SPANISH FOR PLUMBERS – OVER 90 PLUMBING IN SPANISH TERMS AND PHRASES FOR WORK

Let's talk about plumbing, plomería or fontanería in Spanish, being this one of the pillars in the construction area, we decided to make an article where we explore the terminology and vocabulary in Spanish applied to this profession. It is always important to be able to maintain a clear communication both with clients and in the work area, and Spanish will help you in both cases, are you ready?

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This construction Spanish cheat sheet is focused on plumbing terms in Spanish, including some common phrases and words. We have categorized these plumbing terms in the following categories:

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Tools (Power and Manual) & Equipment

While working, you will find a great variety of tools that will allow you to perform these tasks in a fast and efficient way. Let me show you some tools and equipment that will allow you to do your job and how to name them in Spanish!

Spanish	English
Herramientas de corte	Cutting tools
Sierra	Saw
Cortatubos	Pipe cutters
Pinza a presión	Pressure clamp
Taladro	Drill
Herramientas de unión o ajuste	Joining or adjusting tools
Alicate pico de loro	Parrot beak pliers
Llave inglesa	Wrench
Llave Stilson / de perro	Stillson wrench
Cinta de teflón	Teflon tape
Llave de cadena	Chain wrench
Terraja	Tap and die
Herramientas para destapar a presión	Pressure unclogging tools
Desatascador	Plunger
Taladro de lavabo	Sink drill
Taladro de inodoro	Toilet drill

Spanish	English
Desatascador con reborde	Flange plunger

Clothing & Safety

In plumbing, it is essential to know that an accident can occur that could compromise your health, that is why we recommend to properly evaluating the work area and using the right tools and equipment. We will show you which are the safety elements that should be used to mitigate the possibility of an accident occurring.

Spanish	English
Casco	Helmet
Lentes de seguridad	Safety glasses
Overol de seguridad	Safety coverall
Guantes	Gloves
Protector facial	Face shield
Mascarilla / respirador	Mask / respirator

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Supplies/Materials

You already have your safety clothing, but what materials should you use? We will leave you with a list of the most common materials to use for your plumbing work.

Spanish	English
Válvulas	Valves
Reductores de tubería	Pipe reducers

Spanish	English
Conexiones	Connections
Mangueras	Hoses
Codos de tubería	Pipe bends
Reductores de tubería	Pipe reducers
Uniones	Unions
Adaptadores de tubería	Pipe adapters
Brida de Inodoro / Brida Sanitaria	Toilet Flange
Llave de paso	Stopcock

Types of Pipes

There is a variety of pipes depending on the activity or repair you are going to perform, whether it is a sewage or gas heating repair, each one needs specific types of pipes and suitable materials for its proper functioning. Do you know their names in Spanish?

Spanish	English
Tuberías de PE-X	PE-X pipes
Tuberías de PVC	PVC pipes
Tuberías multicapa	Multilayer piping
Tuberías de Polibutileno	Polybutylene Pipes
Tuberías de termofusión	Thermofusion piping
Tuberías de metal	Metal piping

Spanish	English
Tubería de cobre	Copper pipe
Tuberías galvanizadas	Galvanized pipes
Tuberías de acero	Steel piping
Tuberías de acero inoxidable	Stainless-steel piping

Plumbing Verbs

In order to have a good communication with your work team or your clients in Spanish, you must know some of the most common verbs to use while working. These will help you to have a more assertive communication and therefore better results.

Spanish	English
Recortar	Trim
Unir	Join
Taladrar	Drilling
Atascar	Clogging
Desatascar	Unclog
Abastecer	Supply
Limpiar	Clean
Ensamblar	Assemble

Measurements and Fractions

Although in Latin American or Spanish-speaking countries the measurement system used is the metric decimal system (and we can find pipes in millimeters), when we refer to pipe

measurements, the language to use is inches.

Note: in fractions the first number is read as a cardinal number (one, two, three, etc.), while the second number is read as an ordinal number (first, second, third, etc.). Additionally, if the first number is equal to 1 the fraction is read in singular and if it is greater than 1 the fraction is read in plural.

