

Spanish verb tenses

Verb tense	Usage or meaning	Base	-ar	-er	-ir
Present Indicative	present action, eg. He now <u>studies</u> in the library.	Infinitive - ar/er/ir +>	o, as, a amos, áis, an	o,es,e emos, éis, en	o,es,e imos ís, en
Preterit	past action that happened at a fixed point in time, a specific number of times, or during an enclosed amount of time; eg. He <u>studied</u> there all morning. *except: jaguar -eron	Infinitive - ar/er/ir +>	é aste ó amos asteis aron	<u>(er/ir)</u> í iste ió imos isteis ieron	<u>(irreg)</u> e iste o imos isteis ieron*
Imperfect	non-specific or continuous past action that took place repeatedly OR over an extended period of time, key phrases: used to; was +ing; would always; eg. <u>He used to study</u> in the dorm.	Infinitive - ar/er/ir +>	aba abas aba ábamos abais aban	ía ías ía íamos íais ían	ía ías ía íamos íais ían
Commands/ Imperative	Imp. is a mood because it doesn't move between time frame like tenses. it is now! 4 Subjects: <i>Tú, Ud, Uds, Vosotros</i>	Pos Tú: Tú of Pres - s	Neg Tú: Tú of Subjunct	Ud/Uds: -ar+e,en -er+a,an -ir+a,an	Vos: Infin-itive -r + d
Present Subjunctive	WIERDO: Wish/Will, Emotion, Impersonal expressions, Requests/Recommendations, Doubt/Denial, Ojala'. eg. I <u>hope</u> that he <u>has</u> the book.	Yo of Present Indic. - o +>	e, es, e emos éis en	a, as, a amos áis an	a,as,a amos áis an
Past or Imperfect Subjunctive	Simply refers to past actions in WIERDO situations eg. I wished that he <u>had</u> the book. * "se" is an uncommon equivalent alternative	Uds. of Preterit - ron +>	ra ras ra ´ramos rais ran	se * ses se ´semos seis sen	
PresentParticiple	verb with 'ing' ending, eg <u>running</u> , used with ESTAR in the Present and Past Progressive	Infinitive - ar/er/ir +>	+ ando	+ iendo	+ iendo
Present Progressive	to tell what a person is <u>doing</u> right now, eg. He/ <u>is</u> , they/ <u>are running</u> ... Present Indicative of ESTAR + Present Participle	estoy estás esta	estamos estáis están	<u>- ar</u> + ando	<u>- er/ir</u> + iendo
Past Progressive	to describe action during a given period or specific time in the past; eg. He/ <u>was</u> , they/ <u>were running</u> ... Imperfect of ESTAR + Present Participle	estaba estabas estaba	estábamos estabais estaban	<u>- ar</u> + ando	<u>- er/ir</u> + iendo

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<i>Past Participle</i>	past of an “ing verb”, eg. <u>spoken, eaten</u> ; used with HABER in <i>Present</i> and <i>Past Perfect</i> tenses	<i>Infinitive</i> - ar/er/ir +>	+	+ ado	+ ido
<i>Present Perfect Indicative</i>	implies completed action in a recent scope of time, including the present, but not time specific, like the <i>Preterit</i> : eg. <u>I have eaten</u> here for 3 years. <i>Present Indic</i> of HABER+ <i>Past Particip</i>	he has ha	hemos habéis han	<u>- ar</u> + ado	<u>- er/ir</u> + ido
<i>Present Perfect Subjunctive</i>	to describe recently completed action as in <i>Pres Perf Ind</i> , but in a sentence requiring <i>Subjunctive</i> (WIERDO) mood. eg. I hope that <u>he has eaten</u> . <i>Present Subj</i> of HABER+ <i>Past Particip</i>	haya hayas haya	hayamos hayáis hayan	<u>- ar</u> + ado	<u>- er/ir</u> + ido
<i>Past Perfect Indicative or Pluperfect</i>	describe action or event that happened before another past action; always a stated or implied cutoff in the past. eg. I knew that he <u>had eaten</u> before he... <i>Imperfect HABER+Past Part</i>	había habías había	habíamos habíais habían	<u>- ar</u> + ado	<u>- er/ir</u> + ido
<i>Past Perfect Subjunc. or Pluperfect Subjunctive</i>	describe action or event that happened before another past action; always a stated or implied cutoff in the past. <i>Past Perf Ind</i> , but in a sentence requiring <i>Subjunctive</i> (WIERDO) mood. eg. I wished that he <u>had eaten</u> before he... <i>Imperfect Subjun HABER+Past Partic</i>	hubiera hubieras hubiera	~iéramos hubierais hubieran	<u>- ar</u> + ado	<u>- er/ir</u> + ido
<i>Future</i>	describe actions that <u>will</u> take place; eg. We <u>will learn</u> this language.	<i>Infinitive</i> - ar/er/ir +>	é, ás, á emos, éis, án	same	same
<i>Conditional</i>	expresses a future uncertainty; usually a <u>but</u> or <u>if</u> expressing the reason for the uncertainty; eg. We <u>would learn</u> more if we lived in Latin America.	<i>Infinitive</i> - ar/er/ir +>	ía, ías, ía íamos, íais, ían	same	same

Key to abbreviations:

- Verb tenses are in ***bold italics***, they are grouped to show how they compare & contrast
- verbs are underlined in the short examples (eg.)
- ‘- ‘ means remove what follows
- ‘+’ means add what follows
- ‘+>’ means add endings from columns to the right for ar or er/ir verbs
- numbers in the first column are page references to Caminos and Spanish Verb Tenses (underlined italics).