



# El género de los nombres / The Gender of Nouns



In Spanish, every noun has a **gender**: it is either feminine or masculine. There is no way to know a word is masculine or feminine simply by knowing what it means. You must learn the gender of each noun along with the word for the noun.

el árbol  
(masculine)



la flor  
(feminine)

Here are some general rules that apply to the gender of nouns in Spanish.  
But be careful—there are always exceptions!

Most words that end in **a** are feminine. Most words that end in **o** are masculine.

Write **F** next to each feminine noun and **M** next to each masculine noun.

_____ silla	_____ dinero	_____ mesa	_____ cuchara
_____ tienda	_____ plato	_____ vaso	_____ perro

\* Exceptions to the rule: día and mapa are masculine, mano is feminine.

Words that end in **ción, sión, tad, dad,** and **umbre** are almost always feminine.

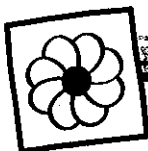
Examples: libertad, conclusión, televisión, lumbre, universidad, nación, personalidad, conversación

Words that end in **a** but that come from Greek are masculine.

Examples: problema, sistema, idioma, tema, clima, programa, poema, telegrama

Write **F** next to each feminine noun and **M** next to each masculine noun.

_____ poema	_____ lumbre	_____ sistema	_____ tema
_____ mapa	_____ planeta	_____ fracción	_____ comunicación
_____ nación	_____ universidad	_____ conversación	_____ lección





# Artículos / Articles



In Spanish, as in English, there are **definite** and **indefinite** articles.  
In Spanish, the article you use depends on the gender of the noun that follows it.

## Definite article

(equivalent to English "the")

Use when you are talking about a specific noun or group of nouns.

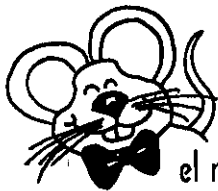
el (masculine, singular)  
la (feminine, singular)  
los (masculine, plural)  
las (feminine, plural)

## Indefinite article

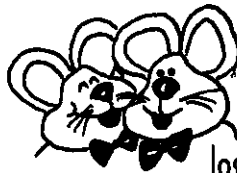
(equivalent to English "a," "an," or "some")

Use when you are not talking about a specific noun or group of nouns.

un (masculine, singular)  
una (feminine, singular)  
unos (masculine, plural)  
unas (feminine, plural)



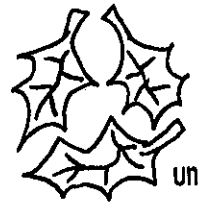
el ratón



los ratones



una hoja



unas hojas

Write the appropriate **definite** article for each noun.

\_\_\_\_\_ sillas (f./pl.)

\_\_\_\_\_ tazón (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ cocina (f./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ salero (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ cuchillos (m./pl.)

\_\_\_\_\_ servilletas (f./pl.)

\_\_\_\_\_ taza (f./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ tenedor (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ plato (m./sing.)

Write the appropriate **indefinite** article for each noun.

\_\_\_\_\_ comida (f./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ pimentero (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ comedor (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ mesa (f./sing.)

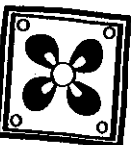
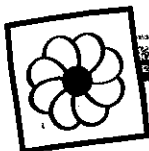
\_\_\_\_\_ vaso (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ mantel (m./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ tazas (f./pl.)

\_\_\_\_\_ cuchara (f./sing.)

\_\_\_\_\_ platillos (m./pl.)



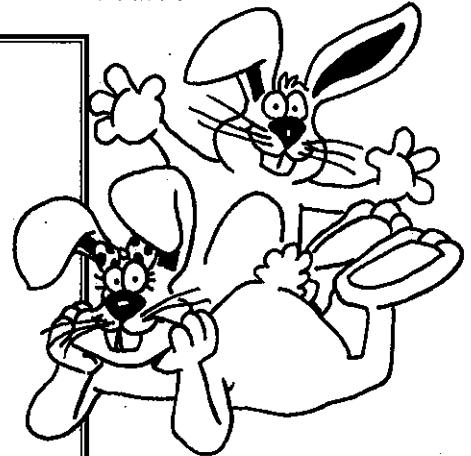


# Los nombres plurales / Plural Nouns



It is easy to form the **plural** of a noun in Spanish once you know a few rules.

- ▶ If the noun ends with a vowel, add **s**.  
Example: el conejo – los conejos
- ▶ If the noun ends with a consonant, add **es**.  
Example: el árbol – los árboles
- ▶ If the noun ends with **z**, change it to **c** and add **es**.  
Example: el lápiz – los lápices
- ▶ If the noun ends with **es** or **is**, it does not change in the plural.  
Example: el lunes – los lunes



Escriba los nombres en plural.  
Write the nouns in the plural form.

árbol \_\_\_\_\_  
lombriz \_\_\_\_\_  
pájaro \_\_\_\_\_  
castor \_\_\_\_\_  
tigre \_\_\_\_\_  
animal \_\_\_\_\_  
hoja \_\_\_\_\_  
luz \_\_\_\_\_  
venado \_\_\_\_\_

flor \_\_\_\_\_  
gato \_\_\_\_\_  
saltamontes \_\_\_\_\_  
pluma \_\_\_\_\_  
iguana \_\_\_\_\_  
planta \_\_\_\_\_  
búho \_\_\_\_\_  
conejo \_\_\_\_\_  
ballena \_\_\_\_\_

