅐ** |
| a | eo | o | u | eu | i | ae |
| **ㅔ** | **ㅚ** | **ㅟ** | **ㅑ** | **ㅕ** | **ㅛ** | **ㅠ** |
| e | oe | wi | ya | yeo | yo | yu |
| **ㅒ** | **ㅖ** | **ㅘ** | **ㅙ** | **ㅝ** | **ㅞ** | **ㅢ** |
| yae | ye | wa | wae | wo | we | ui |

### Consonant letters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ㄱ** | **ㄲ** | **ㅋ** | **ㄷ** | **ㄸ** | **ㅌ** | **ㅂ** | **ㅃ** | **ㅍ** |
| g, k | kk | k | d, t | tt | t | b, p | pp | p |
| **ㅈ** | **ㅉ** | **ㅊ** | **ㅅ** | **ㅆ** | **ㅎ** | **ㄴ** | **ㅁ** | **ㅇ** | **ㄹ** |
| j | jj | ch | s | ss | h | n | m | ng | r, l |

The revised romanization transcribes certain phonetic changes that occur with combinations of the final consonant of one character and the initial consonant of the next:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **initial →** | **ㅇ** | **ㄱ** | **ㄴ** | **ㄷ** | **ㄹ** | **ㅁ** | **ㅂ** | **ㅅ** | **ㅈ** | **ㅊ** | **ㅋ** | **ㅌ** | **ㅍ** | **ㅎ** |
| **final ↓** |  |  | **g** | **n** | **d** | **r** | **m** | **b** | **s** | **j** | **ch** | **k** | **t** | **p** | **h** |
| ㄱ | k | g | kg | ngn | kd | ngn | ngm | kb | ks | kj | kch | k-k | kt | kp | kh, k |
| ㄴ | n | n | n-g | nn | nd | ll, nn | nm | nb | ns | nj | nch | nk | nt | np | nh |
| ㄷ | t | d, j | tg | nn | td | nn | nm | tb | ts | tj | tch | tk | t-t | tp | th, t, ch |
| ㄹ | l | r | lg | ll, nn | ld | ll | lm | lb | ls | lj | lch | lk | lt | lp | lh |
| ㅁ | m | m | mg | mn | md | mn | mm | mb | ms | mj | mch | mk | mt | mp | mh |
| ㅂ | p | b | pg | mn | pd | mn | mm | pb | ps | pj | pch | pk | pt | p-p | ph, p |
| ㅇ | ng | ng- | ngg | ngn | ngd | ngn | ngm | ngb | ngs | ngj | ngch | ngk | ngt | ngp | ngh |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Vowels : - | | |  |  |
| **ㅏ** | **ㅑ** | **ㅓ** | **ㅕ** | **ㅗ** |
| "a" | "ya" | "eo" | "yeo" | "o" |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **ㅛ** | **ㅜ** | **ㅠ** | **ㅡ** | **ㅣ** |
| "yo" | "oo" or "u" | "yoo" or "yu" | "eu" | "i" |
|  | | |  |  |
| Consonants : - | | |  |  |
| **ㄱ** | **ㄴ** | **ㄷ** | **ㄹ** | **ㅁ** |
| "g" or "k" | "n" | "d" or "t" | " r " or " l " | "m" |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **ㅂ** | **ㅅ** | **ㅇ** | **ㅈ** | **ㅊ** |
| "b" or "p" | "s" | - | " ch " | " ch' " |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **ㅋ** | **ㅌ** | **ㅍ** | **ㅎ** |  |
| " g' " or " k' " | " d' " | " p' " | " h " |  |
| Note that " **'** " means the letter is aspirated, i.e a sharp sound. | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ㅎ +** | **ㅏ +** | **ㄴ =** | **한** | han |  |
| h | a | n |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **ㄱ +** | **ㅜ +** | **ㄱ =** | **국** | guk |  |
| g | u | k |  |  | **한국 pronounced HanGuk meaning Korea** |

**Sample text in Korean (hangeul only)**

모든 인간은 태어날 때부터 자유로우며 그 존엄과 권리에 있어 동등하다. 인간은 천부적으로 이성과 양심을 부여받았으며 
서로 형제애의 정신으로 행동하여야 한다.

