

REGULAR VERBS

Estar

Review **estar**.

To be	Estar
I'm	estoy (eh-'stoh·ee)
You're (informal)	estás (eh-'stahs)
You're (formal), He's, She's, It's	está (eh-'stah)
We're	estamos (eh-'stah-mohs)
You're (pl.), They're	están (eh-'stahn)

¡Acción!

Present Progressive Tense

To clearly express your thoughts in Spanish, you'll need to learn as many verbs as possible. Let's begin with one of the easiest verb forms to use. It's the **present progressive tense** and it refers to actions that are taking place at this moment. It is similar to using our "ing" form in English. *Simply change the base verb ending slightly, and then combine the new form with the five forms of the verb **estar**.* The **-ar** verbs become **ando** ('ahn-doh), while the **-er** and **-ir** verbs become **-iendo** ('yehn-doh).

to work I'm working.	trabajar (trah-bah-'hahr) Estoy trabajando.	working We're working	trabajando (trah-bah-'hahn-doh) Estamos trabajando.
to eat He is eating.	comer (koh-'mehr) Está comiendo.	eating You're eating.	comiendo (koh-mee-'ehn-doh) Estás comiendo.
to write They're writing.	escribir (eh-skree-'beer) Están escribiendo.	writing She's writing.	escribiendo (eh-skree-bee-'ehn-doh) Está escribiendo.

Some verbs change in spelling and pronunciation when you add the **-ndo** ending. Look at these examples:

to sleep to read	dormir (dohr-'meer) leer (leh-'ehr)	sleeping reading	durmiendo (duhr-mee-'ehn-doh) leyendo (leh-'yehn-doh)
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Powerful Pronouns

Review the pronouns:

I	yo	(yoh)
you (<i>informal</i>)	tú	(too)
you (<i>formal</i>)	usted	(oo-'stehd)
you (plural)	ustedes	(oo-'steh-dehs)
he	él	(ehl)
she	ella	('eh-yah)
we	nosotros	(noh-'soh-trohs)
they (masculine)	ellos	('eh-yohs)
they (feminine)	ellas	('eh-yahs)

Regular Verbs

Present Tense

We have learned that our Spanish verbs change when we talk about current action. The same thing happens when we refer to everyday actions. *However, this time the verbs shift according to who completes the action.* These patterns are the same for most action words.

-ar Verbs

To speak	Hablar (ah-'blahr)	Ending
I speak	habl<u>o</u> ('ah-bloh)	-o
You speak (<i>informal</i>)	habl<u>as</u> ('ah-blahs)	-as
You speak (<i>formal</i>); he, she speaks	habl<u>a</u> ('ah-blah)	-a
We speak	habl<u>amos</u> (ah-'blah-mohs)	-amos
You (<i>plural</i>), they speak	habl<u>an</u> ('ah-blahn)	-an

-er Verbs

To eat	Comer ('koh-mehr)	Ending
I eat	com<u>o</u> ('koh-moh)	-o
You eat (<i>informal</i>)	com<u>es</u> ('koh-mehs)	-es
You eat (<i>formal</i>); he, she eats	com<u>e</u> ('koh-meh)	-e
We eat	com<u>emos</u> (koh-'meh-mohs)	-emos
You (<i>plural</i>), they eat	com<u>en</u> ('koh-mehn)	-en

-ir Verbs

To write	Escribir (<i>eh-skree-'beer</i>)	Ending
I write	escribo (<i>eh-'skree-boh</i>)	-o
You write (<i>informal</i>)	escribes (<i>eh-'skree-behs</i>)	-es
You write (<i>formal</i>); he, she writes	escribe (<i>eh-'skree-beh</i>)	-e
We write	escribimos (<i>eh-skree-'bee-mohs</i>)	-imos
You (<i>plural</i>), they write	escriben (<i>eh-'skree-behn</i>)	-en

To handle any encounter with a Spanish speaker, make sure you've set aside appropriate Spanish verbs.

-ar Verbs

to help	ayudar (<i>ah-yoo-'dahr</i>)
to look for	buscar (<i>boo-'skahr</i>)
to answer	contestar (<i>kohn-teh-'stahr</i>)
to teach	enseñar (<i>ehn-seh-'nyahr</i>)
to enter	entrar (<i>ehn-'trahr</i>)
to deliver	entregar (<i>ehn-treh-'gahr</i>)
to listen	escuchar (<i>eh-skoo-'chahr</i>)
to park	estacionar (<i>eh-stah-see-oh-'nahr</i>)
to study	estudiar (<i>eh-stoo-dee-'ahr</i>)
to sign	firmar (<i>fear-'mahr</i>)
to clean	limpiar (<i>leem-pee-'ahr</i>)
to call	llamar (<i>yah-'mahr</i>)
to arrive	llegar (<i>yeh-'gahr</i>)
to fill out	llenar (<i>yeh-'nahr</i>)
to carry/wear	llevar (<i>yeh-'vahr</i>)
to drive	manejar (<i>mah-neh-'hahr</i>)
to look at	mirar (<i>mee-'rahr</i>)
to need	necesitar (<i>neh-seh-see-'tahr</i>)
to pass	pasar (<i>pah-'sahr</i>)
to ask	preguntar (<i>preh-goon-'tahr</i>)
to return	regresar (<i>reh-greh-'sahr</i>)
to end	terminar (<i>tehr-mee-'nahr</i>)
to take	tomar (<i>toh-'mahr</i>)
to use	usar (<i>oo-'sahr</i>)
to visit	visitar (<i>vee-see-'tahr</i>)

-er Verbs

to drink	beber (<i>beh-‘behr</i>)
to eat	comer (<i>koh-‘mehr</i>)
to read	leer (<i>leh-‘ehr</i>)

-ir Verbs

to open	abrir (<i>ah-‘breer</i>)
to attend	asistir (<i>ah-see-‘steer</i>)
to write	escribir (<i>eh-skree-‘beer</i>)
to live	vivir (<i>vee-‘veer</i>)

Practice

As you take on the lists of **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs above, utilize the *present progressive* and *present tense* patterns that you learned.



Check Your Learning

Without looking at the previous pages, try to join the Spanish verbs with their English equivalents. Feel free to work with a partner.

to help	estacionar
to eat	llegar
to read	contestar
to teach	enseñar
to look for	entrar
to answer	usar
to listen	firmar
to park	buscar
to enter	estudiar
to deliver	escuchar
to call	beber
to arrive	vivir
to fill out	ayudar
to study	visitar
to sign	llamar
to look at	mirar
to carry/wear	llevar
to drive	manejar
to ask	preguntar
to return	necesitar
to end	pasar
to need	tomar
to pass	asistir
to visit	escribir
to drink	comer
to take	llenar
to use	leer
to open	abrir
to attend	regresar
to write	terminar
to live	entregar

28-31 – Expert

23-27 – Proficient

16-22 – Competent

8-15 – Progressing

Less than 8 - Novice

More Practice – Conversation

Working with another participant, use the verbs we worked on today to describe a day in your life. If desired, use the space below to create a script before beginning your conversation: