

Verbs with Irregular First Persons

The following verbs have irregular forms for the first person singular of the present tense:

caber (to fit)	yo quepo
caer (to fall)	yo caigo
conducir (to drive)	yo conduzco
conocer (to know, to be acquainted with)	yo conozco
escoger (to choose)	yo escojo
dirigir (to direct)	yo dirijo
hacer (to do, to make)	yo hago
poner (to put, to place)	yo pongo
saber (to know something - a fact)	yo sé
salir (to leave)	yo salgo
seguir (to follow)	yo sigo
traer (to bring)	yo traigo
valer (to be worth)	yo valgo
ver (to see)	yo veo

In addition to memorizing the above listed verbs, you should familiarize yourself with the following three rules:

1. For verbs that end in -cer and -cir, change the c to zc for the yo form:

conocer (to know)	yo conozco
conducir (to drive)	yo conduzco
crecer (to grow)	yo crezco
traducir (to translate)	yo traduzco
establecer (to establish)	yo establezco
producir (to produce)	yo produzco

2. For verbs that end in -ger and -gir, change the g to j for the yo form:

escoger (to choose)	yo escojo
dirigir (to direct)	yo dirijo
emerger (to emerge)	yo emerjo
fingir (to pretend)	yo finjo

3. For verbs that end in -guir, change the gu to g for the yo form:

seguir (to follow)	yo sigo
conseguir (to get)	yo consigo
distinguir (to distinguish)	yo distingo

It is extremely important that you learn these verbs, because material covered later assumes that you have mastered this. At times, learning the irregular verbs may seem daunting, but it's not as bad as it seems. Your best tool is your verb flashcards, which should be separate from any other flashcards you might be using. Add the following 14 verb flashcards to your collection:

Verb Flashcards

22. caber (to fit) yo quepo
23. caer (to fall)..... yo caigo
24. conducir (to drive) yo conduzco
25. conocer (to know, to be acquainted with) ... yo conozco
26. escoger (to choose) yo escojo
27. dirigir (to direct) yo dirijo
28. hacer (to do, to make)..... yo hago
29. poner (to put, to place) yo pongo
30. saber (to know something—a fact)..... yo sé
31. salir (to leave) yo salgo
32. seguir (to follow) yo sigo
33. traer (to bring)..... yo traigo
34. valer (to be worth)..... yo valgo
35. ver (to see) yo veo