

## If you're thinking “to get + adjective” (“to get angry”)<sup>1</sup> ...

1. Use a **verb** (usually derived from the adjective). These ones exist/work, (DON'T INVENT OTHERS):

<i>adelgazar</i>	to get thin*
<i>enfadarse</i>	to get angry*
<i>enfermar</i>	to get sick *
<i>enfurecerse</i>	to get furious*
<i>engordar</i>	to get fat *
<i>enloquecer</i>	to go mad *
<i>enrojecer</i>	to get red/blush*
<i>palidecer</i>	to get pale*
<i>entristecerse</i>	to get sad*
<i>endurecerse</i>	to get harder/tougher*
<i>alegrarse</i>	to get happy*
<i>asustarse</i>	to get scared

\*they can be replaced by “ponerse”

<i>anochecer</i>	to get dark (night)
<i>amanecer</i>	to get light (day)
<i>oscurecer</i>	to get dark
<i>aclarar</i>	to get clear
<i>aburrirse</i>	to get bored
<i>ensordecer</i>	to get deaf
<i>envejecer</i>	to get old
<i>cansarse</i>	to get tired
<i>emocionarse</i>	to get excited
<i>callarse</i>	to get quiet
<i>enriquecerse</i>	to get rich
<i>tranquilizarse</i>	To calm down
<i>mejorarse</i>	To get better
<i>empeorarse</i>	To get worse

2. **Use “ponerse”**

**Temporary** change, of mood or physical condition. To “get”/become eg;

*Si mi gato muere, me voy a poner muy triste*

*Si comes mucho te pones gordo*

*Vio un fantasma y se puso blanco*

*¡Qué guapa te estás poniendo!*

*El día se va a poner gris*

*Encontrar trabajo se ha puesto difícil*

### **ponerse**

me pongo
me estoy poniendo
me he <b>puesto</b>
me ponía
me puse
me pondré
me pondría

3. **Use “volverse”**

Involuntary mental or physical change “to go”/become. **More permanent** than ponerse.

*Se volvió loco.*

*Pepe se ha vuelto muy antipático con los años.*

### **volverse**

me vuelvo
me estoy volviendo
me he <b>vuelto</b>
me volvía
me volví
me volveré
me volvería

4. **Use “quedarse”** (you already know it as “to stay”)

It implies loss/incapacity, not able to control the emotion to lose /be left without

*Después del accidente se quedó sordo/ciego/mudo/cojo*

*Se quedó viuda, se quedó sola en el mundo, me quedé sorprendido*

## If you're thinking “to become” (jobs or change into something, “to become a teacher”)

1. Use “**hacerse**” or “**llegar a ser**” (not very common)

**Becoming** as a result of an ambition/voluntary effort/will-religious, **profesional** or political advancement.

*se hizo católico, se hizo monja (nun), para hacerte arquitecto necesitas estudiar mucho.*

“Llegar a ser” is usually as a result of loads of effort /to become eventually, or to manage to become.

*Trabajó mucho y llegó a ser director general*

\*There're some ‘fixed phrases’, not related to the above but very common: *se hace tarde, se hace monótono...*

2. **Convertirse en + noun=** change or turn into: *Drácula se convierte en murciélago*

<sup>1</sup> Get is a lazy verb, since you can use it to replace loads of other verbs that carry a meaning of their own. For this reason there is not one translation for it. The trick is to think of another verb that you could use in English instead of *get* in that particular sentence and then find the Spanish equivalent. Examples:

“I don't get it”	=	I don't understand it	=	No lo <b>comprendo</b>
He <b>got</b> home at 8	=	He <b>arrived</b> home at 8	=	Llegó a casa a las 8
He <b>gets</b> 2k a month	=	He <b>earns</b> 2k a month	=	Gana 2k al mes
I'm going to <b>get</b> a beer	=	I'm going to <b>order</b> a beer	=	Voy a <b>pedir</b> una cerveza
<b>Get</b> me a biscuit	=	<b>Bring</b> me a biscuit	=	Tráeme una galleta
I <b>got</b> to watch the premiere	=	I <b>managed</b> to watch...	=	Conseguí ver el estreno

*To get (something) often appears in the dictionary as *conseguir, obtener* (both to obtain) and *recibir* (to receive). These translations work only in certain contexts: **obtener** una beca (= to get a grant) works, but **obtener** una cerveza (to get a beer?) sounds strange and confusing.*