

Commands

A command is either affirmative and directs someone to do some action—or negative and directs someone NOT to do some action.

Also notice that whenever one issues a command, one is addressing a person as "you". Since there are four different ways to say "you" in Spanish (*tú, vosotros, usted, ustedes*), there are four different command forms.

All of these command forms simply use opposite endings, except the affirmative *tú* and *vosotros*. as you can see on the chart below.

tú		usted (ustedes)		vosotros		Nosotros	
+	–	+	–	+	–	+	–
habla come vive	NO hables comas vivas	hable(n) coma(n) viva(n)	NO hable(n) coma(n) viva(n)	hablad comed vivid	NO habléis comáis viváis	hablemos comamos vivamos	NO hablemos comamos vivamos

Since we most often issue commands to inferiors, we most often use the informal "you" forms, *tú* and *vosotros*. Notice that *tú* affirmative commands do not use opposite endings:

Tú : Habla. No hables.
You : *Speak. Don't speak.*

Vosotros : Hablad. No habléis.
Y'all : *Speak. Don't Speak.*

Commands with Reflexive Verbs

Remember the indirect object pronouns and direct objects—*me, te, le...* and *lo, la...*? For example:

Ella habla.
She talks.

Ella me habla.
She talks [to] me.

Affirmative commands simply add these to the end of the conjugated verb.

Háblame.
Talk [to] me.

Mándamela, por favor.
Send me it. (Send it [to] me.)

Notice with the command *mándamela*, *me* comes first, then *la*. *This is because, in Spanish, people are more important than objects and come first; the objects always follow.* Note the accent mark used for uniformity of sound.

Negative commands put *me, te, le...* and *lo, la...* before the verb and split the pieces up, although they still go in the same order: *people, then objects*.

No me hables, Ana.
Don't talk [to] me, Ana.

No me la mandes.
No me it send. (Don't send it [to] me.)

With affirmative *nosotros* commands, the last "s" is dropped when the *me, te, le*, etc. is added. It remains on the negative *nosotros* commands, however.

Levantémos + nos = Levantémonos
No nos levantemos.

Let's raise ourselves (get up).
Let's not ourselves raise.

Exceptions (tú)

As always, there are exceptions to the rules, such as the following common irregular *tú* commands:

VERB	+	–
decir	di	no digas
hacer	haz	no hagas
ir	ve	no vayas
poner	pon	no pongas
salir	sal	no salgas
ser	sé	no seas
tener	ten	no tengas
venir	ven	no vengas



Remember these irregular commands more easily by memorizing the phrase, "Say Vin Diesel has ten weapons..." since it sounds like each of them strung together: sé - ven - di - sal - haz - ten - ve - pon.

Patterns

There are other irregulars, but take your cues from the root verbs above.

tener ten no tengas
mantener manten no mantengas
sostener sosten no sostengas

venir ven no vengas
prevenir preven no prevengas

etc.

Still more exceptions

There are still others that are irregular, especially in their negative command forms, such as the verb *ver* (to see). With such, examine the present-tense "yo" form of the verb for hints at conjugation. For example:

ver ve no veas
saber sabe no sepa

The present-tense "yo form" of *ver* is "veo". The negative *tú* command (opposite ending) descends from that.