**Sample text in Korean (hangeul and hanja)**

Sample text in Korean (hangeul and hanja)

**Transliteration**

Modeun Ingan-eun Tae-eonal ttaebuteo Jayuroumyeo Geu Jon-eomgwa Gwonrie Iss-eo Dongdeunghada. Ingan-eun Cheonbujeog-euro Iseong-gwa Yangsim-eul Bu-yeobad-ass-eumyeo Seoro Hyungje-ae-ui Jeongsin-euro Haengdongha-yeo-yahanda.

**Hangul**

전문

유구한 역사와 전통에 빛나는 우리 대한 국민은 3·1 운동으로 건립된 대한민국 임시 정부의 법통과 불의에 항거한 4·19 민주 이념을 계승하고, 조국의 민주 개혁과 평화적 통일의 사명에 입각하여 정의·인도와 동포애로써 민족의 단결을 공고히 하고, 모든 사회적 폐습과 불의를 타파하며, 자율과 조화를 바탕으로 자유 민주적 기본 질서를 더욱 확고히 하여 정치·경제·사회·문화의 모든 영역에 있어서 각인의 기회를 균등히 하고, 능력을 최고도로 발휘하게 하며, 자유와 권리에 따르는 책임과 의무를 완수하게 하여, 안으로는 국민 생활의 균등한 향상을 기하고 밖으로는 항구적인 세계 평화와 인류 공영에 이바지함으로써 우리들과 우리들의 자손의 안전과 자유와 행복을 영원히 확보할 것을 다짐하면서 1948년 7월 12일에 제정되고 8차에 걸쳐 개정된 헌법을 이제 국회의 의결을 거쳐 국민 투표에 의하여 개정한다.

1987년 10월 29일

**Mixed script (Hangul with hanja)**

前文

悠久한 歷史와 傳統에 빛나는 우리 大韓國民은 3·1 運動으로 建立된 大韓民國臨時政府의 法統과 不義에 抗拒한 4·19 民主理念을 繼承하고, 祖國의 民主改革과 平和的統一의 使命에 立脚하여 正義·人道와 同胞愛로써 民族의 團結을 鞏固히 하고, 모든 社會的弊習과 不義를 打破하며, 自律과 調和를 바탕으로 自由民主的基本秩序를 더욱 確固히 하여 政治·經濟·社會·文化의 모든 領域에 있어서 各人의 機會를 均等히 하고, 能力을 最高度로 發揮하게 하며, 自由와 權利에 따르는 責任과 義務를 完遂하게 하여, 안으로는 國民生活의 均等한 向上을 基하고 밖으로는 恒久的인 世界平和와 人類共榮에 이바지함으로써 우리들과 우리들의 子孫의 安全과 自由와 幸福을 永遠히 確保할 것을 다짐하면서 1948年 7月 12日에 制定되고 8次에 걸쳐 改正된 憲法을 이제 國會의 議決을 거쳐 國民投票에 依하여 改正한다.

**Romanized (Transliterated)**

YuGuHan YeogSaWa JeonTongE BichNaNeun URi DaeHan GugMinEun 31 UnDongEuRo GeonRibDoen DaeHanMinGug ImSi JeongBuUi BeobTongGwa BurUiE HangGeoHan 419 MinJu INyeomEur GyeSeungHaGo, JoGugUi MinJu GaeHyeogGwa PyeongHwaJeog TongIrUi SaMyeongE IbGagHaYeo JeongUiInDoWa DongPoAeRoSseo MinJogUi DanGyeorEur GongGoHi HaGo, MoDeun SaHoeJeog PyeSeubGwa BurUiReur TaPaHaMyeo, JaYurGwa JoHwaReur BaTangEuRo JaYu MinJuJeog GiBon JirSeoReur DeoUg HwagGoHi HaYeo JeongChiGyeongJeSaHoeMunHwaUi MoDeun YeongYeogE IssEoSeo GagInUi GiHoeReur GyunDeungHi HaGo, NeungRyeogEur ChoeGoDoRo BarHwiHaGe HaMyeo, JaYuWa GwonRiE TtaReuNeun ChaegImGwa UiMuReur WanSuHaGe HaYeo, AnEuRoNeun GugMin SaengHwarUi GyunDeungHan HyangSangEur GiHaGo BakkEuRoNeun HangGuJeogIn SeGye PyeongHwaWa InRyu GongYeongE IBaJiHamEuRoSseo URiDeurGwa URiDeurUi JaSonUi AnJeonGwa JaYuWa HaengBogEur YeongWonHi HwagBoHar GeosEur DaJimHaMyeonSeo 1948Nyeon 7Wor 12IrE JeJeongDoeGo 8ChaE GeorChyeo GaeJeongDoen HeonBeobEur IJe GugHoeUi UiGyeorEur GeoChyeo GugMin TuPyoE UiHaYeo GaeJeongHanDa.  
1987년 10월 29일  
1987Nyeon 10Wor 29Ir

