

Jugar Conjugation



Free Spanish Lesson and Exercises

Remember when you were a little kid and loved playing ball with your father? I do, and they are some of my fondest memories from childhood.

Nowadays, I play dolls with my daughters and nothing makes me happier.

Playing games brings out the best in people, and sometimes it also brings out their competitive edge. One thing is for sure, playing games and sports are enjoyable activities and people are usually happy while playing them.

In this post, we are going to learn everything about the Spanish verb *jugar*, or “to play,” what it means, and how to conjugate it. You’ll even have the opportunity to test yourself with a few exercises at the end of the article.

The Spanish Verb *Jugar*

We have played games since we were little kids. You played with toys, you played with your friends and siblings, and then when you grew up a little bit you started playing sports. Playing is as human an activity as you can find. Everybody plays something, and these days people even pay money to watch other people play sports or even videogames.

The Spanish verb *jugar* means “to play”, but exclusively when referring to [playing a game or sport](#). If you are talking about playing an instrument, there’s another verb for that in Spanish: *tocar* (which also means “to touch”, but that’s material for another post).

Jugar: An Irregular Verb

Irregular verb conjugations in Spanish are a tricky subject for new learners of the language, as they don’t follow the most common pattern of conjugations. Irregular verbs, such as *jugar*, have their own unique conjugation set, which makes it necessary to study each one of them separately.

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The main change in the *jugar* conjugation set is on the suffix *jug-* that becomes *jueg-* depending on the tense and person. It also has an [orthographic variation](#), if a letter *e* comes after the letter *g*, the latter becomes *gu*. In practice, this means that you should never say *juege*, but *juegue*.

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Sure, the *jugar* conjugations set is unique because it's an irregular verb, but it's not one that's particularly hard to master. The conjugation variations in relation to other verbs patterns are minimal and specific to the present tense.

The important thing to remember when learning these Spanish conjugation sets is that you need to memorize them at first, but as you practice them more and more, you'll develop a feeling for them and they will come naturally at you.

Jugar Verbals

The three verbals in Spanish are the same as in English, infinitive, gerund, and participle. [Verbals](#) are non-conjugated forms of verbs and they always need another conjugated verb in order to be used in a sentence.

<i>Jugar</i> Verbals		
	Verbal	Example
Infinitive	<i>jugar</i> (to play)	<i>Quiero jugar fútbol.</i> – I want to play football.
Gerund	jugando (playing)	<i>Estábamos jugando a las escondidas.</i> – We were playing hide and seek.
Participle	<i>jugado</i> (played)	<i>Nunca había jugado ajedrez antes.</i> – I had never played chess before.

Jugar Conjugation: Indicative Mood

To start the [jugar conjugation](#) set, we'll first look at the indicative mood tenses which are the most common ones. For clarity, we are dividing them in simple tenses and compound tenses. The latter include the auxiliary verb *haber* (to have).

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Jugar Conjugation: Simple Tenses of the Indicative Mood

Subject	Present	Preterite	Imperfect	Conditional	Future
	(play)	(played)	(played)	(would played)	(will play)
<i>yo</i>	<i>juego</i>	<i>jugué</i>	<i>jugaba</i>	<i>jugaría</i>	<i>jugaré</i>
<i>tú</i>	<i>juegas</i>	<i>jugaste</i>	<i>jugabas</i>	<i>jugarías</i>	<i>jugarás</i>
<i>él/ella</i>	<i>juega</i>	<i>jugó</i>	<i>jugaba</i>	<i>jugaría</i>	<i>jugará</i>
<i>nosotros</i>	<i>jugamos</i>	<i>jugamos</i>	<i>jugábamos</i>	<i>jugaríamos</i>	<i>jugaremos</i>
<i>ustedes</i>	<i>juegan</i>	<i>jugaron</i>	<i>jugaban</i>	<i>jugarían</i>	<i>jugarán</i>
<i>ellos/ellas</i>	<i>juegan</i>	<i>jugaron</i>	<i>jugaban</i>	<i>jugarían</i>	<i>jugarán</i>

Jugar Conjugation: Compound Tenses of the Indicative Mood

Subject	Present Perfect	Preterite Perfect	Past Perfect (Pluperfect)	Conditional Perfect	Future Perfect
	(have/has played)	(had played)	(had played)	(would have played)	(will have played)
<i>yo</i>	<i>he jugado</i>	<i>hube jugado</i>	<i>había jugado</i>	<i>habría jugado</i>	<i>habré jugado</i>
<i>tú</i>	<i>has jugado</i>	<i>hubiste jugado</i>	<i>habías jugado</i>	<i>habrías jugado</i>	<i>habrás jugado</i>
<i>él/ella</i>	<i>ha jugado</i>	<i>hubo jugado</i>	<i>había jugado</i>	<i>habría jugado</i>	<i>habrá jugado</i>
<i>nosotros</i>	<i>hemos jugado</i>	<i>hubimos jugado</i>	<i>habíamos jugado</i>	<i>habríamos jugado</i>	<i>habremos jugado</i>
<i>ustedes</i>	<i>han jugado</i>	<i>hubieron jugado</i>	<i>habían jugado</i>	<i>habrían jugado</i>	<i>habrán jugado</i>
<i>ellos/ellas</i>	<i>han jugado</i>	<i>hubieron jugado</i>	<i>habían jugado</i>	<i>habrían jugado</i>	<i>habrán jugado</i>

