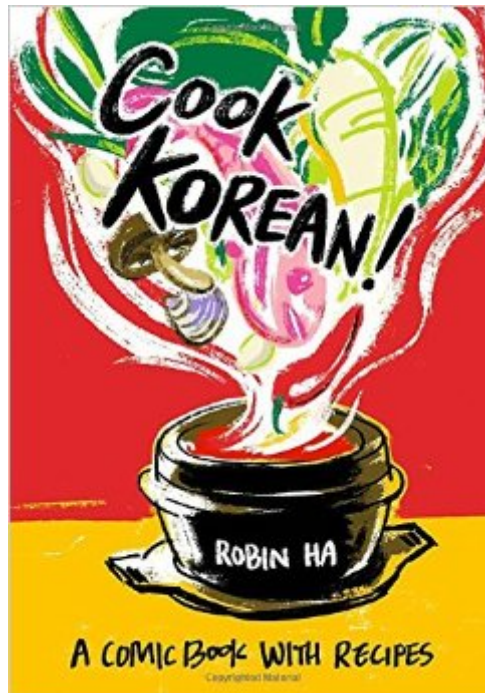


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# Cook Korean!: A Comic Book With Recipes



## Synopsis

Picture It: You Can Master Korean Cooking Â Fun to look at and easy to use, this unique combination of cookbook and graphic novel is the ideal introduction to cooking Korean cuisine at home. Robin Haâ™s colorful and humorous one- to three-page comics fully illustrate the steps and ingredients needed to bring more than sixty traditional (and some not-so-traditional) dishes to life. In these playful but exact recipes, youâ™ll learn how to create everything from easyÂ kimchi (mak kimchi) and soy garlic beef over rice (bulgogi dupbap) to seaweed rice rolls (gimbap) and beyond. Friendly and inviting, Cook Korean! is perfect for beginners and seasoned cooks alike who want to try their hand at this wildly popular cuisine.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (58 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is much more than a cookbook! You learn about Korean food and culture through entertaining comics, and the recipes show you how you can make many different dishes using the same handful of staples. The illustrations (there must be 100s) are adorable and descriptive. I especially love the gorgeous watercolors that mark each new chapter--the paintings somehow make the dishes look more delicious than high-res/styled photographs would. Even if you don't cook you'll enjoy the author's stories told through comics, the amazing artwork on each spread, and you'll probably end up cooking some tasty treats from the book!

What a fun read! I bought this as a present for my sister and we spent an enjoyable (and at time contentious :)) evening making the Japchae recipe. We ended up making a few changes here and

there but it was delicious. I highly recommend this book.

Cookbooks, like pantry staples, become routine at times. Take for instance, the recent trend in cookbooks with vivid images accompanied by matter-of-fact recipes (e.g. Jerusalem, Ottolenghi, etc.). It's now a tried and proven staple. It works, but it's beginning to feel a bit predictable like that 10 minute hummus recipe from a can. Then comes along something new, like that hummus recipe from Michael Solomonov's Zahav. You're inspired and feel in control because someone has de-mystified something elusive. It's a shot of passion. Cook Korean! is the jolt-cola of Korean cookbooks. Recipes are neatly sequenced into two pages brimming with original illustrations by the talented author, Robin Ha. Imagine: Persepolis meets a photo-sequenced Japanese-instruction-cookbook. Pockets of text accompany fun illustrations without over-indulging. Be inspired by child-like simplicity explaining foreign concepts to adults. And ingratiate yourself in restaurant-like Korean food at home. Why have others not done this? We are visual learners after all. Then again why have others not explained hummus like Zahav? Be sure to make extra space in your book shelves for Cook Korean. Only predicament is where it belongs? With the comics or with cookbooks?

Cook Korean! by Robin Ha is a delightful cookbook that de-mystifies Korean cuisine for the average (non-Korean) home cook. The book is well-organized and the intro section is just right- not too long, introducing the book's intent and describing ingredients to look for to make authentic Korean recipes. I didn't know if I would like a comic format so much, but her comics and writing style are easy and fun to follow, and I appreciated the little bits of info distributed throughout the book as well. Though there are no photos, the many drawings really help me understand what to do, from cutting ingredients to the right size to how the dish should look at the end. Chapters on street food, cocktails and anju, and Korean fusion dishes take care to acknowledge other delicious influences and features of Korean food and culture. We already had the ingredients for Oisobagi kimchi in our kitchen, and there will definitely be homemade bulgogi and nakji in my near future. I received this review copy from bloggingforbooks in exchange for my honest review, and I can't wait to Cook Korean! I highly recommend this book if you're just getting in to cooking Korean cuisine at home, it's a great, easy to follow guide and fun to read.

R. A. Walker's husband here. My wife bought me this book as a treat while I was out of town visiting my mom. I have read it thorough twice now (and when was the last time you did that with a

cookbook?) and I have to say that I am totally in love with it. I have a pretty large collection of cookbooks, and I tend to pare them regularly of the ones that don't get used. I recently purged another Korean cookbook which had beautiful photographs and completely inscrutable recipes. I am certain that Cook Korean! will be on my cookbook shelf forever. Robin Ha has demystified a cuisine that I love to eat but, despite being a good and experienced cook of multiple cuisines and styles, have been afraid to try and make at home. I feel, after reading it, not only that I can make the recipes in the book, but that I have a handle on Korean cooking in a general sense. I tested this by looking up some recipes online and yep, they make a lot more sense to me now. Something about the comic book format (and I'm a lover of comics as well as of cuisine) communicates the process of cooking this food to me in a way that a bare recipe never did. Robin's story of her awakening to a love of home cooking and of the traditions that inform Korean cuisine are charming, informative, and really connect with the reader. If you long for the taste of yukgaejang and kimchi jjigang at home, but find these dishes intimidating, BUY THIS BOOK. You will not be sorry. You will make delicious Korean food at home. It will make you happy in your belly.

This book is so much fun! Saw the author at a book festival doing a cooking demo and got my copy signed. I live in a large metropolitan area and have access to international markets, which for seaweeds and some ingredients you will definitely need (or ) but at least once the initial purchases are made for your pantry you can use the individual ingredients many times. Her recipes are fairly straightforward, some have more steps than others, but everything I have made has been good. The seaweed salad recipe has become a regular in our lineup, and what a great way to get greens and minerals in the body during this summer heat when greens aren't growing much. Its educational, practical, and I think would be a good gateway for kids and teens to hook them into an interest in food. Wish the author would collaborate with other cooks to illustrate a series of these type of books. I find without photographs, rather, its hand drawn of all the steps and the finished product helps the reader to not have as much stress about your dish not looking like a very stylized food photo like most cookbooks have these days, and focus on having an enjoyable time making simple good home meal preparations and its also educational with Korean culture tidbits spread throughout the book.

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