



## Spanish Swear Words (Learner Guide)

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Word / Phrase	Register	Meaning	Example	Translation	Usage Notes
joder	vulgar	to fuck; damn	¡Joder, qué tarde es!	Damn, it's so late!	Very common in Spain. Strong swear word. Can express anger, surprise, or frustration.
mierda	vulgar	shit	¡Mierda, se me cayó el vaso!	Shit, I dropped the glass!	Very common insult or exclamation. Used for things, situations, or as an exclamation. Very common swear word.
puta	very vulgar	whore; bitch	No digas eso, es una palabra muy ofensiva.	Don't say that; it's a very offensive word.	Very offensive. Often used as an insult. Can also appear in phrases like 'de puta madre' with a different meaning.
gilipollas	vulgar	idiot; asshole	No seas gilipollas y escucha.	Don't be an idiot and listen.	Very common in Spain. Offensive but frequent. Used to insult a stupid or annoying person.
cabrón	vulgar	bastard; asshole	Ese cabrón llegó tarde otra vez.	That bastard was late again.	Can be insulting or, among friends, joking. Meaning changes a lot with tone and context. Very insulting.
coño	vulgar	fuck; damn	¡Coño, no me lo esperaba!	Damn, I wasn't expecting that!	Common exclamation in Spain and some Latin American countries. Can show surprise, anger, or emphasis. Used as an exclamation in Spain and some other places.
hostia	vulgar	damn; hell	¡Hostia, qué susto me has dado!	Damn, you scared me!	Very common in Spain as an exclamation. Also literally means 'host' in religion, but here it is a swear word. Very common in Spain.
carajo	vulgar	damn; fuck	¿Y ahora qué carajo hacemos?	And what the hell do we do now?	Very common in many Latin American countries. Used in questions and exclamations. Strong exclamation.
pendejo	vulgar	idiot; jerk	No le llares pendejo; es un insulto.	Don't call him an idiot; it's an insult.	Very common in Latin America. Offensive. Meaning and strength vary by country.
hijo de puta	very vulgar	son of a bitch	Ese hijo de puta me mintió.	That son of a bitch lied to me.	Very offensive insult. Used for a very bad person or in anger. Can be used jokingly between close friends, but risky.
malparido	very vulgar	bastard; asshole	Ese malparido me mintió otra vez.	That bastard lied to me again.	Common in some Latin American countries. Strong insult. Regional use.
zorra	vulgar	bitch; slut	No le digas zorra; es un insulto muy ofensivo.	Don't call her a bitch; it's a very offensive insult.	Very offensive insult, usually for a woman. Can also mean a female fox in other contexts.

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tío	informal	guy; dude	Ese tío siempre llega tarde.	That guy is always late.	Very common in Spain. Can be rude or neutral depending on tone. Not a swear word by itself, but often used in insults or complaints.
cojones	vulgar	balls; guts	No me importa un cojón lo que digan.	I don't give a damn what they say.	Very common in Spain. Used in strong expressions and insults. Often appears in phrases like "tener cojones" or "me importa un cojón".
gilipollez	vulgar	stupid thing; nonsense	Decir eso fue una gilipollez.	Saying that was nonsense.	Common insult or complaint in Spain. Related to "gilipollas" but used for actions or ideas.
capullo	vulgar	jerk; idiot	No seas capullo y escucha.	Don't be a jerk and listen.	Very common in Spain. Can be playful or offensive. Often used for a person who acts badly.
imbécil	insult	idiot	Fue una idea imbécil.	It was an idiotic idea.	Strong insult, but less vulgar than some swear words. Used in many Spanish-speaking countries.
idiota	insult	idiot	No seas idiota y revisa el correo.	Don't be an idiot and check the email.	Common insult. Can also be self-directed. Less strong than many swear words.
estúpido	insult	stupid	Fue una decisión estúpida.	It was a stupid decision.	Common and direct. Often used to criticize ideas or people. Can sound harsh in conversation.
mamón	vulgar	jerk; bastard	¡Qué mamón eres, siempre llegas tarde!	You're such a jerk, you're always late!	Very common in Mexico and some other countries. Meaning and strength vary a lot by country.
chingar	vulgar	to screw up; to fuck	La película la chingó por completo.	The movie completely screwed it up.	Very common in Mexico. Highly flexible and very vulgar. Used in many expressions with different meanings.
mierda de	vulgar	damn; shitty	Compró una mierda de coche.	He bought a shitty car.	Used before a noun to show anger or contempt. Very common in spoken Spanish.
puta madre	vulgar	damn; fucking great	¡Qué puta madre de partido!	What an amazing game!	Meaning changes by country and tone. Can be positive or negative. Very context-dependent.
maldito	insult	damned; fucking	Ese maldito ruido no me deja dormir.	That damned noise won't let me sleep.	Strong negative adjective. Common in speech and writing. Less vulgar than direct swear words, but still harsh.
hijueputa	very vulgar	son of a bitch; bastard	Ese hijueputa se fue sin pagar.	That bastard left without paying.	Very offensive in many countries. Common in Colombia and nearby areas. Use only in very informal speech or when quoting someone.
gonorrea	very vulgar	bastard; asshole	¡Qué gonorrea de servicio!	What a terrible service!	Strong insult in Colombia. Can sound extremely aggressive. Also the medical term for gonorrhoea, but this slang use is insulting.