Source: Preamble to consitution of Republic of Korea ( <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_mixed_script#Example>)

# Korean KMW Notes

1. Keyboard mapping is entirely contextual - at any point, output depends only on actual context, not on saved strings.
2. The context will comprise zero or more hangul characters (up to three) followed by up to twelve jamo. Although most contexts will involve converting only one hangul (or up to three jamo) to hanja, we should probably allow longer strings of jamo to be entered without conversion until the selection digit is entered.

To do:

1. Add tooltips to IME showing the hangul to be replaced.
2. Prevent typing on with uncombined jamo.

# Hangul Combination Rules

1. Any consonant following a final consonant jamo will in most cases cause the preceding jamo to be combined.
2. The first specific exception is **g** after **n**, which will replace the **n** jamo by the **ng** jamo, but not combine the jamo until the next character is typed. If the next character is any other consonant, the preceding jamo will be combined, but if a vowel, the **ng**  will be revert to **n**  and the jamo for that syllable will be combined and followed by the **g**, starting a new syllable.
3. A second specific exception, treated slightly differently, is **h** after **c**. As -**ch** is not a normal ending in Korean, any c that is entered will normally start a new syllable (combining any pending previous syllable), but it is possible to enter a final **c** jamo by using shift (see below). In that case, h would always be considered part of the same final, and would never be separated, so will cause the pending sylable to be combined.
4. Only **p, t, k, m, n, l** and **ng** occur finally in normal Korean, so any other consonant after a vowel will cause the preceding (uncombined) jamo to be combined, unless the following rule is used.
5. Since loan words and old Korean text allows almost any consonant or consonant pair to be used syllable-finally, the jamo combination rules can be overridden, by holding SHIFT when the final is typed. In that case, any legal consonant string can be entered and will not be combined until a hyphen or some other non-letter character is pressed.
6. A vowel (a, e, i, o, u, y or w) after a single final consonant will cause that consonant to be treated as the start of a new syllable.

# Revised Romanization of Korean

### From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Revised Romanization of Korean** is the official [Korean language](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korean_language) [romanization](file:///\\fred\wiki\Romanization) system in [South Korea](file:///\\fred\wiki\South_Korea), replacing the older [McCune–Reischauer](file:///\\fred\wiki\McCune%25E2%2580%2593Reischauer) system. The new system eliminates [diacritics](file:///\\fred\wiki\Diacritic) in favour of digraphs and adheres more closely to Korean [phonology](file:///\\fred\wiki\Phonology) than to a suggestive rendition of Korean [phonetics](file:///\\fred\wiki\Phonetics) for non-native speakers.

The Revised Romanization limits itself to only the English [alphabet](file:///\\fred\wiki\Alphabet) (apart from limited, often optional use of the [hyphen](file:///\\fred\wiki\Hyphen)). It was developed by the National Academy of the Korean Language from 1995 and was released to the public on July 7, 2000, by South Korea's [Ministry of Culture and Tourism](file:///\\fred\wiki\Ministry_of_Culture_and_Tourism) in Proclamation No. 2000-8. The proclamation cites the following reasons for the new system:[[1]](#cite_note-MoCT2000-0)

* It is convenient to type on [computers](file:///\\fred\wiki\Computer) since it uses only Latin letters and symbols, doing away with the apostrophes and breves that plague [McCune-Reischauer](file:///\\fred\wiki\McCune-Reischauer).
* It promotes consistent romanization by native Korean speakers by better transcribing important language characteristics.
* It reduces the confusion caused by frequent omission of apostrophes and [diacritics](file:///\\fred\wiki\Diacritic).
* It rationalizes the Korean language with the plain ASCII text of internet domain names.

