

Using Two Verbs Together

by Sophia Tutorial



WHAT'S COVERED

In this lesson, you will learn how to use two verbs together in a sentence according to Spanish grammar rules. Specifically, this lesson will cover:

1. Al Usar Dos Verbos Juntos (Using Two Verbs Together)
 - a. Making a Request

1. Al Usar Dos Verbos Juntos (Using Two Verbs Together)

Your Spanish will sound much more advanced once you are able to combine two verbs. You will also drastically increase the number of things you are able to communicate. Consider how you naturally combine verbs in English.

🔗 **EXAMPLE** You need to fill out this form. You should take this medicine with water. Can you return at 4:00?

When you combine two verbs in Spanish, simply conjugate (change) the first verb and leave the second verb in the infinitive. The first verb will almost always be one of the following:

- Deber
- Necesitar
- Poder
- Querer
- Tener

These verbs will help you obtain important information from your patients and will allow you to politely tell them what to do.

Verb	Example Sentence	English Translation
deber	Usted <u>debe tomar</u> la medicina tres veces cada día.	You <u>should take</u> the medicine three times a (each) day
necesitar	Usted <u>necesita tomar</u> la medicina con agua.	You <u>need to take</u> the medicine with water.

poder	¿Puede usted <u>volver</u> a las cuatro?	Can you <u>return</u> at four?
querer	Yo <u>quiero explicar</u> a usted esta medicina.	I <u>want to explain</u> to you this medicine.
tener	Yo <u>tengo que llamar</u> a la doctora.	I <u>have to call</u> the doctor.

Note that when using the verb "tener" with another verb, you must put **que** (pronounced "kay") after "tener."

1a. Making a Request

The most polite way of making a request in Spanish is to use the word **pudiera**, which means **could you (please)**.

➞ EXAMPLE "¿Pudiera llenar esta forma?" means "Could you please sign this form?"

You can also say **favor de**, which literally translates to **favor of**. Simply put an infinitive after it.

➞ EXAMPLE "¿Favor de llenar esta forma?" also means "Could you please fill out this form?"

You can also use some very general expressions to express similar sentiments. Again, just add an infinitive.

Expression	Example Sentence	English Translation
es necesario	Es necesario tomar toda la medicina.	It is necessary to take all of the medicine.
es importante	Es importante dormir bien.	It is important to sleep well.
es posible	¿Es posible caminar un poco?	Is it possible to walk around a little?



SUMMARY

In this lesson, you learned that you can **use two verbs together** in Spanish by conjugating the first verb and leaving the second verb in the infinitive. When **making a request**, you can use the word "pudiera" before the infinitive verb, which is the most polite way of asking someone to do something. There are also some general expressions you can use with similar meanings.

¡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.