

The Letter l

Spanish l sounds quite different than the l of English; it is more tense. Mastering it will be a large step toward eliminating your English accent. Compare English *low*; Spanish *lo*.

| | | |
|------|----------------|------------------|
| Say: | la | the |
| | leche | milk |
| | color | color |
| | polvo | powder |
| | real | real, royal |
| | capital | capital |
| | lealtad | loyalty |
| | Pelelú | -island in Palau |

The Letter ll

This letter has a number of pronunciations. The one generally considered "standard" for Latin American Spanish resembles English y, but is a bit tenser and more closed. Contrast: English *your*; Spanish *llorar*.

| | | |
|------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Say: | llorar | to cry, to weep |
| | llevar | to carry |
| | llamar | to call |
| | calle | street |
| | hallar | to find |
| | amarillo,-a | yellow |

Another common version of the ll used in both Spain and Latin America sounds a lot like the *lli* of the English *million*. Let's say the same words using this ll. (Repeat above words.)

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| acogollar | to cover up |
| acucillo | a squat |