

SPANISH TABLE

Interrogatives

Prepositions used with interrogative words

qué				
Most prepositions can be used with qué:	Translation	Use	Example	Translation
¿En qué?	What...in?	topic	¿En qué estás interesado?	What are you interested in?
¿De qué?	What...of?	topic/material	¿De qué están hechos los dulces?	What are candies made of?
¿A qué?	What	with verbs that use preposition a	¿A qué sabe el jarabe? ¿A qué juegan los niños?	What does the syrup taste like? What are the children playing?
¿Por qué?	Why?	cause/reason	¿Por qué Gaby es tan bonita? ¿Por qué se caen las hojas?	Why is Gaby so pretty? Why do the leaves fall?
¿Para qué?	What...for?	purpose/intention	¿Para qué estás ahorrando dinero?	What are you saving money for?
¿Con qué?	With what?	instrument/means	¿Con qué abriste la puerta?	With what (how) did you open the door?

IMPORTANT

In questions *¿por qué + noun?* and *¿por qué + verb?* the order of the noun/verb can change, as long as the question includes both elements. There is no change in the meaning of the question.

Example: *¿Por qué es tan bonita Gaby?* *¿Por qué Gaby es tan bonita?* Why is Gaby so pretty?
¿Por qué se caen las hojas? *¿Por qué las hojas se caen?* Why do the leaves fall?



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quién				
Most prepositions can be used with <i>quién</i> :	Translation	Use	Example	Translation
<i>a quién</i>	to/for who(m)	human direct or indirect object	<i>¿A quién viste en la reunión?</i> <i>¿A quién le diste el regalo?</i>	Who did you see in the meeting? Who did you give the present to?
<i>con quién</i>	with who(m)	company	<i>¿Con quién vas a ir a cenar?</i>	With whom are you going to dinner?
<i>en quién</i>	who	verbs that use prepositions en	<i>¿En quién piensas?</i>	Who are you thinking about?
<i>de quién (with ser)</i>	whose	ownership/relationship	<i>¿De quién es esta bolsa?</i>	Whose bag is this?
<i>para quién</i>	for who(m)	beneficiary	<i>¿Para quién son las flores?</i>	Who are the flowers for?
<i>por quién</i>	who...for	on behalf of	<i>¿Por quién trabajas hoy?</i>	Who are you working for (on behalf of)?
<i>contra quién</i>	against who	opposition	<i>¿Contra quién vas a competir?</i>	Who are you competing against?



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cuál				
Most prepositions can be used with <i>cuál</i> :	Translation	Use	Example	Translation
<i>a cuál (de)</i>	which one	to specify a person out of a group of options	<i>¿A cuál prefieres?</i> <i>¿A cuál de ellos se lo diste?</i>	Which one do you prefer? Which of them did you give it to?
<i>en cuál (de)</i>	in which one	to specify location	<i>¿En cuál te subiste?</i>	Which one did you get on?
<i>de cuál (de)</i>	which one	to specify a type	<i>¿De cuál quieres?</i>	Which kind do you want?
<i>con cuál (de)</i>	with which one	to specify an instrument/means	<i>¿Con cuál de los cuchillos lo vas a cortar?</i>	Which knife are you going to cut it with?



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dónde				
Prepositions of space	Translation	Use	Example	Translation
<i>adónde</i>	Where...to	directionality	<i>¿Adónde fuiste de vacaciones?</i>	Where did you go on vacation?
<i>de dónde</i>	Where...from	origin, source	<i>¿De dónde son los boricuas?</i>	Where are boricuas [Puerto Ricans] from?
<i>por dónde</i>	Where... through/in/of	approximate location	<i>¿Por dónde saliste?</i>	Where did you come out?
<i>para dónde</i>	Where...to?	destination	<i>¿Para dónde vamos?</i>	Where are we going?
<i>en dónde</i>	Where	specific location	<i>¿En dónde puedo encontrar un buen café?</i>	Where can I find good coffee?

IMPORTANT

The question *¿Adónde...?* is often used with verbs of motion: *ir* [go], *viajar* [travel], *mover* [move an object], *mudar* [move houses]



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cuándo				
Prepositions of time	Translation	Use	Example	Translation
<i>desde cuándo</i>	since when	starting point	<i>¿Desde cuándo sabes cocinar?</i>	Since when do you know how to cook?
<i>para cuándo</i>	when	due date	<i>¿Para cuándo es el reporte?</i>	When is the report due?
<i>hasta cuándo</i>	until when	ending point	<i>¿Hasta cuándo vas a dejar de trabajar?</i>	When are you going to stop working?
<i>de cuándo</i>	when...from	date/day	<i>¿De cuándo es este periódico?</i>	When is this newspaper from?

IMPORTANT

English prepositions can be placed at the end of a question:

ex. "Where are you from?", but in Spanish the preposition is always placed before the interrogative word: ex. "¿De dónde eres?"

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