

# ARGENTINIAN SPANISH: CURSE WORDS



**A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING (AND  
MAYBE USING?) SOME OF THE MOST  
COLORFUL INSULTS IN RIOPLATENSE  
SPANISH.**

**With audio tracks**



**VENTURE OUT SPANISH**

# INDEX

INTRO

THE BIG 3

I'M ANGRY AT YOU

I'M JUST ANGRY

READY-TO-USE FORMULAS

EXPRESSIONS WITH IMPERATIVES

REAL LIFE USE CASES

PUTEADAS WE DON'T USE IN ARGENTINA

MINCED OATHS

SOFT WORDS THAT AREN'T PUTEADAS

PRACTICE SECTION

FINAL WORD

So, you're going down the rabbit hole, straight into the sewage of Spanish...good for you, my friend.

If you're learning Rioplatense Spanish, you'll run into them sooner or later anyway.

In Argentina, we hear (and use) them all the time. They pop up in the streets, in stadiums, in movies, in group chats, and in casual conversation without us even noticing. Not as much at the average workplace, though.

Some have been used so often, they've lost their "bad" status. But jumping into swearing without really knowing what you're saying is not a great idea.

Swearing well means knowing when, how, and why to do it.

And that's what this guide is about.

As we get ready for this tour, let's agree to call things by their name. Instead of calling them bad words, curse words, profanities, vulgar language, or any of those euphemisms... we'll just call them puteadas. Plain and simple.

We'll divide the puteadas presented herein into two main groups:

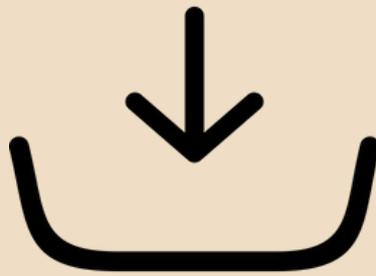
- The ones we throw at someone
- The ones we use to vent frustration

By navigating puteadas in this way, you'll get an idea of who is who in the cast.

At the end of this booklet, you'll have the opportunity to test your aptitude for cursing.

So get ready.

This is about to get rough. Enter at your own risk.



Download the audio tracks for this book at:  
<https://ventureoutspanish.com/audios-curse-words/>

# FIRST THINGS FIRST: THE BIG THREE

You should probably know puteadas change depending on the country and region. (I'm guessing that's why you purchased this guide)

Puteada, in fact, is a word almost unique to Argentina. By the way, putear is the verb, puteador is the adjective.

Let's start with the three you're most likely to hear anywhere in Argentina:

- Boludo
- Carajo
- La puta madre

These three are everywhere. In the street, at football matches, and in casual conversations between friends.

## **BOLUDO**

That's especially true for boludo, which has gone through a transformation. What once was an insult is now... a term of endearment. Among friends, boludo and boluda are often affectionate —or at least neutral. They are embedded in conversations.

### **TRACK 1**

“¡Ale! Feliz cumpleaños, boludo, ¿cómo estás? ¿Che, qué vas a hacer hoy?”

“Hola Flor, ¿todo bien? Che, boluda, ¿vos hablaste con Kari hoy?”

But don't get too comfortable: the word can still be offensive if said with the right (or wrong) tone.

“Qué pedazo de boludo.”

“Dale, ¡boludo!” (a typical in the street)

I once had a student book a lesson, and he started off with “¿Qué hacés, che, boludo?”. He was proud of how Argentinian he felt, but instead it felt so off.

Like for many of the words in this guide, context is everything.

## CARAJO

Carajo is ubiquitous. Sometimes is in a phrase as a backdrop, sometimes it plays the main role. It's more versatile than you'd think. It can express anger, enthusiasm, and almost anything in between.

### TRACK 2

Frustration: "No entiendo un carajo..."

Celebration: "¡Vamos, carajo!"

Annoyance or rejection: "¿Qué carajo estás diciendo?"

