

Shortened Spanish Adjectives

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The adjectives *bueno*, *primero*, *tercero*, *alguno*, and *uno* drop the final *-o* when they come immediately before a masculine singular noun. For example:

Juan es un *buen* muchacho.
(John is a good boy.)

Es un *mal* hijo.
(He is a bad child.)

Enero es el *primer* mes del año.
(January is the first month of the year.)

Vive en el *tercer* piso.
(He lives on the third floor.)

Se sientan en *algún* banco.
(They sit down on some bench.)

Ningún alumno está ausente hoy.
(No student is absent today.)

Note that *algún* and *ningún* require an accent mark when the o is dropped.

The o is not dropped when these adjectives follow the noun. Also the feminine and the plural endings of these adjectives are never dropped. See example below:

Juan es un muchacho *bueno*.
(John is a good boy.)

Es un hijo *malo*.
(He is a bad child.)

Elena es una *buen*a muchacha.
(Elena is a good girl.)

Algunos bancos son cómodos.
(Some benches are comfortable.)

The adjective *grande* drops the final *-de* when it precedes a singular masculine or feminine noun. For example:

Es un *gran* médico.
(He is a great doctor.)

Note: *Gran* before a noun means *great*. *Grande* following a noun means *large* or *big*. See example:

Es un *gran* país.
(It is a *great* country.)

Es un país *grande*.
(It is a *big* country.)

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