

SPANISH - ESPAÑOL

Myself and things I do

¿Qué haces?

What do you do/What are you doing?

Cantar



To sing

Tocar



To play

Bailar



To dance

Nadar



To swim

Saltar



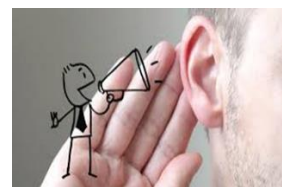
To jump

Hablar



To speak

Escuchar



To listen

Mirar



To look

Caminar



To walk

Spanish verb conjugations

For many Spanish learners, conjugations are one of the trickiest parts of the language to get used to.

Verb conjugation in Spanish often seems unpredictable, with few rules to follow. That's because Spanish has so many irregular verbs.

But if you think about it, so does English! Think find/found, sell/sold and ring/rang, to name just a few. You already learned those patterns, so you can do it again with Spanish.

The good news is most other aspects of Spanish are much easier. You can learn *regular* Spanish verb conjugation patterns pretty fast. And once you know the basics, and some of the common irregular verbs, it's easier to get a sense of how a verb should change.

Spanish Verb Tenses: The 3 Main Tenses to Master

The three main tenses you should learn first in Spanish are the present (*el presente*), the past (also called the preterite, *el pretérito*), and the future (*el futuro*). They're the ones you'll run into most. You can get a lot of things across from these tenses and still be understood in the beginning.

If you're curious, there's also the imperfect, perfect, conditional, subjunctive, imperative, and gerund forms, too. But you should go back to those later after you've mastered the main three tenses.

You do need to know the infinitive form of Spanish verbs, too. This is the dictionary form: the way the verb appears in the dictionary, unconjugated. In English, infinitives usually have the word "to" in front of them, such as "to sing" (*cantar* in Spanish). That's the infinitive form. You'll need to know that because the infinitive form defines how verbs get classified.

Spanish Verb Conjugation: The Basics

First things first: there are **three** classes of Spanish verbs:
-ar verbs, -er verbs, and -ir verbs.

These are the infinitive verb endings (or dictionary form of the verb). I used *cantar* ("to sing") as an example above: it's an -ar verb, because its infinitive form ends in "ar". See how that works?

So to understand where to begin conjugating, you need to identify what kind of verb ending it has in its **infinitive** form, and what the stem or root of the verb is. In the case of *cantar*, the root is *cant-*

Each class of verbs uses a different conjugation pattern, and changes based on who the subject of the sentence is. So when learning Spanish word conjugation, you'll have to learn how each one changes in each tense. It's not as bad as it sounds!

So, let's review the basic pronouns:

Spanish	English
Yo	I
Tú	You
Él / Ella	He / She
Nosotros / Nosotras	We
Vosotros / Vosotras	You
Ellos / Ellas	They

Spanish Present Tense Conjugation: *El Presente*

Let's take a look at how a verb can change in first conjugation (-ar) in the Spanish present tense with different pronouns.

Spanish Present Tense -ar Verbs

Look at how the -ar verb *hablar* ("to speak") changes forms:

Hablar: To Speak		Verb root: habl-
Pronoun	Root + Conjugation	Present Tense
<i>yo</i>	habl + o	<i>hablo</i>
<i>tú</i>	habl + as	<i>hablas</i>
<i>él, ella</i>	habl + a	<i>habla</i>
<i>nosotros/nosotras</i>	habl + amos	<i>hablamos</i>
<i>vosotros/vosotras</i>	habl + áis	<i>habláis</i>
<i>ellos, ellas</i>	habl + an	<i>hablan</i>



I know this is very challenging for you, no worries, in this unit we will only take a look at the First Person Singular 'Yo'.

The First Person of **-ar** verbs.

¿Qué haces?

Cantar: Yo canto (I sing / I am singing)

Tocar: Yo toco (I play/am playing)

Bailar: Yo bailo (I dance/ I am dancing)

Nadar: Yo nado (I swim/I am swimming)

Saltar: Yo salto (I jump/I am jumping)

Hablar: Yo hablo (I speak / I am speaking)

Escuchar: Yo escucho (I listen to/I am listening to)

Mirar: Yo miro (I look at/ I am looking at)

Caminar: Yo camino (I walk/ I am walking)

Pronunciation:

Canto = can-toh	Hablo = ab-loh
Toco = toc-oh	Escucho = es-koo-choh
Bailo = bye-loh	Miro = meer-oh
Nado = nah-doh	Camino = cam-ee-no
Salto = sal-toh	¿Qué haces? = KEH-aah-thes

Actividades

1. Match the pictures with the right meaning in Spanish.

Cantar



Tocar

Hablar



Caminar

Mirar



Bailar

Escuchar



Nadar

Saltar



2. Scramble the infinitive verbs.

hlbara _____

cmianar _____

blaira _____

echusacr _____

ndaar _____

3. Complete the table below with the correct tense in each box. The first one is done for you.

Infinitive	First person singular
cant ar	cant o
habl ar	
escuch ar	
	sal to
mir ar	
	toc o
	cam ino
bail ar	
nad ar	

4. Choose an action for each verb. Practice at home the actions and the words. Try to challenge your family playing 'Simon says' (Simón dice... / Ms Gómez dice...). You can also play with Carmen and Carlos.



5. Underline the root of the verb in green and the first person ending in red. Follow the example:

<u>canto</u>	miro	toco
escucho	hablo	salto
camino	bailo	nado

Challenge

Write the first person singular of the infinitive form **-ar**. Translate the verbs to English (<https://translate.google.com/?hl=en>).

English	Infinitive	First person singular
To study	estudiar	estudio
	ayudar	
	pagar	
	sacar	
	peinar	
	amar	
	enviar	
	comprar	
	cocinar	
	empujar	

Listen to the song 'Canción de los verbos':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjWWL49zRdE>

Play this game on line:

<https://www.digitaldialects.com/Spanish/Verbsinfinitive.htm>