

## Present tense of regular -ar verbs

### Preview

- Verb stems
- Conjugating the verb
- Subject pronouns

## Verb stems

- Every verb has a **stem** followed by an ending.
- The stem tells the verb's meaning.
- An **infinitive ending** doesn't name a subject.



## Conjugating the verb

- To give the verb a subject, you **conjugate** it.
- To conjugate a regular **-ar** verb in the present tense, drop the **-ar** ending of the infinitive and add these **endings**.
- Each ending goes with a particular subject.

### cantar

yo canto

nosotros(as) cantamos

tú cantas

vosotros(as) cantáis

Ud., él, ella canta

Uds., ellos, ellas cantan

## Conjugating the verb

- To give the verb a subject, you **conjugate** it.
- To conjugate a regular **-ar** verb in the present tense, drop the **-ar** ending of the infinitive and add these **endings**.
- Each ending goes with a particular subject.

¿**Cantan** ustedes mucho?

*Do you sing a lot?*

No, casi nunca **cantamos**.

*No, we hardly ever sing.*



## Subject pronouns

- Since the ending of the verb usually tells the subject, the **subject pronoun** is normally left out.
- Use **subject pronouns** to add emphasis, or when it wouldn't otherwise be clear who the subject is.

¿Patinan **ustedes** mucho?    **Ellos** patinan. **Yo** nunca patino.  
*Do you skate a lot?                      They skate. I never skate.*