

Los verbos reflexivos

PREGUNTA: ¿Cómo usamos los verbos reflexivos?

A reflexive verb is a verb in which the action reflects back on the subject.

Example: I brush my teeth. I put on makeup.

The person or thing doing the action is also receiving the action.

Example: I wash my face.

Reflexive verbs are accompanied by reflexive pronouns.

In Spanish, the infinitive forms of the reflexive verbs have **se** attached to them (afeitarse, peinarse). This is a reflexive pronoun. The **se** changes according to the subject of the verb. Therefore:

| If the subject is: | The pronoun se changes to: |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Yo | me |
| Tú | te |
| Él, Ella, Usted | se |
| Nosotros | nos |
| Ellos, Ellas, Ustedes | se |

Conjugating the reflexive verbs:

To conjugate the reflexive verbs, you place the reflexive pronoun in front of the conjugated verb.

| <i>For example: llamarse (to call oneself)</i> | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Yo | me llamo | Nosotros | nos llamamos |
| Tú | te llamas | | |
| Él Ella Usted | se llama | Ellos Ellas Ustedes | se llaman |

| <i>For example: maquillarse (to put on makeup)</i> | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Yo | me maquillo | Nosotros | nos maquillamos |
| Tú | te maquillas | | |
| Él Ella Usted | se maquilla | Ellos Ellas Ustedes | se maquillan |

Using the reflexive verbs with verbs like necesitar (to need), tener que (to have to), ir a (going to), querer (to want):

Examples:
 Yo necesito ducharme. (I need to take a shower.)
 Tú tienes que afeitarse. (You need to shave.)
 Juan va a acostarse. (John is going to go to bed.)
 Nosotros queremos levantarnos. (We want to get up.)