

Saying What You Have: The Verb tener

Tener means "to have." It has the same uses in Spanish as in English, that is to say what is yours, as in "I have a red car" = **Tengo un carro rojo**. **Tener** also has some "idiomatic" uses. An "idiomatic expression" is one in which the actual meaning is different from the literal meaning. For example, in English we say "I am 16 years old." In Spanish we say "I **have** 16 years" = **Tengo 16 años**.

Tener is also used in several other idiomatic expressions that you will learn later, such as "I am cold, I am hungry and I am afraid."

The verb **tener** is what is called an "irregular verb." That means that its conjugation does not follow the regular pattern of dropping the ending **er** and adding other endings. **Tener** adds the endings, but it also has spelling changes when it is conjugated:

I have = tengo	We have = tenemos
You (fam.) have = tienes	You (pl. fam.) have = tenéis
He/she/you (formal) have = tiene	They, you (pl) have = tienen

Tener to express age:

<i>Tengo veintiún años</i>	I'm twenty-one (years old).
<i>Tiene quince años</i>	He's fifteen (years old).
<i>Nosotros dos tenemos veinticinco años</i>	We're both twenty five years old.

Don't forget we must use the whole phrase - don't drop the word **años**.

tener- to have			
yo	tengo	nosotros/as	tenemos
tú	tienes	vosotros/as	tenéis
él/ella/Ud	tiene	ellos/ellas/Uds	tienen

Por Ejemplo:

- Yo tengo un gato.
(I have a cat.)
- Tú tienes un perro.
(You have a dog.)
- Él tiene una buena nota.
(He has a good grade.)
- Nosotros tenemos una clase grande.
(We have a large class.)
- Ellos tienen una escuela nueva.
(They have a new school.)

Expressing Possession

In English, we express possession by adding 's to the noun that refers to the possessor. In Spanish, we use the preposition *de* ("of") with the noun or pronoun that refers to the possessor. It's Paco's car = *Es el carro de Paco* (It is the car of Paco). It's his car = *Es el carro de él* (It is the car of him).

We can also express possession with a possessive adjective, like "my" or "your." Remember that in Spanish, adjectives must agree in number and gender with the noun they describe (*Él es nuestro abuelo*.

Ella es nuestra abuela.)

Singular Possessive Adjectives	Plural Possessive Adjectives
my = mi	my = mis
your (fam.) = tu	your (fam.) = tus
his, her, its, your (formal) = su	his, her, its, your (formal) = sus
our = nuestro/nuestra	our = nuestros/nuestras
your (pl. fam) = vuestro/vuestra	your (pl. fam) = vuestros/vuestras
your (pl) / their = su	your (pl) / their = sus

Possessive Adjectives in Spanish

Spanish possessive adjectives are adjectives that indicate who or what possesses or owns something.

Short-form and Long-form Adjectives

There are two different forms of Spanish possessive adjectives: short-form and long-form adjectives. Let's take a look at each type!

Short-form Possessive Adjectives

Short-form possessive adjectives are the most common way to express possession. They must agree with the noun they describe in gender and number. This doesn't end up being too complicated, because only *nosotros* and *vosotros* have distinct masculine and feminine forms.

Remember that these adjectives match **the possessed** entity in gender and number, not the possessor.

List of Short-form Possessive Adjectives

Adjective Type	Masculine Singular Form	Masculine Plural Form	Feminine Singular Form	Feminine Plural Form
First person singular (<i>yo</i>)	<i>mi</i>	<i>mis</i>	<i>mi</i>	<i>mis</i>
Second person informal singular (<i>tú</i>)	<i>tu</i>	<i>tus</i>	<i>tu</i>	<i>tus</i>
Second person formal singular (<i>usted</i>)	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>
Third person singular (<i>él, ella</i>)	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>
First person plural (<i>nosotros</i>)	<i>nuestro</i>	<i>nuestros</i>	<i>nuestra</i>	<i>nuestras</i>
Second person plural (<i>vosotros</i>)	<i>vuestro</i>	<i>vuestros</i>	<i>vuestra</i>	<i>vuestras</i>
Second person plural (<i>ustedes</i>)	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>	<i>su</i>	<i>sus</i>

Third person plural
(ellos, ellas)

SU

SUS

SU

SUS

Mi is an example of a short-form possessive adjective with only two distinct forms.

mi libro
my book

mis libros
my books

mi bolsa
my bag

mis bolsas
my bags

Nuestro is an example of a short-form possessive adjective with four distinct forms.

nuestro perro
our dog

nuestros perros
our dogs

nuestra casa
our house

nuestras casas
our houses

Short-form possessive adjectives are always placed before the noun they modify and are **not** used with a definite or indefinite article.

Check out these examples of sentences with short-form possessive adjectives.

Mi amigo peruano es guapo.
My Peruvian friend is handsome.

¿Dónde están **tus** libros?
Where are your books?

¿Son **sus** niños?
Are they your children?

Nuestra casa es muy grande.
Our house is very big.

Vuestras flores son muy bonitas.
Your flowers are very beautiful.

Su carro está allá.
Their car is over there.

