

Spanish Progressive and Perfect Verb Tense Forms

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Present Progressive

- In English we use the suffix *-ing* to show the present progressive. The present progressive verb tense is used to talk about an action in progress at the moment of speaking, *as opposed to a habitual action*. However, it is not used to express future tenses.

Diana está lavando los platos.	Diana is <i>washing</i> the dishes. (at this moment)
Diana lava los platos.	Diana washes the dishes. (habitual action)
Juan está leyendo el libro.	Juan is <i>reading</i> the book. (at this moment)
Juan lee el libro	Juan reads the book. (normally)

- To form the present progressive verb tense in Spanish, use the present tense of **estar** + *the present participle*. To form the present participle, add **-ando** to the stem of **-ar** verbs and **-iendo** to the stem of **-er** verbs.

hablar	→	hablando
comer	→	comiendo
escribir	→	escribiendo