|  |
| --- |
| Contents  * [1 Features](#Features) * [2 Usage](#Usage) * [3 Transcription rules](#Transcription_rules)   + [3.1 Vowel letters](#Vowel_letters)   + [3.2 Consonant letters](#Consonant_letters) * [4 Criticism](#Criticism) * [5 See also](#See_also) * [6 References](#References) * [7 External links](#External_links) |

## Features

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Revised Romanization of Korean** | |
| [Hangul](file:///\\fred\wiki\Hangul) | 국어의 로마자 표기법 |
| [Hanja](file:///\\fred\wiki\Hanja) | 國語의 로마字 表記法 |
| **Revised Romanization** | gugeoui romaja pyogibeop |
| [McCune–Reischauer](file:///\\fred\wiki\McCune%25E2%2580%2593Reischauer) | kugŏŭi romacha p'yogipŏp |

Notable features of the Revised Romanization system are:

* 어 and 으 are written as [digraphs](file:///\\fred\wiki\Digraph_(orthography)) with two [vowel](file:///\\fred\wiki\Vowel) letters: *eo* and *eu*, respectively (replacing the *ŏ* and *ŭ* of the [McCune-Reischauer](file:///\\fred\wiki\McCune-Reischauer) system).
  + However, ㅝ is written as *wo* and ㅢ is written as *ui*.
* Unlike McCune-Reischauer, [aspirated](file:///\\fred\wiki\Aspiration_(phonetics)) consonants (ㅋ, ㅌ, ㅍ, ㅊ) have no [apostrophe](file:///\\fred\wiki\Apostrophe_(mark)): *k*, *t*, *p*, *ch*. Their unaspirated counterparts (ㄱ, ㄷ, ㅂ, ㅈ) are written with letters that are [voiced](file:///\\fred\wiki\Voiced) in English: *g*, *d*, *b*, *j*. However, all consonants that are pronounced as unreleased stops (which basically means all except ㄴ, ㄹ, ㅁ, ㅇ that are not followed by a vowel or [semivowel](file:///\\fred\wiki\Semivowel)) are written as *k*, *t*, *p*, with no regard to their morphophonemic value: 벽 → *byeo****k***, 밖 → *ba****k***, 부엌 → *bueo****k*** (But: 벽에 → *byeo****g****e*, 밖에 → *ba****kk****e*, 부엌에 → *bueo****k****e*)
* ㅅ is always written as *s* before vowels and semivowels; there is no *sh* except when [transliterating](file:///\\fred\wiki\Transliteration).
* ㄹ is *r* before a vowel or a semivowel, and *l* everywhere else: 리을 → ***r****ieu****l***, 철원 → *Cheo****r****won*, 울릉도 → [*Ulleungdo*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Ulleungdo), 발해 → [*Balhae*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Balhae). Just like in McCune-Reischauer, ㄴ is written *l* whenever pronounced as a [lateral](file:///\\fred\wiki\Lateral_consonant) rather than a [nasal consonant](file:///\\fred\wiki\Nasal_consonant): 전라북도 → [*Jeollabuk-do*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Jeollabuk-do)

In addition, it contains special provisions for regular phonological rules that makes exceptions to transliteration (see [Korean language#Phonology](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korean_language#Phonology)).

Other rules and recommendations include:

* A [hyphen](file:///\\fred\wiki\Hyphen) may optionally disambiguate syllables: 가을 → *ga****-****eul* (fall; autumn) versus 개울 → *gae****-****ul* (stream). However, few official publications make use of this provision, since actual instances of ambiguity among names are rare.
  + A hyphen must be used in linguistic transliterations, where it denotes syllable-initial ㅇ (except at the beginning of a word): 없었습니다 → *eobs-eoss-seubnida*, 외국어 → *oegug****-****eo*, 애오개 → [*Ae-ogae*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Aeogae_Station)
* It is permitted to hyphenate syllables in the [given name](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korean_name), following common practice. Certain phonological changes, ordinarily indicated in other contexts, are ignored in names, to better disambiguate between names: 강홍립 → *Gang Hong****r****ip* or [*Gang Hong-rip*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Gang_Hong-rip), 한복남 → *Han Bo****k****nam* or *Han Bo****k-****nam*
* Administrative units (such as the [*do*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korean_province)) are hyphenated from the [placename](file:///\\fred\wiki\Placename) proper: 강원도 → [*Gangwon-do*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Gangwon-do_(South_Korea))
  + One may omit terms “such as 시, 군, 읍”: 평창군 → [*Pyeongchang-gun*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Pyeongchang_County) or *Pyeongchang*, 평창읍 → *Pyeongchang-eup* or *Pyeongchang*.
* However, names for geographic features and artificial structures are not hyphenated: 설악산 → [*Seoraksan*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Seoraksan), 해인사 → [*Haeinsa*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Haeinsa)
* Capitalize [proper nouns](file:///\\fred\wiki\Proper_noun).