Giving Dates: Day and Month

Use the following phrase:

Es el + number + **de** + month (It is the 6th of June = **Es el 6 de junio**)

The only date that does not follow this pattern is the first of the month. Instead of saying in Spanish "It is the one of June," we say "It is the first of June," just as we do in English. **Es el primero de junio**. Notice that the names of months are **not** capitalized in Spanish.

In Spanish dates, the day comes **before** the month.

Hoy es el dieciséis de agosto.

Today is August sixteenth.

How to Say the Date in Spanish

To say the date in Spanish, you first say the **number** corresponding to that day's date, then the **month** and the **year**. You've also got to throw an **el** and some **des** in there. Let's take a look at the formula for saying dates.

Formula for Saying the Date in Spanish

el + day + **de** + month (+ **de** + year)

Note: When giving the date for the current year, the year is often omitted.

You can also use **del** instead of **de** when giving the year.

Here are some examples!

Hoy es el dos de enero de dos mil dieciocho.

Today is January first two thousand eighteen.

¿Cuál es la fecha de hoy? - Hoy es el quince de abril.

What's today's date? - Today is April fifteenth.

Mi hermano nació el ocho de febrero del mil novecientos ochenta y nueve.

My brother was born on February eighth nineteen eighty-nine.

When saying the number corresponding to the day in Spanish, you'll use cardinal numbers (Ex: **dos** , **catorce** , **veintidós**) except when talking about the first of the month. For this date, you'll use the ordinal number **primero** (*first*).

Formula for Writing the Date with Numerals and Words in Spanish

- numeral for the day + **de** + name of the month + **de** + numeral for the year
- For example:

Spanish

English

31 de diciembre de 2017

December 31, 2017

1 de octubre del 2017

October 1, 2017

22 de mayo de 2018

May 22, 2018

17 de marzo del 1904

March 17, 1904

3 de junio de 1984

June 3, 1984

- Keep in mind that months are **not** capitalized in Spanish!
- 31 de diciembre de 2017
- 31 de Diciembre de 2017

VOCABULARY LIST:

Spanish 1 Unidad 1 Etapa 3		diecinueve	nineteen	muy	very
la abuela	grandmother	veinte	twenty	¡Qué chéverel!	How awesome!
el abuelo	grandfather	veintiuno	twenty-one	¿Quién es?	Who is it?
los abuelos	grandparents	treinta	thirty	¿Quiénes son?	Who are they?
la hermana	sister	cuarenta	forty	sólo	only
el hermano	brother	cincuenta	fifty	tener	to have
los hermanos	brothers and sisters	sesenta	sixty	todo(a)	all, everything
la hija	daughter	setenta	seventy		
el hijo	son	ochenta	eighty		
los hijos	children, sons and daughters	noventa	ninety		
la madre	mother	cien	one hundred		
el padre	father	el año	year		
los padres	parents	la fecha	date		
el (la) primo(a)	cousin	¿Cuál es la fecha?	What is the date?		
la tía	aunt	Es el...de...	It's the...of...(date)		
el tío	uncle	el mes	month		
los tíos	uncles and aunts	enero	January		
joven	young	febrero	February		
mayor	older	marzo	March		
menor	younger	abril	April		
viejo(a)	old	mayo	May		
¿De quién es...?	Whose is...?	junio	June		
el (la) ...de...	(someone's) ...	julio	July		
Es de...	It's (belongs to)...	agosto	August		
mi	my	septiembre	September		
tu	your (familiar)	octubre	October		
su	his, her, your, its, their	noviembre	November		
nuestro(a)	our	diciembre	December		
vuestro(a)	your (plural familiar) (in Spain)	el cumpleaños	birthday		
la edad	age	felicidades	congratulations		
¿Cuántos años tiene...?	How old is...?	feliz	happy		
Tiene...años	He/she is...years old	ahora	now		
once	eleven	la ciudad	city		
doce	twelve	con	with		
trece	thirteen	dentro	inside		
catorce	fourteen	fuera	outside		
quince	fifteen	hay	there is, there are		
dieciséis	sixteen	más	more		
diecisiete	seventeen				
dieciocho	eighteen				

Self-check Quizzes

Click on the answer that best completes the sentence. Then check your answer!

http://www.classzone.com/books/en_espanol_1/page_build.cfm?id=quiz_e3&u=1

The following site contains activities that will help you practice and improve on what you learned in Unidad 1 Etapa 3.

To begin go to:

http://www.classzone.com/books/en_espanol_1/unidad1.cfm

- 1). Select the Unidad 1 Etapa 3.
- 2). Select the section with the content you would like to practice.
- 3). Select average or challenge for grammar and vocabulary practice
- 4). Select activities 2 and 3 for listening practice
- 4). Check your answers

NOTES:

- Homework done during class time will not be accepted.
- Homework will only be accepted on the day it is due unless the student has a legitimate excused reason.
- The missed assignment deadline for a legitimate absence is 2 days.
- Homework may be collected and graded from time to time.
- Homework assignments may often be material for a quiz the next day.
- The missed exam/quiz deadline is 5 days from the date of the exam/quiz and is given by appointment.
- The quiz grades will be based on announced and unannounced quizzes.