# H IN SPANISH: PRONUNCIATION, **SPELLING TIPS & VOCABULARY**



### **HOW TO PRONOUNCE H IN SPANISH**

For the most part, the letter h in Spanish is mute. In simple words, it doesn't have any sound, regardless of whether it's placed at the beginning or middle of the word.

Spanish word	Pronounced as
Hacer	Acer
Helado	Elado
Hijo	ljo
Ahora	A-ora
Hunos	Unos

## **HOW TO PRONOUNCE CH IN SPANISH**

The Spanish 'ch', called la che, is very similar to the 'ch' sound in English. The only difference is that, in Spanish, this sound is sharper and stronger.

Spanish word	Sounds like
Chancla (flip flop)	Challenge
Ache (letter h)	Chest
Chiste (joke)	Chip
Pecho (chest)	Chop
Chuleta (chop)	Choose

# SPANISH WORDS WITH H: SPELLING TIPS

#### **KEY POINTS**

- All the forms of verbs starting with 'h' (such as hacer and haber) are spelled with h.
- Use 'h' with words that <u>start</u> with the diphthongs 'ia', 'ie', 'ue', and 'ui' (hueso, hielo).
- Words that <u>start with</u> 'histo', 'hosp', 'horm',
  'holg', 'herm', 'hern' must always be written
  with 'h' (hermoso, holgazán).



Él <u>hace</u> muchas bromas. He <u>makes</u> a lot of jokes.

# SPANISH WORDS THAT CONTAIN H

Ahí - There

Ahora - Now

Alcohol - Alcohol

**Cacahuate** - Peanut

**Champiñón** - *Mushroom* 

**Chico** - Small / Boy / Kid

Haber - To have

**Hacer** - To do / To make

Hambre - Hunger

Hasta - Until

**Hay** - There is / There are

Helado - Ice cream

Herir - To hurt

**Hermano** - Brother

Hielo - Ice

Hiena - Hyena

Hijo - Son

Hinchado - Swollen

**Historia** - History

Hipócrita - Hypocrite

Hola - Hi

Hombre - Man

**Honesto** - Honest

**Hora** - Hour / Time

Hornear - To bake

**Hospital** - Hospital

Hoy - Today

Hueso - Bone

**Humedad** - Humidity

**Humilde** - Humble

**Humillar** - To humiliate

Mucho - Much / A lot

Noche - Night

# **KEY POINTS: PRONOUNCE H IN SPANISH**

- Typically, the h in Spanish is <u>mute</u>.
- For the most part, you must only pronounce the vowels that follow this letter.
- The letter h in Spanish is <u>used for spelling</u> purposes.
- With some words, the absence or presence of the 'h' helps you <u>distinguish</u> between two different words (ola vs hola).
- The h is not mute when preceded by the letter C.
- In Spanish, 'ch' sounds <u>sharper</u> and <u>stronger</u> than the English 'ch'.
- English words that have been incorporated into Spanish <u>keep</u> the English pronunciation (Hawai, hockey).

### **LINK TO THIS GUIDE**



H in Spanish: Pronunciation & Spelling Tips + Vocabulary

## RELATED GUIDES & RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT

Spanish Alphabet: Chart, Pronunciation & Word Examples

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