

Common phrases with POR and PARA

Por ahora. → *for now*

Por ahora, solamente me da una taza de café, por favor.
- *For now, I would like just a cup of coffee, please.*

Por cierto. → *by the way*

Por cierto, voy a estar en Cabo la próxima semana.
- *By the way, I'm going to be in Cabo next week.*

Por eso. → *that's why*

Había mucho tráfico, por eso llegué tarde.
- *There was a lot of traffic that's why I was late.*

Por fin. → *finally*

Está lloviendo, por fin.
- *It's raining, finally.*

Por lo general. → *in general / generally*

Por lo general, hace mucho calor en septiembre.
- *Generally, it's very hot in September.*

Por adelantado. → *in advance*

Tengo que pagar un mes por adelantado.
- *I have to pay one month in advance.*

Por lo visto. → *apparently*

Estoy confundido, por lo visto.
- *I'm confused, apparently.*

Por suerte. → *luckily / fortunately*

Había un accidente, por suerte todos están bien.
- *There was an accident, fortunately everyone is fine.*

Por supuesto. → *of course*

Estás invitado a mi fiesta, ¡por supuesto!
- *You are invited to my party, of course!*

Para entonces. → *by then*

My friends arrive in Cabo on the 21st. I will be there by then.
- *Mis amigos llegan a Cabo el 21. Voy a estar ahí para entonces.*

Para nada. → *not at all*

No me gusta el cilantro para nada.
- *I don't like cilantro at all.*



POR & PARA

Basic rules

Keep this cheat sheet handy for quick reference to the rules. While not every rule is covered here, we have included the most common uses of "por" and "para." Memorize the examples rather than the rules and incorporate them into your conversations. For more examples and guidance on pronouncing "por" and "para" in sentences, visit the link provided.

SpanishForBajaResidents.com/por-para



POR & PARA - BASIC RULES



USE POR...

1 ...to express a period of time.

Voy a estar en México por una semana.

→ I'm going to be in Mexico for a week.

Viví en San José del Cabo por cinco años.

→ I lived in San José del Cabo for five years.

2 ...to indicate the means of transportation or communication.

Vamos a ir a California por carro.

→ We are going to go to California by car.

Voy a mandarle un mensaje por Whatsapp.

→ I'm going to send him a message on Whatsapp.

3 ...to express gratitude or to apologize.

¡Gracias por tu ayuda!

→ Thank you for your help!

¡Perdón por llegar tarde!

→ Sorry for being late!

¡Gracias por la cena!

→ Thank you for the dinner!

4 ...to mean "because of" .

Por la lluvia, no pudimos llegar temprano.

→ Because of the rain, we couldn't get there early.

USE PARA...

1 ...to indicate a deadline or an upcoming event

Tengo que pagar el recibo del agua para el lunes.

→ I have to pay the water bill by Monday.

Vamos a comprar regalos para Navidad.

→ We are going to buy gifts for Christmas.

2 ...to indicate a recipient

Necesitamos comprar un pastel para Roberto.

→ We need to buy a cake for Roberto.

El regalo es para Daniel.

→ The gift is for Daniel.

3 ...as a connector to add a third verb in a sentence.

Necesito ir a la tienda para comprar leche.

→ I need to go to the store to buy milk.

4 ...to mean "in order to".

Para viajar, tengo que ahorrar dinero.

→ In order to travel, I need to save money.

Para aprender español, necesito practicar.

→ In order to learn Spanish, I need to practice.