## Usage

Similarly to several European languages that have undergone spelling simplifications (such as [Portuguese](file:///\\fred\wiki\Portuguese_language) or [Swedish](file:///\\fred\wiki\Swedish_language)), the Revised Romanization is not expected to be adopted as the official romanization of [Korean family names](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korean_name). For example, the common family name, Lee (이), would be *I* in both the Revised Romanization and McCune-Reischauer. Given names and [commercial](file:///\\fred\wiki\Commerce) names are encouraged to change, but it is not required. All Korean textbooks were required to comply with the new system by February 28, 2002. English-language newspapers in South Korea initially resisted the new system, citing its flaws, though all later gave in to government pressure. The [*Korea Times*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Korea_Times) was the last major English newspaper, which switched in May 2006 to the Revised Romanization.

North Korea continues to use a version of the McCune-Reischauer system of Romanization, which was in official use in South Korea from 1984 to 2000.

## Transcription rules

### Vowel letters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ㅏ** | **ㅓ** | **ㅗ** | **ㅜ** | **ㅡ** | **ㅣ** | **ㅐ** |
| a | eo | o | u | eu | i | ae |
| **ㅔ** | **ㅚ** | **ㅟ** | **ㅑ** | **ㅕ** | **ㅛ** | **ㅠ** |
| e | oe | wi | ya | yeo | yo | yu |
| **ㅒ** | **ㅖ** | **ㅘ** | **ㅙ** | **ㅝ** | **ㅞ** | **ㅢ** |
| yae | ye | wa | wae | wo | we | ui |

### Consonant letters

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ㄱ** | **ㄲ** | **ㅋ** | **ㄷ** | **ㄸ** | **ㅌ** | **ㅂ** | **ㅃ** | **ㅍ** |
| g, k | kk | k | d, t | tt | t | b, p | pp | p |
| **ㅈ** | **ㅉ** | **ㅊ** | **ㅅ** | **ㅆ** | **ㅎ** | **ㄴ** | **ㅁ** | **ㅇ** | **ㄹ** |
| j | jj | ch | s | ss | h | n | m | ng | r, l |

The revised romanization transcribes certain phonetic changes that occur with combinations of the final consonant of one character and the initial consonant of the next:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **initial →** | **ㅇ** | **ㄱ** | **ㄴ** | **ㄷ** | **ㄹ** | **ㅁ** | **ㅂ** | **ㅅ** | **ㅈ** | **ㅊ** | **ㅋ** | **ㅌ** | **ㅍ** | **ㅎ** |
| **final ↓** |  |  | **g** | **n** | **d** | **r** | **m** | **b** | **s** | **j** | **ch** | **k** | **t** | **p** | **h** |
| ㄱ | k | g | kg | ngn | kd | ngn | ngm | kb | ks | kj | kch | k-k | kt | kp | kh, k |
| ㄴ | n | n | n-g | nn | nd | ll, nn | nm | nb | ns | nj | nch | nk | nt | np | nh |
| ㄷ | t | d, j | tg | nn | td | nn | nm | tb | ts | tj | tch | tk | t-t | tp | th, t, ch |
| ㄹ | l | r | lg | ll, nn | ld | ll | lm | lb | ls | lj | lch | lk | lt | lp | lh |
| ㅁ | m | m | mg | mn | md | mn | mm | mb | ms | mj | mch | mk | mt | mp | mh |
| ㅂ | p | b | pg | mn | pd | mn | mm | pb | ps | pj | pch | pk | pt | p-p | ph, p |
| ㅇ | ng | ng- | ngg | ngn | ngd | ngn | ngm | ngb | ngs | ngj | ngch | ngk | ngt | ngp | ngh |

## Criticism

Despite governmental promotion, the revised system met with considerable opposition among foreign residents in South Korea, many of whom felt the revised system contained serious flaws and felt that the government failed to consult with them beforehand, they being the primary users of Romanized Korean inside South Korea.