### TRACK 3

For an article I wrote in the past, I tracked:

- Me importa un carajo | *I don't give a fuck*. "Mirá, ¿te digo la verdad? Me importa un carajo si gana Argentina hoy." Sometimes we turn this phrase into tres carajos.
- ¡Vamos carajo! | A phrase we use to celebrate good news or events. If Argentina's national team or your football team wins a difficult match, we say "¡Vamos Argentina, carajo!"
- Andate al carajo | *Fuck off*. (Similar to *andá a cagar*)
- Me mandó al carajo, La mandé al carajo, Lo mandé al carajo, Los mandé al carajo, Las mandé al carajo | The reported phrase for the previous.
- ¿Qué carajo es esto? | *What the fuck is this?*
- No valer un carajo | To not be worth a penny. "No...eso ya no vale un carajo, olvidate."
- No valer de un carajo (bis) | To be useless. "¿Para qué me voy a enojar? No vale de un carajo."
- Tener un talento del carajo | To be very talented. "Lucas tiene un talento del carajo para la música."
- No durar un carajo | Usually to say that something has a short life. "La batería de mi celular no dura un carajo."
- No entender un carajo | When you have no clue, this is the standard phrase. "No entendí un carajo lo que dijo."
- Irse al carajo | This phrase can have a positive or negative meaning. The intonation is very important here. When someone crosses the line, we say "Te fuiste al carajo, boludo."

## LA PUTA MADRE

"The fucking mother" usually expresses anger or frustration, but without any complements, not necessarily against someone specific. It's pure emotional release, as many others we'll find below:

## TRACK 4

Stub your toe? “¡Ay, la puta madre!”

Drop your empanada on the floor? “¡Noooo, la puta madre!”

It can also get progressively stronger:

“La reputa madre.”

“La reputísima madre.”

In many Argentinian curse words, the R plays a key role in conveying strength or intensity. It’s the sound that gives weight to the insult. Take la “reputísima madre que te re mil parió”. Sometimes is a specific syllable. Pay attention to that.

Nice, huh?

At the end of this guide there’s an exercise to help you get comfortable with your Rs.

# # 1 / I'M HANGRY AT YOU

With the introductions done, let's move on.

These insults are aimed directly at someone. They often imply the person is:

- a) stupid,
- b) irritating,
- c) despicable,
- or d) all of the above.

⚠ Important: Most of them don't have exact English equivalents. There are many situations that may not have a direct translation, or you may be able to translate it but it's either stronger or not as strong. Also, some of them are more gendered.

## TRACK 5

Word/Phrase	Possible Translation	Estimated strength
Boludo/a	Idiot, dumbass	* * *
Pelotudo/a	Idiot, dumbass	* * * *
Forro/a	Ashole, jerk	* * * *
Hijo/a de puta	Son of a bitch	* * * *
Tarado/a	Moron	* * *
Estúpido/a	Stupid	* *
Imbécil	Imbecile (ever use this one in English?)	* * *

Pajero/a	Wanker, lazy, stupid	* * *
Conchuda	Bitch	* * * * *
Idiota	Idiot	* * * * *
Malcogido/a	Badly fucked	* * * * *
Cornudo	Cuckold	* * *
Puto	Faggot	* * * * *
Culo roto	Broken ass	* * * * *
Puta	Whore	* * * * *
La puta que te parió	The whore that gave birth to you	* * * * *
La concha de tu madre	Your mother's pussy	* * * * *
La concha tuya	That cunt of yours	* * * * *
Sorete (mal cagado)	Piece of shit (badly shat out)	* * * * *
Cagón	Shitter	* * *
Malparido	Bastard	* *

## #2 / I'M JUST ANGRY

These are used more like emotional outbursts. No specific person is being insulted. It can be used as an outlet for rage, pain, frustration... you name it.

The first phrase in the list is la puta madre, and then we build up from there.

### TRACK 6

Expression	Literal translation
¡La puta madre!	The fucking mother!
¡Me cago en la puta madre!	I shit on the fucking mother!
¡La reputísima madre!	The fuckinkest mother!
¡La concha de la lora!	The parrot's pussy!
¡Me cago en Dios!	I shit on God!

There's no big difference between these. The more you need to release, the stronger your choice.

## #3 | READY-TO-USE FORMULAS

Now, even though you might have learned many new puteadas, it's essential that you have some formulas to take them to life. In the examples below I'll try to provide you with ready to use templates:

### TRACK 7

#### #1

##### **Sos un/una + [puteada]**

*You are a [puteada]*

e.g. Sos un pelotudo.

#### #2

##### **¡Qué + [puteada] + de mierda!**

*What a fucking [puteada]!*

e.g. ¡Qué forro de mierda!

