**Nationalities as adjectives**

**Overview**

Using nationalities as adjectives is a lot like using adjectives that end in a consonant, except that each nationality has four forms: one each for singular, plural, masculine, and feminine. Also, notice that unlike in English, in Spanish, nationalities are notcapitalized.

* Juan es un chico francés. - singular, masculine
* Anita es una chica francesa. - singular, feminine
* Juan y Anita son franceses. - plural masculine
* Anita y Celia son francesas. - plural feminine

While the endings may look a bit confusing at first, the rules for making a nationality adjective feminine and plural are pretty straightforward.

**Nationalities that end in a vowel**

Nationalities that end in an -o will have four unique forms. Change the -o to an -a for singular feminine and add an -s to make either gender plural.

* Mi abuelo es argentin**o**. -> Mi abuela es argentin**a**.
* Mis abuelos son argentin**os**. -> Mis abuelas son argentin**as**.

Nationalities that end in an -e or an accented vowel will have two forms: singular and plural. Simply add an -s for those that end in -e or -é and -es for those that end in -á, í, ó, or ú.

* Melissa es costarricense. -> Ellos son costarricens**es**.
* Soy estadounidense. -> Mis hijas son estadounidens**es.**
* Samuel es iraquí. -> Los chicos son iraquí**es**.
* Alisa es hindú. -> Ellas son hindú**es**.

**Common Nationalities that End in a Vowel**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Masculine** | | **Feminine** | |
|  | **singular** | **plural** | **singular** | **plural** |
| **American (U.S.)** | estadounidense | estadounidenses | estadounidense | estadounidenses |
| **Argentinian** | argentino | argentinos | argentina | argentinas |
| **Bolivian** | boliviano | bolivianos | boliviana | bolivianas |
| **Canadian** | canadiense | canadienses | canadiense | canadienses |
| **Costa Rican** | costarricense | costarricenses | costarricense | costarricenses |
| **Honduran** | hondureño | hondureños | hondureña | hondurañas |
| **Indian** | hindú | hindúes | hindú | hindúes |
| **Iraqi** | iraquí | iraquíes | iraquí | iraquíes |
| **Italian** | italiano | italianos | italiana | italianas |
| **Mexican** | mexicano | mexicanos | mexicana | mexicanas |
| **Moroccan** | marroquí | marroquíes | marroquí | marroquíes |
| **Nicaraguan** | nicaragüense | nicaragüenses | nicaragüense | nicaragüenses |
| **Puerto Rican** | puertorriqueño | puertorriqueños | puertorriqueña | puertorriqueñas |
| **Uruguayan** | uruguayo | uruguayos | uruguaya | uruguayas |

**Nationalities that end in a consonant**

To make a nationality feminine, add an -a to the end of the masculine form, and remove the written accent over the vowel if it has one.

* Él es alemán. (He is German.) -> Ella es aleman**a**. (She is German.)
* Él es japonés. (He is Japanese.) -> Ella es japones**a**. (She is Japanese.)
* Él es español. (He is Spanish.) -> Ella es español**a**. (She is Spanish.)

To make a nationality that ends in a consonant plural, drop the written accent over the vowel if it is there, then add -es for masculine adjectives and -as for feminine ones.

* Él es danés. (He is Danish.) - singular, masculine
* Ellos son danes**es**. (They are Danish.) - plural, masculine
* Ellas son danes**as**. (They are Danish.) - plural feminine
* Él es español. (He is Spanish.) - singular masculine
* Ellos son español**es**. (They are Spanish.) - plural masculine
* Ellas son español**as**. (They are Spanish.) - plural feminine

**Common Nationalities that End in a Consonant**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Masculine** | | **Feminine** | |
|  | **singular** | **plural** | **singular** | **plural** |
| **German** | alemán | alemanes | alemana | alemanas |
| **Danish** | danés | daneses | danesa | danesas |
| **Spanish** | español | españoles | española | españolas |
| **Finnish** | finlandés | finlandeses | finlandesa | finlandesas |
| **French** | francés | franceses | francesa | francesas |
| **Irish** | irlandés | irlandeses | irlandesa | irlandesas |
| **Japanese** | japonés | japoneses | japonesa | japonesas |
| **Lebanese** | libanés | libaneses | libanesa | libanesas |
| **Thai** | tailandés | tailandeses | tailandesa | tailandesas |