

VERBOS IRREGULARES

Mastering Spanish Irregular Verbs

Present Tense | Level A1 Beginner

Name: _____ Date: _____

Welcome to irregular verbs! Regular verbs follow strict rules, but irregular verbs love to break them. The good news? They are the **most common verbs in Spanish**, so every minute you practice them is totally worth it!

This worksheet is divided into 3 groups:

Group 1: Boot Verbs— Stem-changing verbs (e→ie, o→ue, e→i, u→ue)

Group 2: Yo-Go Verbs— Irregular only in the YO form (-go ending)

Group 3: Total Rebels— Completely irregular (ser, estar, ir, and friends)

GROUP 1: The "Boot" Verbs (Stem-Changing Verbs)

The Golden Rule of the Boot: The vowel change happens for **yo, tú, él/ella, ellos** — these are **INSIDE** the boot. The forms **nosotros and vosotros** are **OUTSIDE** the boot and stay completely regular!

Visual tip: Draw a line connecting Yo → Tú → Él → (skip Nosotros/Vosotros) → Ellos. The shape looks exactly like a boot!

1.1 The E to IE Change — the "e" in the stem becomes "ie"

QUERER— to want

Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	quiero	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Tú	quieres	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	quiere	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	queremos	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>

Vosotros / as	queréis	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	quieren	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>

More E → IE verbs — same boot pattern as QUERER:

Verb (Infinitive)	Meaning	Yo	Nosotros (outside boot)	Ellos
pensar	to think	pienso	pensamos	piensan
empezar	to start / begin	empiezo	empezamos	empiezan
entender	to understand	entiendo	entendemos	entienden
preferir	to prefer	prefiero	preferimos	prefieren
cerrar	to close	cierro	cerramos	cierran
perder	to lose / to miss	pierdo	perdemos	pierden
sentir	to feel	siento	sentimos	sienten
mentir	to lie	miento	mentimos	mienten
despertar	to wake (s.o.) up	despierto	despertamos	despiertan
defender	to defend	defiendo	defendemos	defienden

1.2 The O to UE Change — the "o" in the stem becomes "ue"

PODER— to be able to / can		
Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	puedo	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Tú	puedes	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	puede	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	podemos	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>
Vosotros / as	podéis	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	pueden	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>

More O → UE verbs — same boot pattern as PODER:

Verb (Infinitive)	Meaning	Yo	Nosotros (outside boot)	Ellos
dormir	to sleep	duermo	dormimos	duermen
volver	to return / come back	vuelvo	volvemos	vuelven
recordar	to remember	recuerdo	recordamos	recuerdan
encontrar	to find	encuentro	encontramos	encuentran
contar	to count / to tell	cuento	contamos	cuentan
almorzar	to have lunch	almuerzo	almorzamos	almuerzan
soñar	to dream	sueño	soñamos	sueñan
costar	to cost	cuesto	costamos	cuestan
mover	to move	muevo	movemos	mueven
resolver	to solve / resolve	resuelvo	resolvemos	resuelven

1.3 The E to I Change — the "e" in the stem becomes "i"

PEDIR— to ask for / to order

Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	pido	Inside the boot — vowel changes!
Tú	pides	Inside the boot — vowel changes!
Él / Ella / Usted	pide	Inside the boot — vowel changes!
Nosotros / as	pedimos	Outside the boot — stays regular!
Vosotros / as	pedís	Outside the boot — stays regular!
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	piden	Inside the boot — vowel changes!

More E → I verbs — same boot pattern as PEDIR:

Verb (Infinitive)	Meaning	Yo	Nosotros (outside boot)	Ellos
servir	to serve	sirvo	servimos	sirven
repetir	to repeat	repito	repetimos	repiten

seguir	to follow / continue	sigo	seguimos	siguen
conseguir	to get / achieve	consigo	conseguimos	consiguen
elegir	to choose / elect	elijo	elegimos	eligen
reír	to laugh	río	reímos	ríen
sonreír	to smile	sonrío	sonreímos	sonríen

1.4 The U to UE Change — The UNIQUE one!

JUGAR is the ONLY verb in Spanish with this change!

Jugar means "to play" (sports or games). The "u" becomes "ue" inside the boot — only one exception in the entire language!

