Korean Consonants

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- 풜 or ᵉ [k, g] cut, gash; corner
- 뱽 or ᵀ between k and “hard g”
- [k’] aspirated k (extra air)
- [kk] tense k/g
- [n] knee
- exactly as n
- [t, d] door
- between t and d
- [t’] trap door
- [tt] tense t/d
- [r, l] eel
- “Spanish r”; l at end of word
- [m] mouth; mail
- exactly as m
- [p, b] bucket, pail
- between p and b
- [p’] pow!
- [pp] tense p/b
- [s, sh] skating
- a soft s, sh before l or y
- [ng] gong
- ng at end of syllable
- [h] hat
- as h
- [ch] jump
- between j and ch
- [ch’] a-choo!
- [ij] tense j/ch

1 Gothic typeface (고딕체)
2 at the beginning of syllable or between two vowels, a single tongue flap [r] as in Spanish (r, not rr), or as in the American pronunciation of “city.”
3 silent at the beginning of a syllable

The direction and order of strokes in writing the characters is generally top to bottom and left to right:

- by Stephen Wright, Ph.D.
- Originally created for teaching children, but mnemonics may be helpful for all ages.
- www.StephenWright.org/korean