



PLURAL FORMAL COMMANDS: USTEDES

Semillas: Elementary Spanish II



When do we use plural formal commands (mandatos formales)?

In formal situations or when addressing a group of people, we use the **Ustedes commands** to give instructions or orders.

This form is equivalent to "you all" or "you (plural)" in English.



How to form mandatos formales (Uds.)



Paso 1. Write the **–yo form** of the verb in the present tense

El verbo *disfrutar* to enjoy □ Disfruto

Paso 2. Drop the **–o** ending

Disfrut-

Paso 3. Add the **opposite vowel + n**

For **-ar** verbs, add **-en**

For **-er** or **-ir** verbs, add **-an**

Disfruten

To form a negative formal command, simply place a “**No**” in front of the conjugated command. The form does not change.

Some examples

Decoren sus casas con luces y adornos brillantes.

Decorate your houses with bright lights and ornaments.

No envuelvan los regalos antes de la cena.

Don't wrap the gifts before dinner.

Participen en el desfile del Día de la Independencia.

Participate in the Independence Day parade.



Irregular *mandatos formales*

Dar	Den
Ser	Sean
Ir	Vayan
Estar	Estén
Saber	Sepan

Ejemplos:

Sean felices y disfruten de las vacaciones de verano.

Be happy and enjoy the summer vacation.



A note about spelling changes

When forming **plural formal commands** with verbs that end in **-gar**, **-zar**, and **-car**, there are special spelling changes to preserve the original pronunciation of the verb.

-gar -> **guen**

-zar -> **cen**

-car-> **quen**

No jueguen con los globos durante la fiesta.

Don't play with the balloons during the party.

