# HOW TO SAY J IN **SPANISH:** PRONUNCIATION **TIPS + VOCABULARY**

#### **HOW TO PRONOUNCE J IN SPANISH**

The Spanish letter j is pronounced similarly to the English hard h. However, the letter j has a slightly raspier sound.

Spanish word	Sounds similar to
<u>Ja</u> bón (soap)	<u>Ha</u> rd
<u>Je</u> fe (boss)	<u>He</u> lp
<u>Ji</u> rafa (giraffe)	<u>Hea</u> t
Mej <u>o</u> r (better)	<u>Ho</u> pe
<u>Ju</u> gar (play)	<u>Hoo</u> k

### DIFFERENCE BETWEEN G AND J IN SPANISH

#### KEY POINTS

- The letters j and g in Spanish share some similarities in their pronunciation.
- The letter j sounds similar to the English hard h all the time.
  - However, the g only sounds like this when followed by the vowels 'e' or 'i'.



<u>Ge</u>nio vs <u>Je</u>fe <u>Gi</u>mnasio vs <u>Ji</u>tomate <u>Ge</u>ma vs Abej<u>a</u>

#### **SPANISH WORDS THAT START WITH J**

Jabón - Soap

Jalar - To pull

Jamón - Ham

Jefe - Boss

Jeringa - Syringe

Jirafa - Giraffe

Jitomate - Tomato

Joya - Jewel

Juego - Game

Junio - June

Junto - Next

**Jueves** - Thursday

Jugar - To play

Jurar - To swear

#### **SPANISH WORDS THAT CONTAIN J**

Abajo - Below

Abeja - Bee

Bajar - To go down

Cajero - ATM

Cobija - Blanket

Dibujar - To draw

**Enojar** - To get upset

Hijo - Son

Hoja - Leaf / Sheet

Mejor - Better

Mujer - Woman

Pájaro - Bird

Reloj - Watch / Clock

Rojo - Red

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

- In Spanish, the letter j has a <u>fricative</u> sound.
- La jota is the name of this letter.
- This sound is very <u>similar to</u> the English hard h but slightly <u>raspier</u>.
- The j in Spanish <u>always has</u> the same sound regardless of the vowel that follows it.
- English terms that were <u>incorporated into</u> Spanish maintain their English pronunciation (jeans, jeep).
- The letter g and j <u>sound exactly the same</u> when 'g' is followed by 'e' or 'i'.

#### **LINK TO THIS GUIDE**



<u>How to Say J in Spanish: Pronunciation Tips + Vocabulary</u>

#### **RELATED GUIDES & RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT**

<u>Spanish Alphabet: Chart, Pronunciation & Word Examples</u>

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