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huevón	vulgar	idiot; jerk	No seas huevón y escucha bien.	Don't be an idiot and listen carefully.	Very common in parts of Latin America, especially Chile and Peru. Meaning changes by country. Can be friendly or insulting.
boludo	informal / vulgar	idiot; dumbass	No seas boludo, era una broma.	Don't be dumb, it was a joke.	Very common in Argentina and Uruguay. Can be playful or insulting. Often heard in everyday speech.
cabrona	vulgar	bitch; tough woman	Mi hermana es una cabrona para negociar.	My sister is a tough woman when it comes to negotiating.	Can be insulting or, in some contexts, praise for a strong person. Female form of cabrón.
hijoputa	very vulgar	son of a bitch	Ese hijoputa me llamó tarde otra vez.	That son of a bitch called me late again.	Spoken form of hijo de puta. Very offensive. Often written as one word in informal text.
coñazo	vulgar	pain in the ass; annoyance	Qué coñazo de reunión, no acaba nunca.	What a pain in the ass of a meeting; it never ends.	Used for something very boring or annoying. Common in Spain.
hostión	vulgar	big hit; hard blow	Se dio un hostión al bajar las escaleras.	He took a hard fall going down the stairs.	Can mean a strong hit or a bad fall. Common in Spain. Related to hostia.
joputa	very vulgar	bastard; asshole	No seas joputa, déjame terminar.	Don't be such an asshole; let me finish.	A softened spoken form of hijo de puta. Still offensive, but often less explicit.
maricón	very vulgar	faggot; jerk	No uses maricón como insulto; es ofensivo.	Don't use maricón as an insult; it is offensive.	Highly offensive as a slur. Also used as a rude insult between men. Avoid using.
carajo de	vulgar	damn; shitty	Ese carajo de coche no arranca.	That damn car won't start.	Used to intensify a negative description. Less common than other swear forms.
cojudo	informal / vulgar	idiot; fool	No seas cojudo, revisa bien el horario.	Don't be an idiot; check the schedule carefully.	Common in Peru and some nearby areas. Can be insulting or joking. Meaning varies by country.
tonto	informal	stupid; silly	No seas tonto, era solo una broma.	Don't be silly; it was just a joke.	Common insult. Can be mild or rude. Very frequent in everyday speech.
jodido	vulgar	damned; screwed up	Estoy jodido con tanto trabajo esta semana.	I'm screwed with so much work this week.	Very common in Spain and some Latin American speech. Strong and rude. Can describe a bad situation or a person.
cabronazo	vulgar	big bastard; bastard	Ese cabronazo me dejó esperando una hora.	That bastard left me waiting for an hour.	Strong insult. Common in Spain and some Latin American areas. Can be aggressive or, in some contexts, admiring.