#### #3

##### **¡Qué + pedazo de + [puteada]!**

##### **¡Qué + flor de + [puteada]!**

##### **¡Qué + reverendo + [puteada]**

##### **¡Qué + tremendo + [puteada]**

*What a [massive] [puteada]*

e.g. ¡Qué pedazo de boludo!

e.g. ¡Qué flor de sorete!

e.g. ¡Qué reverendo hijo de puta!

#### #4

##### **No seas + [puteada]**

*Don't be a [puteada]*

e.g. No seas boludo.

# #4 | EXPRESSIONS WITH IMPERATIVES

Some of the harshest phrases in Spanish come in the form of commands with the voseo twist (shift of stress)

## TRACK 8

Phrase	Literal Meaning	Closer equivalent
Andate a la mierda	Go to the shit	Fuck you
Andate a la concha de tu madre	Go to your mother's pussy	Fuck you
Andate a la concha de tu hermana	Go to your sister's pussy	Fuck you
Andá a cagar	Go take a shit	Screw you
Andá a lavarte el culo	Go wash your ass	Fuck you
Dejate de joder	Stop messing around	Cut the crap
Chupame un huevo	Suck one of my balls	Suck my dick
Chupame la pija	Suck my dick	Suck my dick
Cerrá el culo/orto	Shut your ass	Shut the fuck up
No me rompas las pelotas/los huevos	Don't break my balls	Don't bother me

# #5 | REAL LIFE USE CASES

In order to put together this PDF I was very attentive to people around me as well as people online to make sure I included authentic material. These are some of my favorite.

## TRACK 9

- “Qué subte de mierda” | *Fucking subway*
- “Quiero mandar todo a la mierda” | *I wanna say fuck it all*
- “La puta que los parió a todos.” | *Fuck every single one of you/them*
- “Me cago en vos.” | *I shit on you*
- “Tengo los huevos al plato.” | *My balls are on the plate*
- “Hay que ser boludo/pelotudo...” | *You’ve gotta be a fucking idiot...*
- “Metételo en el orto.” | *Shove it up your ass*
- “Sigo laburando como un pelotudo.” | *I keep working like an idiot*
- “No tenés huevos.” | *You’ve got no balls*
- “No hay poronga que nos venga bien.” | *There’s no dick that satisfies us*
- “La tenés adentro.” | *You have it inside you*
- “No te dan los huevos” | *You don’t have the balls*
- “¿Por qué carajo cuesta tanto levantarse temprano?” | *Why the fuck is it so hard to get up early?*
- “Hace un calor de la puta madre.” | *It’s a whore-mother-level heat*
- “La concha puta de tu hermana” | *Your sister’s whore pussy*
- “Hacete culear, gordo.” | *Go get fucked, fatass*
- “Qué pito corto que sos...” | *You’re such a short dick...*
- “La concha del mono” | *The monkey’s pussy*
- “Chupame bien la pija, pelotudo” | *Suck my dick with dedication, pelotudo*
- “Qué tragaleche este tipo...” | *What a cum-swallower this guy is...*
- “No sos más boludo porque no te da el día” | *You’re not more boludo only because the day isn’t long enough*
- “¿Qué te pasa, pelotudo?” | *What’s wrong with you, pelotudo?*
- “¿Vos sos o te hacés?” | *Are you (boludo) or you’re pretending to be?*

## #6 | PUTEADAS WE DON'T USE IN ARGENTINA

Many of these puteadas sound either plain foreign or like dubbed TV. I don't know enough about them to give you the exact equivalent, but I'm telling you they won't work

- Cabrón
- Pendejo (unless used as immature)
- Pinche
- Come mierda
- Gilipollas
- Papanata
- Zorra
- Comemierda
- Chingada
- Puñetero
- Joder
- Chinga tu madre
- Hijo de perra
- No mames
- No me toques los cojones
- Maldita sea
- Hostia puta
- Coño

## #7 | MINCED OATHS

As defined by Wikipedia, a minced oath is a euphemistic expression formed by deliberately misspelling, mispronouncing, or replacing a part of a profane, blasphemous, or taboo word or phrase to reduce the original term's objectionable characteristics.

