

Common and Useful Verbs

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WHAT'S COVERED

In this lesson, you will learn about some of the verbs you will use most frequently in Spanish.

Specifically, this lesson will cover:

1. La Lista de Verbos (Verb List)
2. Other Important Verbs

1. La Lista de Verbos (Verb List)

Now that you know how to use pronouns and verbs, it is time for you to start building your verb repertoire. The verbs in this section will be most helpful in your profession. You will learn what they mean in English and you will see the Spanish infinitive (ending in "ar," "er," or "ir"), the first person singular (conjugated for "yo" and ending in "o"), and the third person singular (conjugated for "él," "ella," "usted," and ending in "a" or "e").

Irregular forms are noted with an asterisk. You will simply have to memorize these forms since they do not follow the patterns you've learned. Also, some of the verbs appear in bold; this is because we will discuss them in the next lesson.

English Verb	Spanish Infinitive	First Person	Third Person
to ask	preguntar	pregunto	pregunta
to ask for	pedir	pido*	pide*
to be	estar	estoy*	está*
to be	ser	soy*	es*
to be able to	poder	puedo*	puede*
to breathe	respirar	respiro	respira
to bring	traer	traigo*	trae
to buy	comprar	compro	compra
to call	llamar	llamo	llama
to close	cerrar	cierro*	cierra*
to come	venir	vengo*	viene*
to do	hacer	hago*	hace*

to drink	beber	bebo	bebe
to eat	comer	como	come
to explain	explicar	explico	explica
to fill	surtir	surto	surte
to fill out	llenar	lleno	llena
to follow	seguir	sigo*	sigue*
to give	dar	doy*	da
to go	ir	voy*	va*
to have	tener	tengo*	tiene*
to hear	oír	oigo*	oye*
to know	conocer	conozco*	conoce
to know	saber	sé*	sabe
to leave	salir	salgo*	sale
to listen to	escuchar	escucho	escucha
to live	vivir	vivo	vive
to look at/watch	mirar	miro	mira
to mix	mezclar	mezclo	mezcla
to need	necesitar	necesito	necesita
to open	abrir	abro	abre
to ought to	deber	debo	debe
to pay	pagar	pago	paga
to pick up	recoger	recojo*	recoge
to prefer	preferir	prefiero*	prefiere*
to prepare	preparar	preparo	prepara
to prescribe	recetar	receto	receta
to put/place	poner	pongo*	pone
to read	leer	leo	lee
to refill	surtir	surto	surte
to repeat	repetir	repito*	repite*
to require	requerir	requiero*	requiere*
to rest	descansar	descanso	descansa
to return	devolver	devuelvo*	devuelve*
to return	regresar	regreso	regresa
to return	volver	vuelvo*	vuelve*
to say/tell	decir	digo*	dice*

to see	ver	veo*	ve*
to sell	vender	vendo	vende
to sign	firmar	firmo	firma
to sleep	dormir	duermo*	duerme*
to take	tomar	tomo	toma
to talk/speak	hablar	hablo	habla
to understand	comprender	comprendo	comprende
to use	usar	uso	usa
to wait	esperar	espero	espera
to walk	caminar	camino	camina
to want to	querer	quiero*	quiere*
to work	trabajar	trabajo	trabaja
to write	escribir	escribo	escribe

2. Other Important Verbs

There are a couple of other important verbs for you to learn that do not follow the patterns in the verb list.

The verb **hay** means **there is/there are**. "Hay" only has one form.

🔗 EXAMPLE "Hay un lápiz" means "There is one pencil." "Hay dos lápices" means "There are two pencils."

Also, you should know that **me gusta...** means **I like...** (literally, it means "...is pleasing to me").

🔗 EXAMPLE "Me gusta el libro" means "The book is pleasing to me."

The other form, **le gusta...**, means **he/she/you like(s)...** (again, literally, it means "...is pleasing to him/her/you").

🔗 EXAMPLE "A Juan le gusta el libro" means "Juan likes the book."



SUMMARY

In this lesson, you were introduced to a **verb list** containing the Spanish verbs that you will likely use most often in your profession. Some of these verbs are irregular, meaning that they do not adhere to the normal conjugation rules. The best way to approach irregular verbs is to memorize their different forms through extra practice. You also learned two **other important verbs** that do not follow the verb patterns.

¡Buena suerte!

Support

If you are struggling with a concept or terminology in the course, you may contact **SpanishforNursesSupport@capella.edu** for assistance.

If you are having technical issues, please contact **learningcoach@sophia.org**.

Source: This content has been adapted from "Spanish for Nurses" by Stephanie Langston.