



SPANISH TABLE

Modal Verbs



AFFIRMATIVE FORM			
Modal Verb	Meaning	Use	Example
<i>deber</i>	must, ought to, should	obligation or advice	<i>Debes lavarte los dientes tres veces al día.</i> You must brush your teeth three times per day.
<i>poder</i>	may, might, could, can	ability, possibility, permission	<i>¿Puedes cantar en español?</i> Can you sing in Spanish?
<i>querer</i>	want	will	<i>Ellas quieren aprender a bailar salsa.</i> They want to learn how to dance salsa.
<i>saber</i>	know how to	knowledge or ability	<i>Mi hermano sabe programar computadores.</i> My brother knows how to program computers.
<i>soler</i>	tend to	habit	<i>En mi país las familias suelen cenar a las 8.</i> In my country, families tend to have dinner at 8.
<i>necesitar</i>	need	necessity	<i>Necesito prender el aire acondicionado, tengo mucho calor.</i> I need to turn on the AC, I'm very hot.
<i>deber de</i>	must	deduction	<i>Juan está riendo. Debe de estar feliz.</i> Juan is smiling. He must be happy.
<i>tener que</i>	have to	obligation or need, advice, deduction	<i>La junta es a las 8:00 de la mañana, tengo que levantarme muy temprano.</i> The meeting is at 8:00 a.m., I have to wake up very early.
<i>haber que</i>	have to	obligation or need	<i>Hay que enviar este mensaje a todos los empleados.</i> It is necessary to send this message to all the employees.



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Modal Verbs



NEGATIVE FORM			
Modal Verb	Meaning	Use	Example
<i>no deber</i>	shouldn't	something is not convenient, not recommended, or reproachable	<i>No debes comprar ese juego si no tienes dinero.</i> You shouldn't buy that game if you don't have the money.
<i>no poder</i>	can't	prohibition, lack of ability, lack of permission	<i>No puedo ir a tu fiesta de cumpleaños, lo siento.</i> I can't go to your birthday party, I'm sorry.
<i>no querer</i>	don't want	lack of will	<i>Mi perro no quiere comer. Creo que está enfermo.</i> My dog doesn't want to eat. I think he's sick.
<i>no saber</i>	don't know how to	lack of knowledge or ability	<i>¿No sabes andar en bicicleta?</i> Don't you know how to ride a bike?
<i>no soler</i>	don't tend to	lack of habit	<i>No solemos comer carne.</i> We don't tend to eat meat.
<i>no necesitar</i>	don't need	lack of necessity	<i>No necesito tomar café para despertar en la mañana.</i> I don't need to drink coffee to wake up in the morning.
<i>no deber de</i>	can't	deduction	<i>Ella no debe de estar cansada. ¡No hizo nada en todo el día!</i> She can't be tired. She didn't do anything all day!
<i>no tener que</i>	don't have to	optional action	<i>Los estudiantes no tienen que asistir a la sesión de tutoría.</i> Students don't have to attend the tutorial sessions.
<i>no haber que</i>	don't have to	lack of obligation or need	<i>No hay que imprimir esa carta.</i> It is not necessary to print that letter.

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