

Numbers, Days, and Dates in Spanish

(Los Números, los Días y las Fechas)

Numbers, days, and dates are essential building blocks for everyday communication. We use them to tell time, share birthdays, talk about events, make plans, and give important information. Mastering these basics helps students communicate clearly and confidently in real-world situations. Let's review how to use them correctly and naturally in Spanish.

1) Numbers - Los Números

A. Numbers 0-20

Number	Spanish	Number	Spanish
0	cero	11	once
1	uno / un / una	12	doce
2	dos	13	trece
3	tres	14	catorce
4	cuatro	15	quince
5	cinco	16	dieciséis
6	seis	17	diecisiete
7	siete	18	dieciocho
8	ocho	19	diecinueve
9	nueve	20	veinte
10	diez		

Notes:

- *Uno* becomes *un* before masculine nouns (*un libro*), and *una* before feminine nouns (*una mesa*).
- *Dieciséis* through *diecinueve* are written as one word.

B. Numbers 21-100

Number	Spanish	Number	Spanish
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21	veintiuno	40	cuarenta
22	veintidós	50	cincuenta
23	veintitrés	60	sesenta
24	veinticuatro	70	setenta
25	veinticinco	80	ochenta
26	veintiséis	90	noventa
27	veintisiete	100	cien / ciento
28	veintiocho		
29	veintinueve		
30	treinta		

After 30, use **y** (and) to connect tens and ones:

- 31 = *treinta y uno*
- 42 = *cuarenta y dos*
- 56 = *cincuenta y seis*

Cien is used alone (e.g., *cien libros*).

Ciento is used before other numbers (e.g., *ciento uno*).

C. Numbers 100-1,000 and Beyond

Number	Spanish
100	cien / ciento
200	doscientos
300	trescientos
400	cuatrocientos
500	quinientos
600	seiscientos
700	setecientos
800	ochocientos
900	novecientos
1,000	mil
2,000	dos mil
1,000,000	un millón

Examples:

- *Ciento veinte alumnos* → 120 students
- *Mil personas* → 1,000 people
- *Dos mil veinticinco* → 2025

Mil never takes “un.” You say *mil* (not *un mil*).

Millón (million) **does** need “un”: *un millón de personas*.

D. Ordinal Numbers (First, Second, etc.)

English	Spanish	English	Spanish
first	primero / primer	sixth	sexto
second	segundo	seventh	séptimo
third	tercero / tercer	eighth	octavo
fourth	cuarto	ninth	noveno
fifth	quinto	tenth	décimo

Primero and *tercero* drop the final “o” before masculine singular nouns:

- *el primer día, el tercer piso*

Ordinals are often used only up to *décimo* (10th); after that, Spanish speakers use regular numbers:

- *el piso once* (the 11th floor)

E. Practice: Write the Numbers

1. 15 → _____
2. 27 → _____
3. 42 → _____
4. 100 → _____
5. 1,000 → _____
6. 2,025 → _____

Answers:

1. quince

2. veintisiete
3. cuarenta y dos
4. cien
5. mil
6. dos mil veinticinco

2) The Days of the Week - Los Días de la Semana

English	Spanish
Monday	lunes
Tuesday	martes
Wednesday	miércoles
Thursday	jueves
Friday	viernes
Saturday	sábado
Sunday	domingo

Notes:

- Days of the [week are not capitalized in Spanish](#).
- *El* means **on** (for one specific day): *El lunes tengo clase.* → I have class on Monday.
- *Los* means **on** (repeated/habitual): *Los lunes tengo clase.* → I have class on Mondays.

The week starts on Monday in [Spanish calendars](#).

Examples

- *Hoy es martes.* → Today is Tuesday.
- *Mañana es jueves.* → Tomorrow is Thursday.
- *Ayer fue domingo.* → Yesterday was Sunday.
- *Trabajo los viernes.* → I work on Fridays.

3) The Months and Seasons - Los Meses y las

Estaciones

Month	Spanish	Season	Spanish
January	enero	Winter	el invierno
February	febrero	Spring	la primavera
March	marzo	Summer	el verano
April	abril	Fall / Autumn	el otoño
May	mayo		
June	junio		
July	julio		
August	agosto		
September	septiembre		
October	octubre		
November	noviembre		
December	diciembre		

Months and seasons are **not capitalized** in Spanish.

4) Dates - Las Fechas

A. Structure

el + number + de + month (+ de + year)

Examples:

- *el 3 de mayo* → May 3rd
- *el 15 de julio de 2025* → July 15, 2025
- *el 1 de enero* → January 1st

El primero (not *uno*) is used for “the first” of the month:

- *el primero de junio* → June 1st

B. Expressing Dates in Sentences

English

Today is April 10.

My birthday is July 5.

What's today's date?

Today is Monday, October 2.

Spanish

Hoy es el diez de abril.

Mi cumpleaños es el cinco de julio.

¿Cuál es la fecha de hoy?

Hoy es lunes, el dos de octubre.

C. Writing the Date

Spanish format: **day / month / year**

- 3/5/25 = 3 de mayo de 2025 (May 3, 2025)
- 12/11/25 = 12 de noviembre de 2025 (November 12, 2025)

D. Talking About Years

Years are read as one full number:

- *mil novecientos noventa y nueve* → 1999
- *dos mil veinticinco* → 2025

5) Practice: Say or Write the Dates

1. 2/4 → _____
2. 14/9 → _____
3. 1/1/2024 → _____
4. My birthday is May 22. → _____

Answers:

1. el dos de abril
2. el catorce de septiembre
3. el primero de enero de dos mil veinticuatro
4. Mi cumpleaños es el veintidós de mayo.

6) Common Time Expressions

English

today

Spanish

hoy

yesterday	ayer
tomorrow	mañana
the day before yesterday	anteayer
the day after tomorrow	pasado mañana
next week	la próxima semana
last year	el año pasado
every day	todos los días
on weekends	los fines de semana

7) Quick Reference Summary

Category	Pattern / Notes	Example
Numbers	0-29 = single word; 30+ = use "y"	<i>treinta y dos</i>
Ordinals	1st-10th used most often	<i>el tercer piso</i>
Days	Not capitalized	<i>el lunes, los lunes</i>
Months	Not capitalized	<i>el cuatro de julio</i>
Dates	el + number + de + month + (de + year)	<i>el 10 de abril de 2025</i>
"On" a day	el / los	<i>el viernes, los viernes</i>

Why It Matters

Knowing how to use numbers, days, and dates helps learners:

- Communicate **birthdays, schedules, appointments, and events**
- [Understand Spanish](#) **calendars, cultural holidays, and time expressions**
- Speak with **accuracy and cultural fluency** in everyday conversation

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