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Jugar Conjugation: Subjunctive Mood

The next mood of the *jugar* conjugation set is the [subjunctive](#), a mood used to express hopes, wishes, and desires. It's also divided into simple and compound tenses.

Jugar Conjugation: Simple Tenses of the Subjunctive Mood

Subject	Present	Imperfect	Imperfect 2	Future
<i>yo</i>	<i>juegue</i>	<i>jugara</i>	<i>jugase</i>	<i>jugare</i>
<i>tú</i>	<i>juegues</i>	<i>jugaras</i>	<i>jugases</i>	<i>jugares</i>
<i>él/ella</i>	<i>juegue</i>	<i>jugara</i>	<i>jugase</i>	<i>jugare</i>
<i>nosotros</i>	<i>juguemos</i>	<i>jugáramos</i>	<i>jugásemos</i>	<i>jugáremos</i>
<i>ustedes</i>	<i>jueguen</i>	<i>jugaran</i>	<i>jugasen</i>	<i>jugaren</i>
<i>ellos/ellas</i>	<i>jueguen</i>	<i>jugaran</i>	<i>jugasen</i>	<i>jugaren</i>

Jugar Conjugation: Compound Tenses of the Subjunctive Mood

Subject	Present Perfect	Past Perfect (Pluperfect)	Past Perfect 2 (Pluperfect 2)	Future Perfect
<i>yo</i>	<i>haya jugado</i>	<i>hubiera jugado</i>	<i>hubiese jugado</i>	<i>hubiere jugado</i>
<i>tú</i>	<i>hayas jugado</i>	<i>hubieras jugado</i>	<i>hubieses jugado</i>	<i>hubieres jugado</i>
<i>él/ella</i>	<i>haya jugado</i>	<i>hubiera jugado</i>	<i>hubiese jugado</i>	<i>hubiere jugado</i>
<i>nosotros</i>	<i>hayamos jugado</i>	<i>hubiéramos jugado</i>	<i>hubiésemos jugado</i>	<i>hubiéremos jugado</i>
<i>ustedes</i>	<i>hayan jugado</i>	<i>hubieran jugado</i>	<i>hubiesen jugado</i>	<i>hubieren jugado</i>
<i>ellos/ellas</i>	<i>hayan jugado</i>	<i>hubieran jugado</i>	<i>hubiesen jugado</i>	<i>hubieren jugado</i>

Jugar Conjugation : Imperative Mood

In Spanish, the imperative mood is used to give orders and commands. The commands can be affirmative or negative. For the obvious reason that you can't give an order to yourself or to a third person, the imperative mood has fewer subjects to conjugate.

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Jugar Conjugation: Imperative Mood

Subject	Affirmative	Negative
	(play / let's play)	(don't play / let's not play)
tú	<i>juega</i>	<i>no juegues</i>
nosotros	<i>juguemos</i>	<i>no juguemos</i>
ustedes	<i>jueguen</i>	<i>no jueguen</i>

Jugar Conjugation: Exercises

Fill in the blank using the right conjugation of *saber*.

1. *Cuando era niño, yo _____ fútbol todos los días.* - When I was a child, I used to play football every day.
2. *Él _____ si se lo pidieras.* - He would play if you ask him.
3. _____ *tú, yo no tengo ganas.* - You play, I don't want to.
4. *Espero que mañana _____ LeBron.* - I hope LeBron plays tomorrow.
5. *Ayer _____ muy bien los Yankees.* - Yesterday, the Yankees played very well.
6. *Si _____ habríamos ganado.* - If you had played, we would have won.
7. _____ *mi último partido.* - I've played my last game.
8. *¿Tú _____ videojuegos?* - Do you play videogames?
9. *Espero que _____ Monopoly antes.* - I hope you had played Monopoly before.
10. *¿Ella _____ con ustedes?.* - Did she play with you?

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Answer Key:

1. *jugaba*
2. *jugaría*
3. *Juega*
4. *juegue*
5. *jugaron*
6. *hubieras jugado*
7. *He jugado*
8. *juegas*
9. *hayan jugado*
10. *jugó*