

Grammar notes: Talking about what people have and age (the verb “tener”)



- Verbs are action words.
- Verbs are NOT masculine or feminine they are called conjugated or infinitive.
- The verb tener means to have & it is also used to talk about how old you are.
- The verb tener: Tener

Underlined part is called the verb’s: **stem** Circled part is called the verb’s: **ending**

- Tener is a stem-changing verb e-ie, meaning it will change spelling before conjugating it (except yo/nosotros forms)
- Yo tengo = I have
- Yo no tengo. = I don’t have.
- Yo tengo # años = I am # years old.
- To talk about anyone’s age you say: Name + tener(conjugated) + # + años.

Remember that:

- un/una = a(n), one
- unos/unas = some
- You choose the spelling based on the clothing/thing that comes after

Let’s practice!

1. I have 2 sisters. **Yo tengo dos hermanas.**
2. I don’t have a dog. **Yo no tengo un perro.**
3. I have 10 dollars. **Yo tengo diez dólares.**
4. I am 15 years old. **Yo tengo quince años.**

Here is how you talk about what other people have or their age: Tener conjugation chart!

tengo (yo)	tenemos name y yo (nosotros/as)
tienes (tú) talking to a friend, family member, peer, child	tenéis name y tú (vosotros/as) talking to a group of familiar people see tú
tiene boy’s name girl’s name talking to a professional, costa rica, talking to an adult. (él, ella, ud.)	tienen name y name name y usted (ellos, ellas, uds.) talking to a group of formal people see usted

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Let's Practice:

1. Pedro has 2 cats. **Pedro tiene dos gatos.**
2. They don't have siblings. **Ellos no tienen hermanos.**
3. My grandmother is 87 years old. **Mi abuela tiene ochenta y siete años.**

Essential Questions:

- How old are you (inf.)? = ¿Cuántos años tienes tú? **Yo tengo # años.**
- How old is Name? = ¿Cuántos años tiene Name? **Ella/ Señora Roldan tiene treinta y cuatro años.**
- How many siblings do you (inf.) have? = ¿Cuántos hermanos tienes tú?
 - **Yo no tengo hermanos.**
 - **Yo tengo # hermanos.** (brothers or a mix of brothers & sisters, siblings)
 - **Yo tengo # hermanas.** (only sisters)
 - **Yo tengo un hermano.** (I have 1/a brother.)
 - **Yo tengo una hermana.** (I have 1/a sister.)