

VERBOS REFLEXIVOS

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Reflexive verbs are used to talk about an action that the same person is BOTH doing AND receiving.

It is like looking in the mirror back upon yourself, your reflection, reflexive is back upon yourself or the subject back upon oneself.

Let's look at the verb to wash.

You can....

wash your car

wash your face

wash your clothes

wash your hands

wash the windows

wash your hair

So, what's the difference?

- You can wash things that are NOT part of you or attached to you.
- You can wash parts of yourself.
 - If you are washing something that is NOT part of you, you would use the verb LAVAR.
 - If you are washing something that IS part of you, you would use the verb LAVARSE.

Por ejemplo...

Lavar

You are doing, but NOT receiving the action.

I wash the car. Yo lavo el auto.

Who is DOING the action?

ME

Who is RECEIVING the action?

THE CAR

Lavarse

You are doing AND receiving the action.

I wash my hair. Yo me lavo el pelo.

Who is DOING the action?

ME

Who is RECEIVING the action?

ME

To form the reflexive

1) Move the "se" to the front of the verb.

se lavarse

2) Change the "se" to represent who it is that is doing AND receiving the action.

You do this by selecting the appropriate
REFLEXIVE PRONOUN.

The following are the reflexive pronouns
in English:

The Spanish equivalents are as follows:

myself = me

ourselves = nos

yourself = te

yourself = se

yourselves = se

himself = se

themselves = se

herself = se

themselves = se

The reflexive pronouns are...

yo me	nosotros nos
tú te	vosotros os
Ud., él, se ella	Uds., ellos, se ellas

Remember, we need to change the "se" to represent who it is that is doing AND receiving the action.

~~me~~ lavar

If I want to say I WASH MYSELF, I would choose the reflexive pronoun ME since I am doing AND receiving the action of washing.

*Sometimes the "self/selves" sounds *strange* in English, so we omit it...

3) Now that we have the correct reflexive pronoun, we need to conjugate the verb (in the present tense). You conjugate the verb to go along with who is doing AND receiving the action.

Remember that I am washing myself.

me lavar

That's it! Easy, right??

Un poco de práctica...

1. Mis padres

2. tú

3. Vosotros

4. Nosotros

5. Mi abuelo

6. Yo

+

1. levantarse

2. lavarse los dientes

3. acostarse

4. afeitarse la cara

5. bañarse

6. secarse el pelo

EJEMPLO:

1. Mis padres se levantan.

levantarse= to get up lavarse los dientes = to brush one's teeth

acostarse= to go to bed afeitarse la cara= to shave one's face

bañarse= to bathe oneself secarse el pelo = to dry oneself

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LAS RESPUESTAS

- Mis padres se levantanan.
- Tú te lavasas los dientes
- Vosotros os acostáisis.
- Nosotros nos afeitamosos la cara.
- Mi abuelo se bañaa.
- Yo me secoo el pelo.