

The Present Subjunctive

Regular Verbs

To form the present subjunctive tense of regular verbs, drop the “o” from the first person singular of the present tense (the “yo” form) and add the following endings.

SUBJECT	AR	ER	IR
yo	hable	lea	escriba
tú	hables	leas	escribas
él, ella, usted	hable	lea	escriba
vosotros	habléis	leáis	escribáis
nosotros	hablemos	leamos	escribamos
ustedes	hablen	lean	escriban

Note: Verbs with irregular “yo” forms in the present indicative, show the same spelling changes in the present subjunctive.

SUBJECT	TENER	HACER	DECIR
yo	tenga	haga	diga
tú	tengas	hagas	digas
él, ella, usted	tenga	haga	diga
vosotros	tengáis	hagáis	digáis
nosotros	tengamos	hagan	digamos
ustedes	tengan	hagan	digan

Spelling Changing Verbs

Verbs that end in –gar, –car, and –zar show special spelling changes in present subjunctive. In order to keep the hard sound of the “g” & the “c” and the soft “s” sound of the “z” the following spelling changes take place:

G > GU
C > QU
Z > C

The format for and example charts in this text are taken, with modifications, from:
 Gill, Mary McVey, Brenda Wegmann, and Teresa Méndez-Faith. *EnContacto: Gramática en Acción*. 7th Edition. Ed.
 Helen Richardson. United States: Thomson Heinle, 2003.