### TRACK 10

- Hijo de su madre
- Hijo de una gran siete
- La pucha
- La pucha digo
- Andá a freir churros
- Me cacho en diez

## #8 | SOFT WORDS THAT ARE NOT FULL ON PUTEADAS

These are less intense, but they can still be offensive if you use them to hurt someone.

### TRACK 11

- Gil
- Salame
- Salamín
- Bobo
- Infeliz
- Ganso
- Nabo
- Pancho
- Cachivache
- Pavo
- Huevón
- Bolas tristes
- Payaso
- Mamerto

LET'S GET YOUR  
TONGUE DIRTY



In this section, I'd like to create some opportunities where you can practice what you've learned. Are you up for it?

**1. Read each situation and pick the most appropriate puteada for it.**

**1. You stub your pinky toe really hard.**

- a) ¡Ay soy un pelotudo!
- b) ¡Ay, la concha de la lora!
- c) ¡Ay, chupame un huevo!

**2. You're a taxi driver in Buenos Aires.**

**Someone cuts you off while driving.**

- a) ¡Forro!
- b) ¡La puta madre que lo parió!
- c) ¡No seas boludo!

**3. Your team scores in the last minute.**

- a) ¡Vamos, carajo!
- b) ¡Andá a cagar!
- c) ¡Qué sorete!

**4. Your friend reacts badly to a joke.**

- a) No seas puto, fue un chiste.
- b) No seas forro, fue un chiste.
- c) No seas gil, fue un chiste.

**5. A friend tells you people will laugh at you if you dye your hair green.**

- a) ¡No me rompas las pelotas!
- b) ¡Qué flor de pelotudo!
- c) ¡Me chupa un huevo!

**6. Your food falls on the floor before you get a single bite.**

- a) ¡La concha de mi madre!
- b) ¡Me cago en todo!
- c) ¡Sos un tarado!

**7. Someone says something really dumb in a serious conversation.**

- a) ¡Cerrá el orto!
- b) ¡Qué gil!
- c) ¡Dejate de joder!

**8. Your phone company charges you extra for your plan.**

- a) ¡Sos un ganso!
- b) ¡La puta que te parió!
- c) ¡Qué hijos de puta!

**9. You've been looking for your wallet for 30 minutes... and it's in your jacket.**

- a) ¡La puta madre!
- b) ¡Qué boludo!
- c) ¡Me cago Dios!

**10. The power goes out and you lose unsaved work.**

- a) ¡La reputísima madre que lo parió!
- b) No seas forro.
- c) ¡Papafrita!

**2. Practice these phrases paying attention to the R, which carries anger and intensity.**

 **TRACK 12**

1. La reputísima madre que te re mil parió
2. Forro hijo de re mil puta
3. Qué reverendo pelotudo
4. Andate a la mierda
5. Cerrá el orto

**3. In Argentinian Spanish, people often shorten long, intense curse phrases into acronyms – especially in texts, memes or forums (like Reddit, WhatsApp or Twitter). The most iconic is LPM: La puta madre.**

1. LPM

---

2. LRPM

---

3. LPMQTP

---

4. LRPMQTP

---

5. LRPMQTRMP

---

**4. Below is a list of 20 puteadas. Sort them into the right category:**

- **Used to insult someone directly**
- **Used for emotional release**

- Boludo
- La concha de tu madre
- Flor de sorete
- Salame
- La puta que lo parió
- Qué gil que soy
- Cornudo
- Qué pelotudo
- Chupame un huevo
- Hijos de mil putas
- Qué cagón que sos.
- Andá a cagar
- Pajero
- Andate a la mierda
- La reputísima madre
- Pelotuda de mierda
- Son unos tarados
- La puta que te parió
- La concha de tu hermana
- La concha de su madre

<b>INSULT</b>	<b>RELEASE</b>

# ANSWER KEY

## EX.1

1)b 2)a 3)a 4)c 5)c 6)a 7)c 8)c 9)b 10)a

## EX. 3

La puta madre

La reputa madre

La puta madre que te parió

La reputa madre que te parió

La reputísima madre que te re mil parió

## EX. 4

INSULT: boludo, qué flor de sorete, salame, cornudo, qué pelotudo, chupame un huevo, hijos de mil putas, qué cagón que sos, andá a cagar, pajero, andate a la mierda, pelotuda de mierda, son unos tarados, la puta que te parió, la concha de tu hermana.

