

## Stressed Syllables in Spanish Words

Once you know 1) how the letters sound and 2) how to divide words into syllables, you are ready to learn which syllable to stress.

Always look at the end of a word for the clues for finding which syllable requires stress. The rules are simple.

1. Stress the next-to-the-last syllable if the **last letter** of the word is n, s, or a vowel.

americano    hablan    muchachas

2. Stress the last syllable if the **last letter** of the word is any other letter.

hablar            biftec            abril

3. An accent mark overrides the two rules above.

fantástica    simpático    tímido    francés