

Commands - Mandatos / Imperative Form-Mood Video

COMMANDS TERMINOLOGY: IMPERATIVE FORM/MOOD = GIVING/REQUESTING COMMANDS


Types of Commands in Spanish. There are three main types of Spanish commands that you should know how to use according to how well you know the person you're speaking to and depending on what you want to express.

1. Informal commands - TU
2. Formal commands - USTED/USTEDES
3. Nosotros commands - NOSOTROS

AFFIRMATIVE = POSITIVE COMMAND: "DO -"
 NEGATIVE = COMMAND NOT TO DO SOMETHING: "DON'T -"

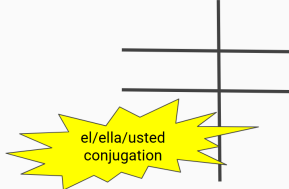
AFFIRMATIVE Tú (informal) COMMANDS Spanish - Informal Commands

HOW DO YOU FORM TU COMMANDS?

 You just need to use the third-person (el/ella/usted) singular form.


To tell someone to do something, surprisingly, most of the time you simply need to remember the él/ella present tense *indicativo* (INDICATIVE (INDICATIVO) IS THE TECHNICAL NAME FOR PRESENT TENSE). That's right – most regular verbs use the *él/ella* present indicative form for the *tú* imperative.

REGULAR AR/ER/IR VERBS



SO... "Tú" commands will end with **a** or **e**

"Tú" commands end with **a** or an **e**

 You just need to use the third-person (el/ella/usted) singular form.

- Estudia más.*
Study more.
- Habla despacio.*
Speak slowly.
- Maneja con cuidado.*
Drive carefully.

Infinitive type	Tú affirmative ending
-ar	-a
-ir/-er	-e

Irregular Informal Commands

Irregular Informal Affirmative Commands With STEM CHANGERS

Verbs that change their stems in the present tense also use the same new stem for the *tú* command. This is obvious, as boot verbs stem change in the *él/ella/usted* form, and that is the conjugation we are using to form the *tú* commands. As you can see, the *-a* or *-e* endings are added onto the same stem used in present tense:

PENSAR - ¡Piensa en tus hijos!
Think about your kids!
RECORDAR - Recuerdame
Remember me.
SERVIR - Sirve la comida.
Serve the food.

Infinitive verb	Stem change	Tú imperative form
mov-er	mov- = muev-	mueve
cerr-ar	cerr- = cierr-	cierra
inclu-ir	inclu- = incluy-	incluye

AFFIRMATIVE FORMAL AND PLURAL COMMANDS - USED WITH USTED AND USTEDES

If a native speaker gives you the command "Túteame" or "Puedes tutearme," then they're giving you the go-ahead to use the *tú* form with them.

- The **Formal commands** are polite requests that you make of adults who are not close friends. This includes patients if you are a doctor (unless your patients are young children), clients in a business setting, even waiters since in most Hispanic countries you will not find teenagers in that occupation.
- When in doubt, use the Ud. (usted) form unless you are invited to do otherwise.
- The **Plural form** represents commands or requests of more than one person. Like "ustedes" itself, the plural command form is neither formal nor informal in Latin America.

Instructional videos:

▶ 03 How to form Usted Commands in Spanish

▶ Formal Ud./Uds. Commands

HOW DO WE FORM FORMAL/PLURAL AFFIRMATIVE COMMANDS?

The formal commands have the same forms as the present subjunctive. So, if you know this tense, it will be easier for you to remember. If you don't know subjunctive yet, formal commands will help you when you do learn it.

STEP 1: Use the **yo form of the verb** in the present tense (simple present), as in *como, bebo, hablo*.

STEP 2: Get rid of the ending 'o' and replace it with the "OPPOSITE ENDING"

WHAT IS AN OPPOSITE ENDING?

"OPPOSITE ENDINGS" =

- AR - E
- ER/IR - A

Verb	Endings
-ar	-e (usted), -en (ustedes)
-er	-a (usted), -an (ustedes)
-ir	-a (usted), -an (ustedes)

EJEMPLOS:

- *Bailar = baile (usted), bailen (ustedes)*
- *Beber = beba (usted), beban (ustedes)*
- *Vivir = viva (usted), vivan (ustedes)*

STEM CHANGERS - STILL CHANGE...

It is also important to know that verbs that are irregular or have stem changes carry that same irregularity when they are conjugated as formal commands. That is because the YO form includes that stem-change or is a yo-go verb.

