



El alfabeto / The Alphabet

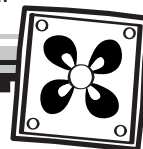
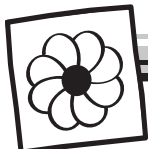
Learn the sounds of the Spanish alphabet.

La letra	Una palabra	El sonido de la letra
Aa	agua	a (hot)
Bb	bebé	be (boat)
Cc *	cepillo or coco	ce (silly) or (cola)
CHch **	chocolate	che (chocolate)
Dd	dedo	de (day)
Ee	elefante	e (rake)
Ff	fuego	efe (fire)
Gg *	gato or gigante	ge (goat) or (hill)
Hh	hoja	hache (hour)
Ii	isla	i (meat)
Jj	jirafa	jota (him)
Kk	koala	ka (cat)
Ll	limón	ele (lemon)
LLll **	llanta	elle (yellow)
Mm	manzana	eme (map)
Nn	número	ene (nap)
Ññ	ñu	eñe (canyon)
Oo	ocho	oh (joke)
Pp	papalote	pe (pillow)
Qq	queso	cu (can)
Rr	rama	ere (rose)
rr ***	perro	erre (rolled r sound)
Ss	siete	ese (silly)
Tt	tigre	te (tiptoe)
Uu	uvas	u (balloon)
Vv	violín	ve (baby)
Ww	waffle (no native Spanish words)	doble ve (worm)
Xx	xilófono	equis (xylophone)
Yy	yate	i griega (yawn)
Zz	zorro	zeta (set)

* The letters c and g are pronounced differently, depending on the vowel that follows. A c followed by a, o, or u would be pronounced "k." A c followed by an i or e is pronounced like "s." Similarly, a g followed by an a, o, or u would be pronounced like the g in "goat." A g followed by an i or e is pronounced like the h in "hill."

** The letter combinations ch and ll are traditionally considered unique letters in the Spanish alphabet.

*** The letter combination rr is not always considered a separate letter, but it is a unique sound in Spanish.





¿Qué quiere decir? / What Does It Mean?

Most Spanish speakers are polite and show respect for each other in their greetings. They usually shake hands when introduced and when they leave, and they will stand to greet you if seated.

¡Hola! Hello!
 ¡Buenos días! Good morning!
 ¡Buenas tardes! Good afternoon! (This is used until the sun sets.)
 ¡Buenas noches! Good evening or good night!

¡Adiós! Good-bye!
 ¡Hasta luego! See you later!
 ¡Hasta mañana! See you tomorrow!

Señor Mr.
 Señora Mrs.
 Señorita Miss or Ms.

don title of respect for a man—don Luis
 doña title of respect for a woman—doña Marta

¿Qué quiere decir ... ? What does ... mean?
 Quiere decir It means ...

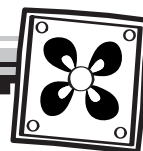
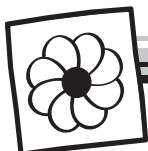
¡Lo siento! I am sorry!
 ¡Perdone! Excuse me!

Por favor Please
 ¡Gracias! Thank you!
 ¡De nada! You're welcome!
 ¡No es nada! It's nothing!

¡El gusto es mío! The pleasure is mine! or Pleased to meet you!
 ¡Igualmente! Equally! or Likewise!



* Note: In Spanish, questions and exclamations are “surrounded” by punctuation marks.
 There is one mark at the beginning of the sentence and another at the end.





Los números / Numbers

- ▶ In Spanish, the numbers 1–15 have their own unique names. After 15, the numbers have names that are really two numbers linked by a **y** or **i**, which mean “and.”
- ▶ The numbers 16–19 and 21–29 have names which consist of the names of two smaller numbers, joined into one word by **i**.

Examples: 18 = *dieciocho* or “ten and eight”
 23 = *veintitrés* or “twenty and three”

0	cero	10	diez	20	veinte
1	uno	11	once	21	veintiuno
2	dos	12	doce	22	veintidós
3	tres	13	trece	23	veintitrés
4	cuatro	14	catorce	24	veinticuatro
5	cinco	15	quince	25	veinticinco
6	seis	16	dieciséis	26	veintiséis
7	siete	17	diecisiete	27	veintisiete
8	ocho	18	dieciocho	28	veintiocho
9	nueve	19	diecinueve	29	veintinueve



Escriba los números en español.
 Write the numbers in Spanish.

20	_____	18	_____
11	_____	0	_____
4	_____	5	_____
8	_____	10	_____
1	_____	24	_____
14	_____	22	_____

