

Adjectives in Spanish

Adjectives are words that describe or modify nouns, giving more detail about people, places, things, or ideas. In Spanish, adjectives must **agree in gender and number** with the nouns they describe, which means their endings often change to match masculine or feminine, singular or plural forms. Understanding this agreement is key to creating accurate and natural-sounding sentences.

Adjectives describe nouns and must **agree in gender and number**.

1. Gender Agreement

- -o → masculine, -a → feminine
 - el gato negro / la gata negra
- -e or consonant → same for both genders
 - el profesor joven / la profesora joven

2. Number Agreement

Adjectives also match singular/plural:

- el perro blanco / los perros blancos
- la casa bonita / las casas bonitas

3. Placement

Usually come **after** the noun:

- una casa bonita
- Some come **before** when subjective:
- un buen amigo, una gran idea

4. Irregular Shortened Forms

- bueno → buen
- malo → mal
- grande → gran
- primero → primer

5. Practice

- el chico alto / los chicos altos
- la chica alta / las chicas altas

Noun-Adjective Agreement: Special Cases

1. Meaning Changes by Position

- un gran artista → a great artist
- una casa grande → a big house
- un viejo amigo → a longtime friend
- un amigo viejo → an old (aged) friend

2. Shortened (Apocopated) Adjectives

- uno → un libro
- bueno → buen amigo
- malo → mal día
- alguno → algún problema
- ninguno → ningún error

3. Adjectives That Stay the Same

- inteligente, joven, feliz, interesante

4. Nationality Adjectives

Add **-a** for feminine:

- español → española
- francés → francesa

5. Invariable Adjectives

- color café / color naranja → don't change

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