

Verbs in Brazilian Portuguese – Verbos em Português do Brasil

	Present	Past	Imperfect	Conditional	Future	Present/Past Participles																																																																																				
falar to speak	<i>falo</i> I speak	<i>falei</i> I spoke	<i>falava</i> I used to speak I would speak *1 I was speaking I spoke	<i>falaria</i> I would speak *2	<i>falarei</i> I will speak *3	<i>estou falando</i> I am speaking <i>tenho falado</i> I have spoken																																																																																				
pronouns	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">o</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">a</td><td style="text-align: center;">e</td><td style="text-align: center;">e</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">_mos</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">am</td><td style="text-align: center;">em</td><td style="text-align: center;">em</td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	o			a	e	e	_mos			am	em	em	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ei</td><td style="text-align: center;">i</td><td style="text-align: center;">i</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ou</td><td style="text-align: center;">eu</td><td style="text-align: center;">iu</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">_mos</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">_ram</td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	ei	i	i	ou	eu	iu	_mos			_ram			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ava</td><td style="text-align: center;">ia</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ava</td><td style="text-align: center;">ia</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ávamos</td><td style="text-align: center;">íamos</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">avam</td><td style="text-align: center;">iam</td><td></td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	ava	ia		ava	ia		ávamos	íamos		avam	iam		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">ia</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">ia</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">íamos</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">iam</td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	ia			ia			íamos			iam			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">ei</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">á</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">emos</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">ão</td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	ei			á			emos			ão			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ar</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">er</td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">ir</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">_ndo</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">ado</td><td style="text-align: center;">ido</td><td></td></tr> </table>	ar	er	ir	_ndo			ado	ido	
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	use the above with verb stem + ending, (where the underscore is <i>a, e, or i</i>)			infinitive + ending		stem + ending																																																																																				

A sample regular verb

falar to speak	<i>falo</i> <i>fala</i> <i>falamos</i> <i>falam</i>	<i>falei</i> <i>falou</i> <i>falamos</i> <i>falaram</i>	<i>falava</i> <i>falava</i> <i>falávamos</i> <i>falavam</i>	<i>falaria</i> <i>falaria</i> <i>falaríamos</i> <i>falariam</i>	<i>falarei</i> <i>falará</i> <i>falaremos</i> <i>falarão</i>	<i>falando</i> am speaking <i>falado</i> have spoken
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The commonest irregular verbs

dar to give	dou dá damos dão	dei deu demos deram				<i>dando</i> am giving <i>dado</i> have given
dizer to say / tell	digo diz dizemos dizem	disse disse dissemos disseram		dir__	dir__	<i>dizendo</i> am saying <i>dito</i> have said
estar to be *4	estou está estamos estão	estive esteve estivemos estiveram				<i>estando</i> am being <i>estado</i> have been
fazer to do / make	faço faz fazemos fazem	fiz fez fizemos fizeram		far__	far__	<i>fazendo</i> am making <i>feito</i> have made
ir to go	vou vai vamos vão	fui foi fomos foram				<i>indo</i> am going <i>ido</i> have gone

poder
can / be able to
*5

posso
pode
podemos
podem

pude
pôde
pudemos
puderam

podendo
am being able
podido
have been able

pôr
to put
*6

ponho
põe
pomos
põem

pus
pôs
pusemos
puseram

punha
punha
púnhamos
punham

pondo
am putting
posto
have put

querer
to want

quero
quer
queremos
querem

quis
quis
quisemos
quiseram

querendo
am wanting
querido
have wanted

saber
to know

sei
sabe
sabemos
sabem

soube
soube
soubemos
souberam

sabendo
am knowing
sabido
have known

ser
to be

sou
é
somos
são

fui
foi
fomos
foram

era
era
éramos
eram

sendo
am being
sido
have been

ter
to have
similar: manter
similar: deter

tenho
tem
temos
têm

tive
teve
tivemos
tiveram

tinha
tinha
tínhamos
tinham

tendo
am having
tido
have had

trazer
to bring

trago
traz
trazemos
trazem

trouxe
trouxe
trouxemos
trouxeram

trar__

trar__

trazendo
am bringing
trazido
have brought

ver
to see

vejo
vê
vemos
vêm

vi
viu
vimos
viram

vendo
am seeing
visto
have seen

vir
to come

venho
vem
vimos
vêm

vim
veio
viemos
vieram

vinha
vinha
vínhamos
vinham

vindo
am coming
vindo
have come

*7

falar
to speak

Present Subjunctive
from: *eu falo*
drop the o
result: *eu fale*

Imperfect Subjunctive
eles falaram
drop the ram
eu falasse

Future Subjunctive
eles falaram
drop the am
eu falar

pronouns
eu
você, ele, ela
nós
vocês, eles, elas

ar	er	ir	ar	er	ir	ar	er	ir									
e	a		sse														
e	a		sse														
emos	amos		[áêí]ssemos			mos											
em	am		ssem			em											

Present Subjunctive Irregular

dar	estar	ir	querer	saber	ser
dê	esteja	vá	queira	saiba	seja
dê	esteja	vá	queira	saiba	seja
dêmos	estejamos	vamos	queiramos	saibamos	sejamos
dêem	estejam	vão	queiram	saibam	sejam