Let's look at some examples:

- **PEDIR = PIDA (usted), PIDAN (ustedes)**
- **TENER = TENGA (usted), TENGAN (ustedes)**
- **VENIR = VENGA (usted), VENGAN (ustedes)**
- **DORMIR = DUERMA (usted), DUERMAN (ustedes)**

IRREGULAR FORMAL/PLURAL COMMAND VERBS

- **Dar = dé, den**
- **Estar = esté, estén**
- **Saber = sepa, sepan**
- **Ir = vaya, vayan**
- **Ser = sea, sean**

Yo - go verb commands

TABLE 2 Command Forms of Common - go Verbs

Infinitive	Neg. Ud. Command	Affirm. Ud. Command	Neg. Uds. Command	Affirm. Uds. Command	Neg. Tú Command	Affirm. Tú Command
<i>decir (to say)</i>	<i>no diga</i>	<i>diga</i>	<i>no digan</i>	<i>digan</i>	<i>no digas</i>	<i>di</i>
<i>tener (to have)</i>	<i>no tenga</i>	<i>tenga</i>	<i>no tengan</i>	<i>tengan</i>	<i>no tengas</i>	<i>ten</i>
<i>poner (to put)</i>	<i>no ponga</i>	<i>ponga</i>	<i>no pongan</i>	<i>pongan</i>	<i>no pongas</i>	<i>pon</i>
<i>salir (to leave)</i>	<i>no salga</i>	<i>salga</i>	<i>no salgan</i>	<i>salgan</i>	<i>no salgas</i>	<i>sal</i>
<i>venir (to come)</i>	<i>no venga</i>	<i>venga</i>	<i>no vengán</i>	<i>vengan</i>	<i>no vengas</i>	<i>ven</i>

TABLE 3 Command Forms of Common - *car* Verbs

Infinitive	Neg. Ud. Command	Affirm. Ud. Command	Neg. Uds. Command	Affirm. Uds. Command	Neg. Tú Command	Affirm. Tú Command
<i>buscar</i> (to look for)	<i>no busque</i>	<i>busque</i>	<i>no busquen</i>	<i>busquen</i>	<i>no busques</i>	<i>busca</i>
<i>explicar</i> (to explain)	<i>no explique</i>	<i>explique</i>	<i>no expliquen</i>	<i>expliquen</i>	<i>no expliques</i>	<i>explica</i>
<i>indicar</i> (to indicate)	<i>no indique</i>	<i>indique</i>	<i>no indiquen</i>	<i>indiquen</i>	<i>no indiqués</i>	<i>indica</i>
<i>sacar</i> (to take)	<i>no saque</i>	<i>saque</i>	<i>no saquen</i>	<i>saquen</i>	<i>no saques</i>	<i>saca</i>
<i>tocar</i> (to touch)	<i>no toque</i>	<i>toque</i>	<i>no toquen</i>	<i>toquen</i>	<i>no toques</i>	<i>toca</i>

Car - que/quen

Gar = gue/guen

Zar = ce/cen

TABLE 4 Command Forms of Common - *gar* Verbs

Infinitive	Neg. Ud. Command	Affirm. Ud. Command	Neg. Uds. Command	Affirm. Uds. Command	Neg. Tú Command	Affirm. Tú Command
<i>cargar</i> (to load)	<i>no cargue</i>	<i>cargue</i>	<i>no carguen</i>	<i>carguen</i>	<i>no cargues</i>	<i>carga</i>
<i>entregar</i> (to deliver, to hand over)	<i>no entregue</i>	<i>entregue</i>	<i>no entreguen</i>	<i>entreguen</i>	<i>no entregues</i>	<i>entrega</i>
<i>jugar</i> (to play)	<i>no juegue</i>	<i>juegue</i>	<i>no jueguen</i>	<i>jueguen</i>	<i>no juegues</i>	<i>juega</i>
<i>llegar</i> (to arrive)	<i>no llegue</i>	<i>llegue</i>	<i>no lleguen</i>	<i>lleguen</i>	<i>no llegues</i>	<i>llega</i>

TABLE 5 Command Forms of Common - *zar* Verbs

Infinitive	Neg. Ud. Command	Affirm. Ud. Command	Neg. Uds. Command	Affirm. Uds. Command	Neg. Tú Command	Affirm. Tú Command
<i>abrazar</i> (to hug)	<i>no abrace</i>	<i>abrace</i>	<i>no abracen</i>	<i>abracen</i>	<i>no abrases</i>	<i>abraza</i>
<i>comenzar</i> (to begin)	<i>no comience</i>	<i>comience</i>	<i>no comiencen</i>	<i>comiencen</i>	<i>no comiences</i>	<i>comienza</i>
<i>organizar</i> (to organize)	<i>no organice</i>	<i>organice</i>	<i>no organicen</i>	<i>organicen</i>	<i>no organices</i>	<i>organiza</i>
<i>realizar</i> (to realize)	<i>no realice</i>	<i>realice</i>	<i>no realicen</i>	<i>realicen</i>	<i>no realices</i>	<i>realiza</i>

