

# Demonstrative Adjectives

In English, there are only four demonstrative adjectives used in many different situations:

**this      that      these      those**

These four words are used based on whether the object pointed out (“demonstrated”) is singular or plural, and whether it is near to us or far away.

In Spanish, things are a bit more complex.

Today you will learn about two complications of demonstrative adjectives in Spanish.

1. Spanish nouns are either feminine or masculine, and adjectives must agree in both number (singular or plural) and gender.
2. Spanish distinguishes three distances where English distinguishes only a “close-up” and “far-away”.

Imagine these three Spanish distances as:

- A. **Right there with you** (“this”)
- B. **Within or nearly within reach** (“that”)
- C. **Out of reach** (“that over there”)

In accordance with these complications, there are twelve basic demonstrative adjectives in Spanish. It will take some practice, but they will seem easier with time. The key is to know all the information about the noun (the object you are pointing out or “demonstrating”) **BEFORE** you write the demonstrative adjective, which always comes **BEFORE** the noun!

**KNOW THESE THINGS:**

1. **Is it single or plural?**
2. **Is it feminine or masculine?**
3. **Is it with you, close by, or far away?**

If you know these three things, you can choose the correct demonstrative adjective.

	masculine	feminine	
singular	este ese aquel	esta esa aquella	this that that over there
plural	estos esos aquellos	estas esas aquellas	these those those over there

