

19 Essential Spanish Verbs summary usage chart

This is a quick reference chart that outlines the most common uses of 19 high frequency Spanish verbs covered in my All About Spanish Verbs Podcast Series.

Each verb has a corresponding podcast you can listen to that illustrates their use in everyday speech through practical examples.

You can listen to them for free on my blog, at:

<http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/spanish-verbs/>

The written word-for-word written transcript of each podcast is also available.

Feel free to share this chart with other learners and on your favorite social media platforms.

Alcanzar

1. To reach or to pass something
2. To reach something in a figurative sense
3. To talk about having or not having enough of something
4. To talk about how much time you have
5. To manage to or be able to

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-alcanzar-mean/>

Bajar

1. To talk about getting off or out of something
2. To talk about losing weight
3. To turn something down, lower the volume or lower your voice
4. To put something down or get something down
5. To talk about lowering things, like prices
6. To talk about downloading files
7. To tell someone to go down or to come down
8. To talk about your menstrual cycle

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-bajar-mean-in-spanish/>

Conocer

1. To talk about meeting or to have met someone
2. To talk about being acquainted with someone
3. To be familiar with a person, place or a thing

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-conocer-mean/>

Dar

1. Use dar to talk about giving, in a physical or metaphorical sense
2. Use dar to say what something faces, overlooks or leads to
3. Use the expression "dar un paseo" to talk about taking a walk
4. You can use dar to talk about how you feel
5. Use the express "dar a luz" to talk about giving birth
6. Use the expression, "darse cuenta de" to talk about realizing things
7. Use the expression "darse prisa" to talk about being in a hurry
8. Use dar to talk about what's on tv or showing in the movies
9. Dar is used in a number of very common expressions
10. Use dar to give directions

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/10-ways-to-use-spanish-verb-dar/>

Dejar

1. To talk about leaving something, either on purpose or by accident
2. To talk about dropping someone off
3. To tell someone to leave you alone or not bother you (Dejar en paz)
4. To talk about standing someone up (Dejar plantado)
5. To talk about leaving a tip (Dejar propina)
6. To talk about leaving a message or other information
7. To allow or to let
8. To quit or to stop doing something (Dejar de)
9. To lend
10. To postpone
11. To put or leave someone in a certain state or condition
12. To drop something
13. To negotiate prices

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/spanish-verbs-dejar/>

Estar

1. To ask someone how they're doing
2. To ask or talk about how something is
3. To talk about where someone or something is
4. To talk marital status
5. To talk about dates and days of the week
6. To talk about the weather
7. To talk about being dead or alive
8. To talk about temporary activities or things that are happening right now
9. To talk about emotions and physical conditions of people and things
10. To talk about the appearances of things and people

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/11-ways-to-use-the-spanish-verb-estar/>

Faltar

1. To talk about missing work, school, an appointment or some other event
2. To talk about how much time is remaining
3. To say that you need or don't have something
4. To say that you don't know where something is
5. To say that you haven't done or need to do something

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-faltar-mean/>

Hacer

1. To do or to make, in both a physical and metaphorical sense
2. To talk about the weather
3. To talk about how long an action has been taking place
4. To talk about how much time has elapsed
5. To talk about throwing a party (Hacer una fiesta)
6. To talk about asking questions (Hacer Preguntas)
7. To let someone know about something (Hacer Saber)
8. One of the translations for “to become” (Hacerse)

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/8-uses-of-hacer-to-improve-your-conversational-spanish/>

Ir

1. To greet someone and ask them how their doing.
2. To talk about going somewhere
3. To indicate a day, date or time is not good for you.
4. Use “Ir por” to say you’ll go get someone or something
5. Use “Ir a” to the express the idea that you’re “going to” do something
6. Use “Ir con” to talk about going somewhere with someone.
7. To report or ask about the progress of something
8. To ask about or indicate direction
9. To talk about current actions that progressively continue into the future
10. To talk about actions that are taking place at the same time

Listen to the podcast: <https://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/10-ways-to-uses-the-spanish-verb-ir/>