JUGAR— to play (sports / games)

Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	juego	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Tú	juegas	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	juega	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	jugamos	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>
Vosotros / as	jugáis	<i>Outside the boot — stays regular!</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	juegan	<i>Inside the boot — vowel changes!</i>

GROUP 2: The "Yo-Go" Verbs

The key rule: These verbs are **completely regular for every person** — EXCEPT for YO, which always ends in **"-go"**.

Formula: Verb stem + **GO** (for yo only!). Example: HAC- + GO = **HAGO**

Verb	Meaning	YO (irregular)	Tú (regular)	Él/Ella (regular)
HACER	to do / to make	hago	haces	hace
PONER	to put / to place	pongo	pones	pone

SALIR	to leave / go out	salgo	sales	sale
TRAER	to bring	traigo	traes	trae
CAER	to fall	caigo	caes	cae
VALER	to be worth	valgo	vales	vale
OÍR	to hear	oigo	oyes	oye

For Tú, Él/Ella, Nosotros, Vosotros, and Ellos: just use the completely normal -AR / -ER / -IR endings you already know. Only YO is special!

Full conjugation example — HACER:

HACER— to do / to make		
Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	hago	<i>Irregular — ends in -go.</i>
Tú	haces	<i>Regular — follows normal endings.</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	hace	<i>Regular — follows normal endings.</i>
Nosotros / as	hacemos	<i>Regular — follows normal endings.</i>
Vosotros / as	hacéis	<i>Regular — follows normal endings.</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	hacen	<i>Regular — follows normal endings.</i>

CAUTION: Combo Verbs! (Yo-Go + Boot Verb)

Some verbs have TWO irregularities at the same time:

Their YO form ends in -go (Group 2) + Their stem changes inside the boot (Group 1).

These three are among the most used verbs in Spanish — they are a priority to memorize!

TENER— to have		
Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	tengo	<i>Yo-Go AND Boot — double change!</i>
Tú	tienes	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>

Él / Ella / Usted	tiene	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	tenemos	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Vosotros / as	tenéis	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	tienen	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>

VENIR— to come

Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	vengo	<i>Yo-Go AND Boot — double change!</i>
Tú	vienes	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	viene	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	venimos	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Vosotros / as	venís	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	vienen	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>

DECIR— to say / to tell

Subject	Conjugated Form	Note
Yo	digo	<i>Yo-Go AND Boot — double change!</i>
Tú	dices	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>
Él / Ella / Usted	dice	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>
Nosotros / as	decimos	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Vosotros / as	decís	<i>Outside the boot.</i>
Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	dicen	<i>Boot verb — vowel changes!</i>

Tip to remember DECIR — Yo form: "How do you say 'I say'? Oh, I **dig** it, I say!" → **DIGO**

GROUP 3: The "Total Rebels" (Completely Irregular)

These verbs follow NO pattern whatsoever. They are the most common verbs in the entire Spanish language, which means you will use them every single day. The more you use them, the faster they become automatic!

Strategy: Read them aloud, write them out by hand, and create a sentence with EACH form. Repetition = memory!

The Big Three: SER, ESTAR, IR

Subject	SER(to be — permanent)	ESTAR(to be — temporary)	IR(to go)
Yo	soy	estoy	voy
Tú	eres	estás	vas
Él / Ella / Ud.	es	está	va
Nosotros/as	somos	estamos	vamos
Vosotros/as	sois	estáis	vais
Ellos / Uds.	son	están	van

SER vs. ESTAR — both mean "to be"! Use **SER** for identity (nationality, profession, personality, origin). Use **ESTAR** for conditions and locations (emotions, health, position, place).

→ Yo **soy** médico. (I am a doctor — identity) → Yo **estoy** cansado. (I am tired — condition)

Three More Essential Rebels: DAR, SABER, VER

Subject	DAR(to give)	SABER(to know)	VER(to see)
Yo	doy	sé	veo
Tú	das	sabes	ves
Él / Ella / Ud.	da	sabe	ve
Nosotros/as	damos	sabemos	vemos
Vosotros/as	dais	sabéis	veis
Ellos / Uds.	dan	saben	ven

SABER vs. CONOCER — both mean "to know"! Use **SABER** for facts and skills ("I know how to cook"). Use **CONOCER** for being familiar with people and places ("I know María").

→ Yo **sé** hablar español. (I know how to speak Spanish) → Yo **conozco** a María. (I know María — familiarity)

PRACTICE TIME! (¡A practicar!)

Fill in the blanks with the correct conjugation.

