

Ordinal Numbers

Here are the ordinal numbers first - tenth:

primero.....	first
segundo.....	second
tercero.....	third
cuarto.....	fourth
quinto.....	fifth
sexto.....	sixth
séptimo.....	seventh
octavo.....	eighth
noveno.....	ninth
décimo.....	tenth

Like many other adjectives, the ordinal numbers have a masculine and a feminine form.

primero.....	primera
segundo.....	segunda
tercero.....	tercera
cuarto.....	cuarta
quinto.....	quinta
sexto.....	sexta
séptimo.....	séptima
octavo.....	octava
noveno.....	novena
décimo.....	décima

They also have a singular and plural form.

primero.....	primeros
segundo.....	segundos
tercero.....	terceros
cuarto.....	cuartos
quinto.....	quintos
sexto.....	sextos
séptimo.....	séptimos
octavo.....	octavos
noveno.....	novenos
décimo.....	décimos

So, the ordinal numbers have four forms, just like other adjectives that end in -o.

primero
primeros
primera
primeras

Primer and tercero drop the -o in the masculine singular adjective form.

el **primer** día
el **tercer** año

Ordinal numbers usually precede the noun. However, if the noun they refer to is royalty, a pope, or a street, they come after the noun.

- Carlos Quinto..... (“Quinto” comes after “Carlos” - royalty)
- el quinto libro (“quinto” comes before “libro”)
- la Calle Sexta (“sexta” comes after “calle” - street)
- la sexta pluma..... (“sexta” comes before “pluma”)

Ordinal numbers are not normally used after 10.

- la Calle Dieciséis..... Sixteenth Street
- el siglo diecinueve the nineteenth century