

# Pronunciación

## The consonants d and t



Audio

### ¿Dónde? vender nadar verdad

Like **b** and **v**, the Spanish **d** can also have a hard sound or a soft sound, depending on which letters appear next to it.

### Don dinero tienda falda

At the beginning of a phrase and after **n** or **l**, the letter **d** is pronounced with a hard sound. This sound is similar to the English *d* in *dog*, but a little softer and duller. The tongue should touch the back of the upper teeth, not the roof of the mouth.

### medias verde vestido huésped

In all other positions, **d** has a soft sound. It is similar to the English *th* in *there*, but a little softer.

### Don Diego no tiene el diccionario.

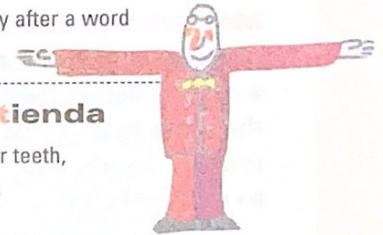
When **d** begins a word, its pronunciation depends on the previous word. At the beginning of a phrase or after a word that ends in **n** or **l**, it is pronounced as a hard **d**.

### Doña Dolores es de la capital.

Words that begin with **d** are pronounced with a soft **d** if they appear immediately after a word that ends in a vowel or any consonant other than **n** or **l**.

### traje pantalones tarjeta tienda

When pronouncing the Spanish **t**, the tongue should touch the back of the upper teeth, not the roof of the mouth. Unlike the English *t*, no air is expelled from the mouth.



**Práctica** Read these phrases aloud to practice the **d** and the **t**.

- |                  |                        |                           |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Hasta pronto. | 5. No hay de qué.      | 9. Es estupendo.          |
| 2. De nada.      | 6. ¿De dónde es usted? | 10. No tengo computadora. |
| 3. Mucho gusto.  | 7. ¡Todos a bordo!     | 11. ¿Cuándo vienen?       |
| 4. Lo siento.    | 8. No puedo.           | 12. Son las tres y media. |

**Oraciones** Read these sentences aloud to practice the **d** and the **t**.

1. Don Teodoro tiene una tienda en un almacén en La Habana.
2. Don Teodoro vende muchos trajes, vestidos y zapatos todos los días.
3. Un día un turista, Federico Machado, entra en la tienda para comprar un par de botas.
4. Federico regatea con don Teodoro y compra las botas y también un par de sandalias.

En la variedad está el gusto.<sup>1</sup>

**Refranes** Read these sayings aloud to practice the **d** and the **t**.

Aunque la mona se vista de seda, mona se queda.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Variety is the spice of life.  
<sup>2</sup> You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

### recursos

VText

CA

p. 136

CH

p. 83



vhicentral