

¿Recuerdas?

-ísimo

Add the suffix *-ísimo* (-a, -os, -as) to the end of adjectives to say that someone or something is “very . . .” or “extremely . . .”.

- Esta película es **interesantísima**.

Here are a few patterns you already know:

hermano → hermanito

ricas → riquísimas

poco → poquito

popular → popularísimo

¿Recuerdas?

-ito

Add the suffix *-ito* (-a, -os, -as) to the end of nouns to mean “small” or “little.” It can also be used to show affection.

- Mis primos acaban de comprar un **perrito** nuevo.

Words ending in **-co** (like **loco**, **poco**, **chico**) will have a spelling change when the last vowel is dropped and **-ito** and **-ísimo** are added. This is because the “**C**” followed by “**O**” says “**KO**” but a “**C**” followed by “**I**” says “**SI**”. To retain the hard “**C**” sound, the “**CI**” is exchanged with “**QUI**” (pronounced “**KI**”).

This spelling change keeps the sound of the original word, which in language is more important than the spelling.