

Repaso - El Tiempo Imperfecto  
*Review - The Imperfect Tense*

In Spanish, there are two verb tenses used to describe past action. **The preterite**, which you already have studied, and this new tense, **the imperfect**. Each of these tenses is used in different situations.

To form the imperfect tense for regular -ar, -er, & -ir verbs, the stem of the verb (infinitive minus -ar / -er / -ir) is used with the following endings:

	<u>Hablar</u>	<u>Comer</u>	<u>Vivir</u>
Yo	<b>hablaba</b>	<b>comía</b>	<b>vivía</b>
Tú	<b>hablabas</b>	<b>comías</b>	<b>vivías</b>
Él, Ella, Ud.	<b>hablaba</b>	<b>comía</b>	<b>vivía</b>
Nosotros(as)	<b>hablábamos</b>	<b>comíamos</b>	<b>vivíamos</b>
Ellos, Ellas, Uds.	<b>hablaban</b>	<b>comían</b>	<b>vivían</b>

- All -ar verbs in the imperfect are **regular** and use these -ar endings including verbs which are irregular in the present tense.

- There are only three irregular verbs:

ir:	<b>iba / ibas / iba / ibamos / iban</b>
ser:	<b>era / eras / era / éramos / eran</b>
ver:	<b>veía / veías / veía / veíamos / veían</b>

- The Imperfect Tense can be translated as follows:

Juan **hablaba** español.

*Juan **spoke** Spanish.*

*Juan **was speaking** Spanish.*

*Juan **used to speak** Spanish.*