

buen / bueno (y otros)

A quick clarification about buen día: In Spanish, most adjectives come after the noun (*día bueno*), but some very common adjectives can move in front of the noun for emphasis or tradition. *Buen* is one of those adjectives. So both *buen día* and *día bueno* are grammatically possible, but *buen día* is the natural, everyday expression you'll hear from native speakers. Other adjectives that often appear before the noun include *gran*, *mal*, *nuevo*, *viejo*, *pobre*, *cierto*, *otro*, *algún*, and *ningún*. These shifts usually add warmth, emphasis, or a special nuance to the meaning.

Common Adjectives That Go Before the Noun in Spanish

In Spanish, most adjectives come **after** the noun (*día bueno*). But a small group of very common adjectives can move **before** the noun for emphasis, tradition, or nuance. These are the ones you will hear all the time.

1. buen — good

Used for warmth, positivity, or everyday expressions.

- **buen día**
- **buen amigo**
- **buena idea**

2. mal — bad

Used for negative or unlucky situations.

- **mal día**
- **mala suerte**

3. gran — great

Shortened form of *grande* when placed before a noun. Adds emotional emphasis.

- **gran día**
- **gran persona**

4. nuevo — new (meaning “another” or “fresh”)

Before the noun, *nuevo* often means “another” rather than brand-new.

- **nuevo libro** (another book)
- **nueva casa** (a new/different house)

5. viejo — old (meaning “long-time”)

Before the noun, *viejo* means “long-time,” not elderly.

- **viejo amigo** (long-time friend)

6. pobre — poor (meaning “unfortunate”)

Before the noun, it expresses sympathy.

- **pobre hombre** (poor/unfortunate man)

7. cierto — certain

Used for unspecified or particular items.

- **cierta idea** (a certain idea)

8. otro — another

Always before the noun.

- **otro día**
- **otra vez**

9. algún — some / any

Used in indefinite expressions.

- **algún día**
- **alguna persona**

10. ningún — none / not any

Used for negation.

ningún problema