Llevar, Llevarse

11. To talk about what you’re wearing (Llevar puesto)
12. To talk about how you’re wearing your hair
13. To talk about the ingredients in food
14. To talk about how long you’re been doing something
15. To talk about how long you’ve been in a relationship
16. Use “Llevarse bien” and “Llevarse mal” to talk about how you get along with someone
17. To talk about taking someone from one place to another
18. To order your food to go
19. To talk about carrying something with you or on you
20. To talk about shopping
21. To talk about being older or taller than someone

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-llevar-mean-in-spanish/>

Pasar

1. To greet someone
2. To talk about spending or the passage of time
3. To talk about having a good time (pasarla bien)
4. To talk about entering a room or area
5. To ask for information
6. To talk about physically or metaphorically crossing a line, to go overboard, to go too far, to overdue something
7. To give someone an object
8. To talk about what's showing on television
9. To talk about passing through or by something
10. To talk about stopping by
11. To talk about picking someone up
12. To talk about things that happen in general
13. To say who you want to speak to on the phone

Listen to the podcast: <http://helpingyoulearnspanish.com/what-does-spanish-verb-pasar-mean/>

Poner, Ponerse

1. To talk about putting or placing something somewhere
2. To metaphorically talk about putting things in their place
3. To talk about putting on clothes (ponerse)
4. To talk about what's showing on TV or in the movie theatre
5. To describe changes in emotional states of people (ponerse)
6. To describe changes in physical states of things
7. To say you're going to start doing something
8. To tell people how to position themselves or something physically (ponerse)
9. To talk about staying informed or catching up on things
10. To talk about coming to an agreement on something
11. To talk about paying attention to someone or something

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Quedar

1. To talk about location
2. To talk about what's left or remaining
3. To talk about your level of understanding
4. To talk about how much time or distance is left
5. To make arrangements to meet someone or agree to something
6. To talk about how clothing fits
7. To give someone a compliment
8. To talk about attitudes or behavior
9. To talk about how something went
10. To talk about places that are "on your way"
11. To talk about attitudes or behavior
12. To talk about the results of something that happened, similar to "became", "to end up" or "to be left"

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Quedarse

1. To talk about where you're staying
2. To talk about how long you're staying
3. To talk about keeping something
4. To talk about choosing something
5. To describe permanent or temporary changes in physical or emotional states

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Saber

1. To talk about facts and information
2. To talk about what you do or don't know
3. To know how to do something
4. To talk about hearing from someone (Saber de)
5. To talk about having information about someone or something
6. In the simple past tense means to "find out" something
7. To describe what something tastes like

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Ser

1. To talk about what something is or what it's made of
2. To talk about where an event or party is taking place
3. To talk about who someone is
4. To describe the qualities or characteristics of a person, place, or thing
5. To talk about physical characteristics, describe the nature of someone or something
6. To talk about nationality, origin, religion and profession
7. To talk about profession
8. To indicate possession
9. To talk about time, dates, days of the week and seasons

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Tener

1. You can use tener to talk about physical or metaphorical possessions
2. Use tener to talk about non-physical things you have
3. Use tener to talk about age
4. Use the verb tener to describe physical condition
5. The expression tener que is used to express an obligation, something that needs to be done
6. Use the expression “Tener ganas” to express a desire to do something
7. Use tener to tell someone about pain or sickness
8. Use tener to describe physical characteristics of people or animals
9. Tener is used in many everyday expressions
10. Use tener to talk about making or having appointments

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Ver

1. To say goodbye (ver and verse)
2. To talk about how someone or something looks, physically or metaphorically
3. To make plans (ver and verse)
4. To talk about watching videos, TV or movies
5. To talk about things you can or can't see, both physically and metaphorically
6. To indicate understanding

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Volver

1. Use “Volver + A” + Infinitive to talk about repeating an action
2. To talk about coming back to a place
3. Use “Volver de” To talk about returning from a place or event
4. To say that someone is bothering, irritating or driving you crazy
5. Use “Volver con” to talk about getting back together with someone
6. As a translation for “to become” or “to get”

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