



# SPANISH TENSES 101 PAST PERFECT TENSE RULES, CONJUGATIONS & EXAMPLES





# FORMING THE PAST PERFECT IN SPANISH

### ESTAR, TENER, VIVIR IN PAST PERFECT TENSE

Person	Imperfect form of 'haber'	+	[past participle]	Past Perfect
Yo	Había	+	est <u>ado</u> ten <u>ido</u> viv <u>ido</u>	Había estado
Tú	Habías			Habías tenido
Él/Ella/Usted	Había			Había vivido
Nosotros	Habíamos			Habíamos estado
Vosotros	Habíais			Habíais tenido
Ellos/Ellas/Ustedes	Habían			Habían vivido

Note: '-ado' and '-ido' are the past participle endings for -AR and -ER/-IR verbs, respectively.

# PLACING PRONOUNS IN THE SPANISH PAST PERFECT TENSE

Use the following rule for <u>reflexive</u>, <u>direct</u> and <u>indirect object pronouns</u>:

[Pronoun] + [imperfect form of haber] + [past participle]

Te dije que sí <u>la</u> había visto.

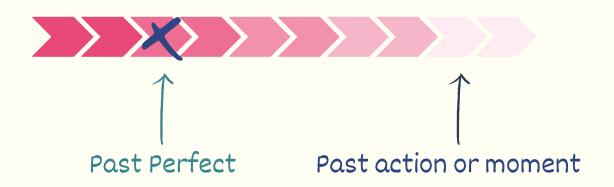
I told you that I had seen <u>her</u>.

No sabía que todavía no <u>le</u> habías dicho.

I didn't know that you hadn't told him yet.

# **USING THE PAST PERFECT IN SPANISH**

#### PAST TENSE TIMELINE



#### **USES**:

- A past action that took place <u>before</u> a prior action or past moment.
- First time experiences.



Cuando <u>llegué</u>, el avión ya había despegado. When I <u>arrived</u>, the plain had already taken off.

# PRESENT PERFECT, PRETERITE VS PAST PERFECT

#### PRESENT PERFECT

Actions done until now.



Nunca me he subido a una moto.

I have never ridden a bike.

#### **PAST PERFECT**

Action wasn't done <u>before</u> now.



No me había subido a una moto.

I had never ridden a bike before.

#### PRETERITE

Finished actions at a specific past time.



Ayer me subí a una moto. Yesterday, I rode a bike.

# **KEY POINTS: PAST PERFECT SPANISH TENSE**

- Haber in imperfect form + past participle is the **formula** to conjugate to the past perfect in Spanish.
- This perfect tense refers to things that happened before a past time frame or a prior action.
- Reflexive, <u>indirect</u> and <u>direct object pronouns</u> must be **placed in front** of the verb haber.
- A verbs in preterite tense, <u>adverbs of time</u>, or dates can be used in a sentence as reference points.

## **LINK TO THIS GUIDE**



Past Perfect Spanish Tense: Rules, Conjugations & Examples

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Past Participles in Spanish: Conjugations, Uses & Charts

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