Exercise 1 — Boot Verbs (E→IE, O→UE, E→I, U→UE)

Instructions: Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Watch out for the nosotros form — it stays regular!

1. Yo _____ (querer) un café con leche, por favor.
2. Nosotros _____ (dormir) ocho horas cada noche. Is it inside the boot?
3. Ella _____ (jugar) al tenis muy bien.
4. ¿Tú _____ (entender) la explicación del profesor?
5. Ellos _____ (volver) a casa a las seis de la tarde.
6. Yo _____ (pedir) la pasta en ese restaurante siempre.
7. Mi hermana _____ (preferir) el té al café.
8. Nosotros _____ (empezar) las clases a las ocho. Is it inside the boot?
9. ¿Cuánto _____ (costar) ese libro de español?
10. Los estudiantes _____ (repetir) las frases en voz alta.

Exercise 2 — Yo-Go Verbs

Instructions: Circle the correct YO form, then write the full correct sentence on the line.

1. Yo siempre _____ (hago / haceo) mi cama en la mañana.
2. Yo _____ (salgo / salo) con mis amigos los viernes.

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3. Yo _____ (pongo / pono) los libros en la mochila.
 4. Yo _____ (traigo / trago) los documentos a la reunión.
 5. Yo _____ (caigo / caeo) cuando corro muy rápido.
 6. Yo _____ (valgo / valeo) mucho como estudiante.
 7. Yo _____ (tengo / teno) mucho trabajo esta semana.
 8. Yo _____ (vengo / veno) a clase todos los días.

Exercise 3 — Total Rebels (Ser, Estar, Ir, Dar, Saber, Ver)

Instructions: Translate each sentence into Spanish using the rebel verbs. Think carefully about SER vs. ESTAR!

1. I am happy (feeling right now). Yo _____
2. He is a lawyer (profession). Él _____
3. We go to the supermarket on Saturdays. Nosotros _____
4. They are students (identity). Ellos _____
5. She gives a gift to her mom. Ella le _____ un regalo a su mamá.
6. I know how to speak Spanish. Yo _____
7. Do you see that bird in the tree? ¿Tú _____ ese pájaro en el árbol?
8. My parents are from Colombia (origin). Mis padres _____

Exercise 4 — Spot the Error! (Find & Fix)

Instructions: Each sentence has ONE wrong verb form. Identify the error, cross it out, and write the correct form. There is always exactly one mistake per sentence!

1. Yo quero un helado de vainilla. → Correct form: _____
2. Nosotros volvemos a casa mañana. → Correct form: *(already correct!)*

3. Ellos podan hablar español muy bien. → Correct form: _____

4. Yo haces la tarea todos los días. → Correct form: _____

5. Ella soy estudiante de medicina. → Correct form: _____

6. Nosotros vayamos al cine esta noche. → Correct form: _____

7. Yo trago mi almuerzo al trabajo. → Correct form: _____

8. Él tene dos perros y un gato. → Correct form: _____

Exercise 5 — Bonus Challenge — Create Your Own Sentences!

Instructions: Write ONE original sentence for each verb given. Use a different subject each time (yo, tú, él, nosotros, ellos). Make it about your real life!

1. PODER:

2. HACER:

3. IR:

4. TENER:

5. QUERER:

Answer Key (Claves de Respuesta)

Exercise 1 — Boot Verbs

1. *quiero*

2. *dormimos (outside the boot!)*

3. *juega*

5. *vuelven*

7. *prefiere*

9. *cuesta*

4. *entiendes*

6. *pido*

8. *empezamos (outside the boot!)*

10. *repiten*

Exercise 2 — Yo-Go Verbs

1. *hago*

3. *pongo*

5. *caigo*

7. *tengo*

2. *salgo*

4. *traigo*

6. *valgo*

8. *vengo*

Exercise 3 — Total Rebels

1. *estoy feliz*

3. *vamos al supermercado*

5. *da*

7. *ves*

2. *es abogado*

4. *son estudiantes*

6. *sé hablar español*

8. *son de Colombia*

Exercise 4 — Spot the Error

1. *quero* → *quiero*

3. *podan* → *pueden*

5. *soy* → *está*

7. *trago* → *traigo*

2. *(already correct — nosotros stays regular!)*

4. *haces* → *hago*

6. *vayamos* → *vamos*

8. *tene* → *tiene*



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