

Compás

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Compás is the flamenco term used to describe the different rhythmic counts or patterns. Within each palo there is a basic shape of the compás or counts.

*In Spain and some teachers in the US, count in Spanish or Spanish Style - below is a representation of both US & "Spain" 12 Compás numeric forms:

Bolded numbers are accented

US Numeric Form: **1**2, 1 2 **3**, 4 5 **6**, 7 **8**, 9 **10**, 11

"Spain" Numeric Form: 1 **2**, 1 2 **3**, 4 5 **6**, 7 **8**, 9 10, 1 **2**
(start with "Un **Dos**")

As a student, you want to really understand your palo's compás. It's what grounds you and has your back better than your memory. A big compliment to receive, as a flamenco student dancer, is that you were **in compás**".

Kid you not, you can flub it with squishy footwork, but if you were in compás, **REDEMPTION!**

The Compás Tracker was created just for that purpose. Listening and tracking the counts of the palo(s) you are learning will seriously wire your brain's muscle memory and keep you on track.

The Why & General Rules

AS A GENERAL RULE * -- 12
Count Palos

- Entrada - 4 compás'
- Llamada#1 - 2 - 4 compás'
- Letra#1 - 8 to 10 compás'
- Llamada#2 - 4 compás'
- Letra#2 - 8 to 12 compás'
- Falseta - 4 compás'
- Escobilla - 10 - 16 compás'
- Subida - 2 - 4 compás'
- Buleria - 8 to 10 compás'
- Estribillo - 6 - 8 compás'

*Something to keep in mind, In Flamenco "Rules" are very "Fluid".