

Adjective Agreement

All nouns in Spanish are either **masculine** or **feminine**.

Any adjective that describes a noun must match or **agree** with that noun. In other words, it needs to be either **masculine** or **feminine** also.

How do you make an adjective match? If you're describing a masculine word, there's usually no need to do anything. However, if you're describing a feminine word, you may need to make some changes. Here's how:

To match a **feminine** word:



If the adjective ends in **o**, just change the **o** to an **a**

If it doesn't end in **o**, **you don't need to do anything to it.**

EXAMPLES: **chico alto (tall boy) chica alta (tall girl)**

chico popular (popular boy) chica popular (popular girl)

If you have more than one of something, you need to make both the noun and the adjective plural. Here's how:

To make a noun or an adjective **plural**:



...that ends in a **vowel**, add **s**

...that ends in a **consonant**, add **es**

EXAMPLES: **chico alto (tall boy) > chicos altos (tall boys)**

chico popular (popular boy) > chicos populares (popular boys)



If a group includes both boys and girls, always use the masculine plural!



One important difference from English is that adjectives are placed **after the word they describe.**

EXAMPLES: **short girl > chica baja**

funny boys > chicos graciosos

Some adjectives follow special rules and can be placed before *or* after the noun. Here are 3:

Good = **bueno** Bad = **malo** Big = **grande**

When placed before the noun they have a special form which is –

buen for Good & **mal** for Bad **in the masculine singular.**

Big undergoes multiple changes when placed before the noun.

Most importantly **it changes meaning** from Big to **Great!**

It also has a special form in both the **masculine and feminine singular** which is **gran.**

EXAMPLES: **chico bueno or buen chico / chica buena or buena chica**

chico malo or mal chico / chica mala or mala chica

chico grande (big boy) or gran chico (great boy)

chica grande (big girl) or gran chica (great girl)