Spanish	English
Centimetro	Centimeter
Metro	Meter (approx. 39,37 in / 3,28 ft)
Milímetros	Millimeters (approx. 0.039 in / 0,0032 ft)
Medio	Half (adjective)
Mitad	Half (noun)
Un cuarto	1/4
Un octavo	1/8
Un décimo / una décima	1/10
Tres cuartos	3/4

Now let's look at the Imperial measurement system :

Spanish	English
Pulgada	Inch
Pies	Feet
Pie	Foot (12 inches)
Yarda	Yard (approximately 3 feet)

Spanish	English
Milla	Mile (5,280 feet or 1,760 yards)
Onza	Ounce
Libra	Pound
Galón	Gallon (U.S. liquid gallon is approximately 128 fluid ounces)
Pinta	Pint (U.S. liquid pint is approximately 16 fluid ounces)
Cuarto	Quart (U.S. liquid quart is approximately 32 fluid ounces)
Acre	Acre (a unit of land area)
Bushel	Bushel (a unit of dry volume)

Clean Up

As plumbing is a profession that works with water (potable or residual), many times dirt is generated at the time of working, it is important to know that for best results, you must maintain cleanliness and hygiene within the work area and thus take care of your health. We will leave you a list in Spanish of the most common elements to use.

Spanish	English
Escoba	Broom
Recogedor / pala	Dustpan
Aspiradora	Vacuum
Paño / trapo	Cloth
Pala	Shovel
Trapeador	Mop

Spanish	English
Esponja	Sponge
Escobilla	Toilet brush
Cloro	Bleach

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Common Terms & Phrases

There are phrases and words that you will hear frequently if your work team is Hispanic, we will show you the most common phrases so that you become familiar with the words and your work becomes easier when receiving instructions. Some of these words are technicalities of the area and others are general or applied to security.

Spanish	English
La plomería / fontanería	Plumbing
El plomero / fontanero	The plumber
Acometida	Connection
Aguas fecales	Sewage water
Aguas pluviales	Stormwater
Aguas residuales	Wastewater
Atascado	Stuck

Spanish	English
Codos	Elbows
Colector	Collector
Grifo	Tap
Desagüe	Drainage
Broca	Drill bit
Corrosión	Corrosion
Disolvente	Solvent
Junta de estanqueidad	Sealing gasket
Reflujo	Reflux
Flexómetro	Flexometer
Galvanizado	Galvanized
Hierro galvanizado	Galvanized iron
Manómetro	Pressure gauge
Soplete	Blowtorch
Residuos	Waste
Teflón	Teflon
Latón	Brass
Me podrías pasar...	Could you pass me...
Alguien sabe dónde está...	Does anyone know where is...

Spanish	English
Cuidado con…	Watch out with…
Peligro	Danger

There are many tools, and you should familiarize yourself with them to improve your language day by day and learn how to communicate with your clients and in your work area. We hope this blog has been very useful for you to learn a little bit about the wide world of plumbing in Spanish!

Don't forget to practice daily what you have learned today, connect with one of our online tutors to expand your vocabulary even more, and check out our other blogs related to the world of construction.

Other Spanish Resources for Plumbing Professionals

There are so many tools in this technologically and advanced world we live in, and you should get a hold of them in order to improve your language day to day:

 Use online apps like Duolingo to improve your vocabulary, and practice a little every day, so your brain gets more and more familiar with the sounds.

 Join online groups on Facebook with people that are learning too, so you can exchange your knowledge.

 Create your phrasebook, including what you have learned and useful phrases for your daily basis.

 Connected with the previous point, you can also get an **ONLINE SPANISH TUTOR** in LINGUAL LINKUP to help you create your phrasebook, expand your vocabulary and improve your understanding of spoken Spanish. Having someone who speaks the language fluently makes the difference, since you can also practice speaking and correct all pronunciation mistakes and work towards your goals. A tutor will always be your support when learning a new language.

 You can also check our Spanish for Electricians.

 And Spanish for Carpenters blogs to learn more Spanish terms.