



SPANISH TABLE

Direct/Indirect Object Pronouns



When do you put accent marks on infinitives, gerunds, and imperatives when they are combined with object pronouns?

As discussed in our post, **indirect** and **direct** object pronouns get attached to infinitives, imperatives, and gerunds:

	Positive imperative	Infinitive	Gerund
Verb form	compra	comprar	comprando
Direct object	cómpralo	comprar lo	comprá ndo lo
Indirect object	cómprale	comprar le	comprá ndo le
Indirect object + Direct object	cómpr ase lo compra me lo	comprá se lo compra me lo	comprá ndo se lo comprá ndo me lo

As pointed out in our blog post, some verb forms have an accent mark when combined with these pronouns (*compra*, *cómpralo*, *comprásele*). Regardless of the “extra syllables” (object pronouns) added to the verb, the stressed syllable is the same as in the original verb form. For example, take a look at *compra* below. In *compra*, the stressed syllable is ‘com,’ the second syllable starting from the end of the word (com - pra). When we add the pronoun, the stressed syllable is the same ‘com,’ but this time it is the third syllable starting from the end. According to the Spanish accent rules, all the words whose stressed syllable is the third syllable starting from the end, need to have an accent mark.

- (1) *Compra*: stressed syllable *com* (second syllable starting from the end)
- (2) *Cómpralo*: stressed syllable *com* (now it is the third syllable starting from the end, and we must write the accent mark).

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