Critics of the Revised Romanization System[[*who?*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Wikipedia:Avoid_weasel_words)] say that the one-to-one correspondence of Korean characters to Roman letters (e.g., usually representing ㄱ as *g*) that is the hallmark of the new system is overly simplistic and fails to represent sound changes that occur naturally when the position of a consonant changes[[*citation needed*](file:///\\fred\wiki\Wikipedia:Citation_needed)] (e.g., at the beginning of a word, ㄱ is pronounced closer to an unaspirated *k*, rather than as a straight *g*). A frequent complaint of many foreign residents and visitors to South Korea is that both Romanization systems hinder accurate and comprehensible rendering of Korean pronunciation.

Critics also complain that digraphs such as *eo* and *eu*, denoting sounds that differ from conventional European use, confuse those unfamiliar with the language. In English, for instance, *eo* as found in *geography*, *Leonardo*, or *neon* represents a sequence of two vowels, not the Korean monophthong. Due to this confusion, South Korea's capital, for example, is commonly mispronounced as `Sae-ool' in Germany. Defenders of the system cite English words such as *surg****eo****n* as evidence of the appropriateness of the combination, even though the sound is not an exact match. Other supporters point out that it is a system intended to transliterate into the [Roman alphabet](file:///\\fred\wiki\Latin_alphabet), not [English](file:///\\fred\wiki\English_language). However, other languages with a large inventory of distinct vowel phonemes similar to Korean (such as [Turkish](file:///\\fred\wiki\Turkish_language), [Hungarian](file:///\\fred\wiki\Hungarian_language), or [Swedish](file:///\\fred\wiki\Swedish_language)) resort to diacritics, with the exception of English, with its notoriously cumbersome orthography. [German](file:///\\fred\wiki\German_language), for example, usually writes *ae*, *oe*, and *ue* as *ä*, *ö*, and *ü*, with the [umlaut](file:///\\fred\wiki\Umlaut_(diacritic)) originating as a tiny "e" written above the vowel, and only uses digraphs when umlauts are unavailable, or in certain names (such as [Goethe](file:///\\fred\wiki\Goethe)). Also, a digraph, namely *eu*, is used to represent a very short vowel that is often used as an [epenthetic](file:///\\fred\wiki\Epenthetic) vowel for borrowings from English and other languages, leading to situations where the cluster *str-*, for example, ends up being written as *seuteur-*.

One motivation for the digraph "eo" appears to be an analogy with the conventional romanization "Seoul" of the South Korean capital. This romanization derives from an old French romanization *Séoul* in which the two syllables of this name denote "*sé*" and "*oul*, reflecting French orthography. The revised romanization instead treats this as a combination of "seo" and "ul", since *u* normally renders the second vowel (in accord with North European orthography).

The [Ministry of Culture & Tourism](file:///\\fred\wiki\Ministry_of_Culture_and_Tourism_(South_Korea)) says that the change was necessary because the McCune-Reischauer system did not adequately reflect important characteristics of the Korean language, making it difficult for native Korean speakers to use. For example, "The difference between some voiced and non-voiced sounds are in Korean little more than allophones, but [the] old system transcribed these as entirely different phonemes."[[1]](#cite_note-MoCT2000-0)