RELEASE: la puta que lo parió, qué gil que soy, la reputísima madre, la concha de su madre

Good, my friend. You've made it to the end, unharmed.

As my grandmother used to say, now go wash your mouth.

But, really. Handle these words with care. These expressions are very real, and also very charged.

Understanding them will help you grasp the emotional weight and rhythm of real Argentine Spanish, but you don't necessarily need to use them.

Regardless, your Argentinianship has risen with this.

Found this resource useful and want to say thanks through Buy me a coffee? Click on the link below and you'll be redirected:

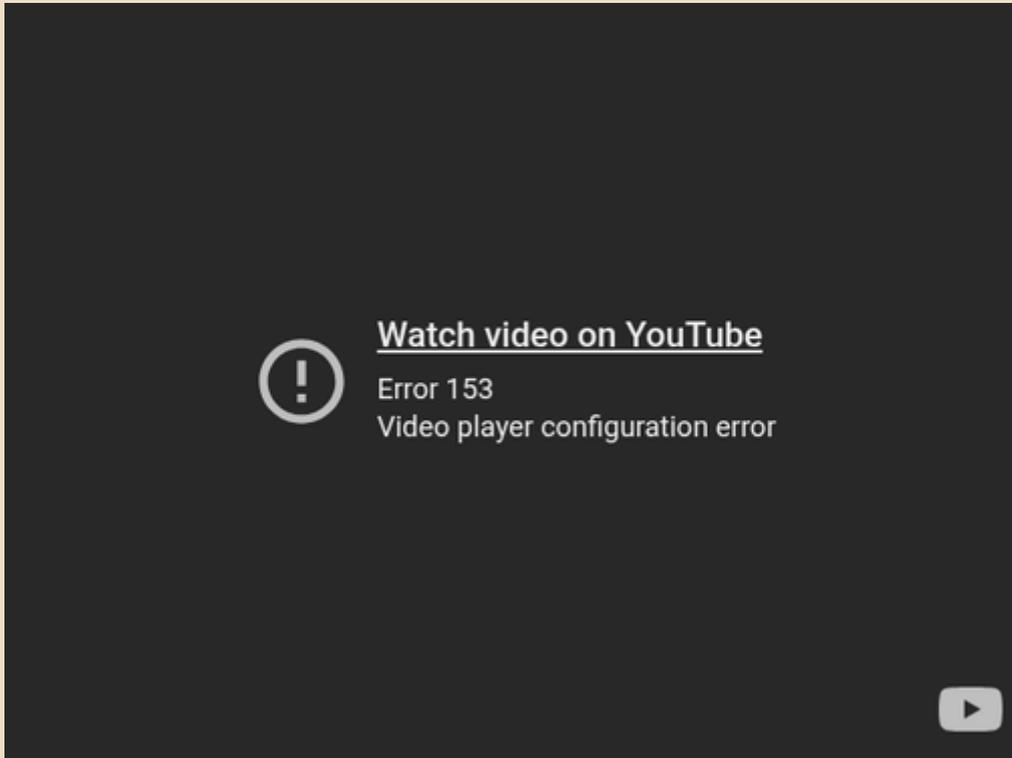


I'd love to hear your feedback for this resource. Get in touch through [matias@ventureoutspanish.com](mailto:matias@ventureoutspanish.com)

Once again, thanks for your interest.

See you around,  
Mati

# BONUS



Some time ago, River lost the category and this video went viral. The quality is not the best, but the modelling of puteadas is out of the ordinary.

Don't worry about what goes between them, just try to write down the ones you hear.

In the next page, I'll leave you the answer.

1. la puta que te parió
2. la concha de tu hermana
3. forro hijo de mil puta
4. la puta que me parió
5. sos un pelotudo
6. sos un hijo de puta
7. hay que ser pelotudo
8. la concha de tu madre
9. la concha de tu hermana
10. pendejo
11. forro de mierda
12. la puta que te parió
13. andate a la concha de tu hermana
14. la reputa madre que te recontra mil parió
15. hijos de puta
16. la concha de mi madre
17. la reputa que te parió
18. qué cagón sos
19. la concha de tu reputa madre que te parió y la reputísima madre que te parió
20. hijo de mil puta
21. andá a la concha de tu hermana la puta que te recontra parió