Car - que/quen

Gar = gue/guen

Zar = ce/cen

▶ 03 How to form Nosotros commands in Spanish

AFFIRMATIVE NOSOTROS COMMANDS

- ❑ *Nosotros* commands are a special type of command. Speakers use *nosotros* commands to suggest an action be performed by a group of people that they themselves belong to. **Nosotros commands are used when the speaker is included, and are used to express the idea "let's + verb."**
- ❑ Luckily, *nosotros* verbs are easy to spot since they almost always use the ending *-mos*.

To form these commands, use the **nosotros form of the present subjunctive.**

COMER:
YO COMO
COMA
+ MOS = COMAMOS

Comamos allí.

Let's eat there.

Contemos el dinero.

Let's count the money.

REGULAR Nosotros COMMANDS vs IRREGULARS

HOW TO FORM NOSOTROS COMMANDS WITH REGULAR VERBS:

1. **YO FORM**
2. **OPPOSITE ENDING (AR = EMOS) (ER/IR = AMOS)**

SALIR:

YO SALGO

SALG + opposite ending A for an IR verb = SALGA
+ MOS = SALGAMOS (let's go out/leave)

- *Dar* = *demos*
- *Estar* = *estemos*
- *Saber* = *sepamos*
- *Ir* = *vamos*
- *Ser* = *seamos*
- *Ver* = *veamos*

STEM CHANGERS? ONLY stem-changing "IR" VERBS

Stem-change type = "e→i" or "o→u"

Ejemplos: Servir, Pedir, dormir

Sirvamos
Let's serve...

Pidamos
Let's ask (for), order

Durmamos
Let's sleep



▶ Telling someone what NOT to do (in Spanish), Negative Informal (tú) Command Learn Spanish

▶ Negative Tú Command song in Spanish

NEGATIVE TÚ COMMANDS



Informal Negative Commands -Tu

Just use the same formula for the *ustedes* command (subjunctive form- *yo* + opposite ending) and instead of the N, use an S. and **DON'T FORGET THE NO**

Hablar – to speak informal negative command: *no habl + es*
No hables tan alto. Don't talk so loud.

MORE NEGATIVE TÚ COMMANDS

Informal Negative Commands -Tu

For *-er* and *-ir* verbs use *-as*, the usual *-ar* verbs second person present tense indicative ending.

Vivir – to live

informal negative command: *no viv + as*

No vivas así.

Don't live like this.

Comer – to eat

informal negative command: *no com + as*

¡No comas esto!

Don't drink this!



Mandatos Negativos de tú

Los Mandatos Negativos de tú

- It is formed similarly to Ud. commands
- The only difference is “s”

- Ud. coma
- Tú no comas

- Don't listen to the music!
- ¡No _____ a la música!

- 1. Infinitive Escuchar
- 2. “yo” Escucho
- 3. Ending Escuches

- ¡ No escuches a la música!

Práctica (-car, -gar, -zar)

- No, no toques (tocar) el piano
- No, no juegues (jugar) al tenis
- No, no busques (buscar) el helado
- No, no almuerces (almorzar) en la clase
- No, no pagues (pagar) la cuenta
- No, no empieces (empezar) la música

Más Práctica

Contesta las preguntas con un mandato

- 1. ¿Debo leer esa novela?
 - No, no leas esa novela.
- 2. ¿Debo viajar a Londres?
 - No, no viajes a Londres.
- 3. ¿Debo cocinar las zanahorias?
 - No, no cocines las zanahorias.

Mandatos Irregulares

- They are also irregular as negative Tú commands.
 - Dar – no des
 - Estar – no estés
 - Ir – no vayas
 - Ser – no seas
 - Saber – no sepas

NEGATIVE Usted/ustedes/nosotros COMMANDS:

To form the negative command, place the word **no** before the same verb form (present subjunctive).

No comamos allí. Let's not eat there.

No coman allí. You all don't eat there

No coma allí. You (usted) don't eat there.

No contemos el dinero. Let's not count the money.

No bailen en la mesa. You all, don't dance on the table.

No salgan tarde. You all, don't leave late.

No crea todo lo que oye. You (usted) don't believe all you hear.



The only exception is the verb ir(se), which uses the present indicative for the affirmative command only.

Vamos ahora.

Let's go now.

but

No vayamos a la tienda.

Let's not go to the store.