

Spanish Alphabet Chart

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The modern Spanish alphabet has 27 letters. The 26 letters from the English alphabet (A-Z), plus the additional letter "Ñ."

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Translation</u>
A	ah	Amigo	Friend
B	b	Burro	Donkey
C	k	Casa	House
Ch	ch	Chocolate	Chocolate
D	d	Día	Day
E	eh	Elefante	Elephant
F	f	Familia	Family
G	g (before e/i: h)	Gato	Cat
H	silent	Hombre	Man
I	ee	Isla	Island
J	h	Jirafa	Giraffe
K	k	Kilómetro	Kilometer
L	l	Luna	Moon
Ll	y	Lluvia	Rain
M	m	Manzana	Apple
N	n	Nube	Cloud
Ñ	ny	Ñandú	Rhea (bird)

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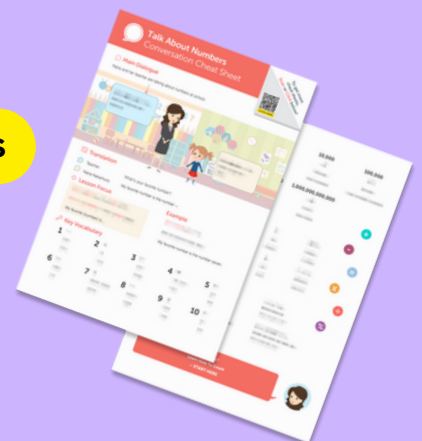
Letter	Pronunciation	Example	Translation
O	oh	Oso	Bear
P	p	Perro	Dog
Q	k	Queso	Cheese
R	r (trilled)	Ratón	Mouse
S	s	Sol	Sun
T	t	Tigre	Tiger
U	oo	Uva	Grape
V	b	Vaca	Cow
W	w	WiFi	WiFi
X	ks	Xilófono	Xylophone
Y	y	Yate	Yacht
Z	s (or th in Spain)	Zapato	Shoe

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Notes About the Alphabet

The Extra Letters:

Ñ does not exist in the English alphabet and is a distinctive letter in Spanish.

- It is pronounced as "enyeñ" (/ɲ/ sound), similar to the "ny" in canyon.
- Example: Español is pronounced es-pah-nyol.

More Unique Features of Spanish Pronunciation:

1. Vowels

- Spanish has 5 vowel sounds (a, e, i, o, u). Unlike English, where vowels can have different pronunciations ("a" is pronounced differently in "an" and "mark,") Spanish vowels are **always** sound the same regardless of the word.

2. The "Rolling R" (Trilled R)

- The Spanish "R" can be:
 - Soft R (like in "cara") – similar to an English flap T in "butter."
 - Rolled/Trilled R (like in "perro") – requires vibrating the tongue against the roof of the mouth.

3. The "J" and "G" Sound (Strong H Sound):

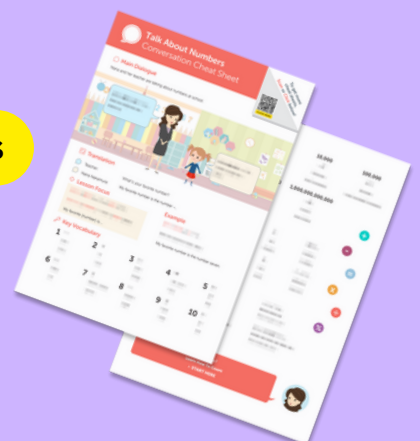
- The J (and soft G before E or I) is pronounced like a strong English H or the Scottish "loch" sound.
 - Jirafa (Giraffe) → hee-RAH-fah
 - Gente (People) → HEN-teh
-

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More Unique Features of Spanish Pronunciation:

4. The "LL" and "Y" Sound Variations

- Traditionally, LL (double L) was pronounced like English "y" in "yes."
- In some regions (Argentina, Uruguay), it has a zh/sh sound, like "measure" ("mezhure").

5. No Silent Letters (Mostly)

- Unlike English, almost all Spanish letters are pronounced.
- Exception: "H" is silent (hombre = "OM-breh").

6. Strong Syllable Stress

- Words usually stress the second-to-last syllable unless marked with an accent.
 - Casa → CA-sa
 - Comida → co-MI-da
- If a word breaks this rule, it gets an accent (camión, teléfono).

7. Vowel-Gliding (Diphthongs)

- Spanish often blends vowels together smoothly, especially with I and U:
 - Ciudad (city) → syoo-DAHD
 - Aire (air) → AI-reh

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