El alfabeto

Things to note about the Spanish alphabet:
The Spanish alphabet in Spanish is called "abecedario."
The Spanish alphabet consists of 29 letters according to the most updated version as dictated by the Royal Spanish Academy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Spanish Pronunciation</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Spanish Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>ah</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>EH-neh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>beh</td>
<td>ñ</td>
<td>EH-nyeh</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>seh</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>oh</td>
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<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>cheh</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>peh</td>
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<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>deh</td>
<td>q</td>
<td>koo</td>
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<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>eh</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>EH-reh</td>
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<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>EH-feh</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>EH-seh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>hheh</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>teh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>AH-cheh</td>
<td>u</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>ee</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>veh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>HHOH-tah</td>
<td>w</td>
<td>DOH-bleh veh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>kah</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>EH-kees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>EH-leh</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>ee GRYEH-gah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ll</td>
<td>EHL-yeh, EH-yeh</td>
<td>z</td>
<td>SEH-tah, ZEH-tah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>EH-meh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Consonants-- consonantes

• b, d, f, j , k, l, ll, m, n, ñ, p, r, rr, s, t, v, w have consistent sounds

• C followed by an e or i will have an [s] sound
  cena  cinco  cierto
  in any other situation it will have a [k] sound
  comer  cuatro  crema
Consonants-- consonantes

- **g** can have three sounds— [h], [g], or [w]
  - followed by an **e** or **i** it will have an [h] sound
    - **gimelo**
    - **genio**

  The [w] sound occurs in the combination “güe” and “güi” (the two dots over the u is called an umlaut in German or **diaeresis** in Spanish)
  - **pingüino**

  In any other situation it will have a [g] sound
  - **gato**
  - **gordo**
  - **grande**
Consonants-- consonantes

• H is always silent
  hola          Hector

• Ll sounds like the letter “y”
  Bella— “beya”     llama— “yama”

• ñ a nasal sound “en-yeh” the wavy line is called a “tilde”

• r and rr sounds like [r] when in between vowels
  cara          morada
  or after a consonant that is not an r
  Crayola       premio
  any other time it is the rr sound
  made by rolling the r –start by practicing
  with the word butter
  burrito       carro       perro
Consonants-- consonantes

• x can sound like an [x]
  examen
  it can sound like an [h]
  México Texas
  or it can sound like an [ch]
  Xitle Xela

• Y sounds like [i] at the end of a syllable
  Paraguay

  or it can sound like a [y]
  proyecto
Vowels-- vocales

• In terms of syllable division, Spanish vowels are divided into two categories: **strong vowels** (A, E, O) and **weak vowels** (I, U). To pronounce Spanish correctly, you need to understand strong and weak vowels and how they affect pronunciation.
• **Hiatus** - Two vowels pronounced as two distinct syllables--strong vowels (A, E, O)
  • empleado impermeable

• **Diphthong** - Two vowels pronounced as a single syllable--weak vowels (I, U). When this happens, the unstressed weak vowel has a special sound: the letter I sounds like Y (as in yet) and U sounds like W (as in will).
  • abierto baile fuerte suave

• **The letter U** - When U's purpose in a word is to make a consonant hard rather than soft as in portugués and jugueo, it does not count as a vowel and thus the above rules do not apply.
Práctica

1) Real
2) Paracaídas
3) Camión
4) Aire
5) Poeta
6) Cielo
7) Fuera
8) María
9) Raúl
10) Comía
11) León
12) Suave
13) Industria
14) Después
Práctica

Alphabet song
• http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUcu9PUh9_A

On your own practice at Studyspanish.com
• http://www.studyspanish.com/pronunciation/alphabet.htm