

ACCENT MARKS IN SPANISH

RULE #1:

SPANISH ACCENTS ARE CALLED TILDES. THEY ARE ONLY USED WITH 5 VOWELS (A, E, I, O, U), AND THEY'RE WRITTEN FROM LOWER LEFT TO UPPER RIGHT ON TOP

EX: Á, É, Í, Ó, Ú

RULE #2:

WHEN WORDS END IN A VOWEL, N, OR S, THE "STRESS" OF THE WORD IS NATURALLY ON THE SECOND TO LAST SYLLABLE AND DOESN'T REQUIRE A TILDE

EX: BONITO (BON-I-TO) PRETTY (STRESS THE I)

RULE #3:

WHEN WORDS END IN A CONSONANT THAT ISN'T N OR S, THE STRESS NATURALLY FALLS ON THE LAST SYLLABLE AND DOESN'T REQUIRE A TILDE

EX: LA EDAD (E-DAD) AGE (STRESS THE A)

RULE #4:

ADD TILDES WHEN THE WORD'S STRESS DOESN'T FOLLOW RULE #2 OR #3, MEANING THE STRESS DOESN'T LIE WHERE IT DOES NORMALLY

EX: FÁCIL (FÁ-CIL) EASY (AS RULE #3 WOULD SAY STRESS THE I AND YOU DON'T, YOU STRESS THE A, WHICH IS WHY THERE'S A WRITTEN ACCENT THERE!)

TILDES

(USED FOR HOMONYMS)

DON'T CONFUSE...

YOUR (TU)

BUT (MAS)

OF OR
FROM (DE)

THE (EL)

YOU AS AN
OBJECT (TE)

IF (SI)

YOU (TÚ)

MORE (MÁS)

GIVE (DÉ)

HE (ÉL)

TEA (TÉ)

YES (SÍ)

TILDES

(USED IN QUESTIONS)

¿POR QUÉ? WHY?

WITHOUT THE ACCENT, THIS
WOULD MEAN "BECAUSE"

¿CÓMO? HOW?

WITHOUT THE ACCENT, THIS
WOULD MEAN "I EAT" OR "LIKE"

¿CUÁL? WHICH?

¿QUIÉN? WHO?

¿QUÉ? WHAT/WHICH?

¿CUÁNDO? WHEN?

¿CUÁNTO? HOW MUCH/MANY?