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| **“** | This difficulty contributed to confusion and inconsistency in the Romanizing of Korean. The old system differentiated between voiced and non-voiced consonants, making it very difficult for Koreans to understand and contributing to spellings such as "Kumkang" and "Hankuk" for "금강" and "한국" instead of "Kŭmgang" and "Han'guk," as would have been correct according to the old system. There were contradictions as well. "대구" was written "Taegu," but 동대구, the name of Daegu's largest passenger train terminal, was Romanized "Tongdaegu." And because "ㄷ, ㅂ, and ㅈ" have to be written in a way that a distinction is maintained between "ㅌ, ㅍ, and ㅊ," people rarely wrote "ㄷ, ㅂ, and ㅈ" as "t, p, and ch," even when they were conscious of the fact that this was not correct according to the old system, since they would not want to have words confused with the "t', p', and ch' " that often had the apostrophe omitted. The result was that "ㄷ, ㅂ, and ㅈ" were written "t, p, and ch" on road signs but as "d, b, and j" almost everywhere else, such as personal names and the names of companies and schools. | **”** |
| —[Ministry of Culture & Tourism](file:///\\fred\wiki\Ministry_of_Culture_and_Tourism_(South_Korea)), The Revised Romanization of Korean | | |

This, however, does not explain why the already existing [Yale Romanization](file:///\\fred\wiki\Yale_Romanization#Korean) was not adopted by the Korean government instead.

Despite criticism by foreigners accustomed to using McCune Reischauer, often people who do not know Korean, many foreign residents and scholars have found the new system simple and logical. While all Romanization schema may be akin to learning a new language, the NGR (New Government Romanization) is applied much more easily after short study. In the past the majority of non-Korean fluent users of Romanization did not understand the purpose of diacritics, hence often omitting them and confusing everyone else.

## References

1. ^ [*a*](#cite_ref-MoCT2000_0-0) [*b*](#cite_ref-MoCT2000_0-1) ["Ministry of Culture & Tourism: *The Revised Romanization of Korean*"](http://www.korea.net/korea/kor_loca.asp?code=A020303). July 2000. <http://www.korea.net/korea/kor_loca.asp?code=A020303>. Retrieved 2007-05-09.

## External links

* [National Institute of Korean Language](http://www.korean.go.kr/08_new/index.jsp) (without the simplified table)
  + [[1]](http://www.korean.go.kr/08_new/data/rule04.jsp) (examples)

ㅃㅉㄸㄲㅆㅛㅕㅑㅒㅖ{} shift - top letter row ㅎ무 무 ㅈㅁ ㅈㄷㄱ ㅉ뭏

ㅂㅈㄷㄱㅅㅛㅕㅑㅐㅔ[] no shift

ㅁㄴㅇㄹㅎㅗㅓㅏㅣ:" shift - middle letter row

ㅁㄴㅇㄹㅎㅗㅓㅏㅣ;' no shift

ㅋㅌㅊㅍㅠㅜㅡ< > ? shift - bottom letter row

ㅋㅌㅊㅍㅠㅜㅡ,./ no shift

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| 3142 | 3148  11BD | 3137  1103 | 3131  1100 | 3145  1109 | 315B  116D | 3155  1167 | 3151  1163 | 3150  1162 | 3154  1166 |
|  | 3141  1106 | 3134  1102 | 3147  110B | 3139  1105 | 314E  1112 | 3157  1169 | 3153  1165 | 314F  1161 | 3163  1175 |
|  | 314B  110F | 314C  1110 | 314A  110E | 314D  1111 | 3160  1172 | 315C  116E | 3161  1173 |  |  |

**Dubeolsik**

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Keyboard_Layout_Hangul.png)

[http://bits.wikimedia.org/skins-1.5/common/images/magnify-clip.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Keyboard_Layout_Hangul.png)

Dubeolsik Hangul keyboard layout

Dubeolsik (두벌식) is the most common and the sole national standard of Hangul keyboard layout in use in South Korea since 1969. Pressing the Ha/En (한/영) key once switches between Hangul as shown, and QWERTY. There is another key to the left of the space bar for [Hanja](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanja) input. But, if using a 104-keys keyboard, the right Alt key will become the Ha/En key, and the right Ctrl key will become the Hanja key. [Consonants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consonant) occupy the left side of the layout, while [vowels](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vowel) are on the right.

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# Testing Korean keyboard

A useful website is <http://www.thelapan.com/h2k/> showing both *Transcription* and *Transliteration* of Hangeul into Roman script.

*Transliteration* represents the Hangeul orthographically, and (in their implementation) capitalizes the start of each syllable. This makes it more easily reversible, so may be an appropriate way to handle romanized input.

*Transcription* represents the Hangeul phonetically, which is somewhat easier to read, but which is more difficult to use correctly for input.