

# SPANISH TABLE

Definite Articles



## Feminine nouns that use a masculine article *el*

If you have a singular, feminine noun starting with stressed *a-* or *ha-*, you need to use the masculine definite article. We make this change because of phonetic reasons, to avoid having a longer vowel sound (*la aula*):

*el aula*      the classroom      *el hacha*      the ax  
    ↳ stressed                              ↳ stressed

But, if you're adding an adjective before or if you're using the plural form, there's no need to change:

Singular noun with an adjective	Plural form
<i>la otra aula</i> the other classroom	<i>las aulas</i> the classrooms

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Feminine nouns that start with stressed *-a* or *-ha*

Singular form	Meaning	Plural form
<i>el acta</i>	minutes	<i>las actas</i>
<i>el agua</i>	water	<i>las aguas</i>
<i>el águila</i>	eagle	<i>las águilas</i>
<i>el ala</i>	wing	<i>las alas</i>
<i>el alba</i>	dawn	<i>las albas</i>
<i>el alga</i>	seaweed	<i>las algas</i>
<i>el alma</i>	soul	<i>las almas</i>
<i>el alza</i>	rise	<i>las alzas</i>
<i>el ama</i>	mistress	<i>las amas</i>
<i>el anca</i>	leg (of a frog)	<i>las ancas</i>
<i>el ancla</i>	anchor	<i>las anclas</i>

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Singular form	Meaning	Plural form
<i>el ánima</i>	soul in purgatory	<i>las ánimas</i>
<i>el arma</i>	weapon	<i>las armas</i>
<i>el arpa</i>	harp	<i>las arpas</i>
<i>el arte</i>	art	<i>las artes</i>
<i>el aula</i>	classroom	<i>las aulas</i>
<i>el aura</i>	aura	<i>las auras</i>
<i>el ave</i>	bird	<i>las aves</i>
<i>el habla</i>	speech	<i>las hablas</i>
<i>el hacha</i>	axe	<i>las hachas</i>
<i>el hada</i>	fairy	<i>las hadas</i>
<i>el hambre</i>	hunger	<i>las hambres</i>