Common ways to combine verbs in Portuguese

estar
+ verb

eu estou falando	I am speaking	also but less precisely as <i>eu falo</i>
eu estou a falar	I am speaking	mostly used in Portugal; uncommon in Brazil
eu estava falando	I was speaking	also but less precisely as <i>eu falava</i>

ir
+ verb

eu vou falar	I will speak	creates future tense; identical to <i>eu falarei</i>
eu fui falar	I went to speak	just a normal combo; does not create a new tense

ir
used alone

eu irei ao Brasil	I will go to Brazil	formal future tense
eu vou ao Brasil	I (go / will go) to Brazil	tense inferred from context
eu vou todo ano	I go every year	present tense inferred
eu vou no proximo ano	I will go next year	future tense inferred
eu vou ir ao Brasil	I will go to Brazil	bad grammar but often heard

dever/poder
+ verb

eu devo falar	I must speak	*8, *9
eu deveria falar	I should speak	
eu posso falar	I can speak; I may speak	*10
eu poderia falar	I would speak	

gostar
+ verb

eu gosto de falar	I like to speak	use <i>de</i> between <i>gostar</i> and the verb
eu gostaria de falar	I would like to speak	

precisar
+ verb

eu preciso falar	I need to speak	informal
eu precisaria falar	I would need to speak	more formal

ter
+ verb

eu tenho que falar	I have to speak	<i>que</i> pronounced "key"
eu teria que falar	I would have to speak	

• How to use the chart

- The chart shows the conjugation for regular verbs in the 5 most common tenses, the 3 subjunctive tenses (which are more advanced tenses), the conjugations for the 14 most common irregular verbs, and common ways of combining verbs.
- The rules for formation of verb endings in this chart give the correct result in all cases, but be aware that the rules are usually taught in a more complicated way in books and language classes.
- The *tu* and *vós* cases are not shown since they are almost never used in Brazil.
- An empty box means that the verb is regular in that tense. This is not an oversight. They are deliberately empty because it is not something that you need to memorize. If you learn the template case, you can deduce what should be in the box.
- A regular conjugation is shown (in italics) when it is part of a list of irregular conjugations because it makes it easier to memorize the list; eg., *damos* is regular though the rest of the verb is irregular.
- "*dir__*" means each conjugation begins with *dir* rather than the infinitive *dizer*; likewise for "*far__*" and "*trair__*".
- The conditional follows the same pattern as the *er/ir* endings in the imperfect, but the ending is attached to the infinitive instead of to the stem.
- The present participle is used with *estar*. The past participle is used with *ter*.
- Conjugations that are identical (and therefore ambiguous unless you have some context):
 - The *eu* vs. the *você/ele/ela* case in imperfect.
 - The *eu* vs. the *você/ele/ela* case in conditional.
 - The *nós* case in present vs. past.
 - All cases of *ir* vs. *ser* in past tense.
 - The *nós* *vimos* in *ver* vs. *vir*.

• Footnotes

- *1: Non-conditional usage of "would", like "I would speak every day" or "I would speak often with my friends".
- *2: Conditional usage of "would", like "I would speak if I could".
- *3: It is more common (and easier!) to use *ir*+verb to do the future tense. See the the example in *Common ways to combine verbs in Portuguese*.
- *4: Regarding *estar*:
 - *estive*, etc. (past) are rarely used
 - *estando* (present participle) is rarely used
 - *estava*, etc. (imperfect) are very common and regular
 - *estou, está, estão, estava, estavam, & estado* often shortened to *tou, tá, tã, tava, tavam, & tado*
- *5: Regarding *poder*:
 - *poder* and *conseguir* are often confused
 - *poder* is combined with another verb to mean "can / to be able to"
 - *conseguir* is used similarly but has subtle distinctions
 - Used by itself, *conseguir* means "to get / to obtain / to succeed in"
- *6: Regarding *pôr*:
 - *punha*, etc. (imperfect) are rarely used
 - The following have the same irregular conjugation as *pôr*: *compor, impor, supor, propor, dispor, expor*
 - *pôr* and *colocar* both mean "to put" but *colocar* is more common
 - *pôr* and *compor* follow the same rules as the *-er/ir* verbs for the conditional, the future, and the three subjunctive tenses with the following exception: In imperfect subjunctive, it is not *pusêssemos* but rather *puséssemos*, and likewise *compusêssemos*, etc.
- *7: Commands, like *Pare o carro!* (Stop the car!), normally use present subjunctive. Confusingly, there is also something known as the imperative tense in Portuguese, but it has a different purpose. That imperative tense is not shown since it is used only with the *tu* and *vós* cases which are almost never used in Brazil.
- *8: Auxiliary verbs like must/should/can/may/would are tricky. As in English, Portuguese auxiliary verbs are sometimes interchangeable (Can I have a coffee? May I have a coffee?) and sometimes not (He can climb Mount Everest. vs. He may climb Mount Everest.) The following rule works pretty well in most cases:
 - *dever* in present tense = must
 - *dever* in past tense = should
 - *poder* in present tense = can, may
 - *poder* in past tense = would
- *9: *dever* by itself is "to owe"; eg., *eu devo* by itself is "I owe" (not "I must").
- *10: *Eu posso falar* can be used in the sense of "I can/may speak to him about the job", but not for "I can speak Portuguese". For that, use: *Eu sei português* (I know Portuguese)