

Calling Card Instructions

To call the United States from Mexico requires two different types of “phone cards”.

Phone Card #1 – **Purchase in the United States**

- This may not be an actual card, but you will need an international phone number (an “Access Number”) and a pin number.
- It is critical to make sure that you are buying an *international* phone card that calls *from* Mexico *to* the United States.
 - Your international number should look like this: 01 + 800 + xxx-xxxx
- Besides this number, you should have an additional “Pin Number”.
- Unless you are very familiar with international phone cards, I highly recommend using the Noblecom.com website.

Phone Card #2 – **Purchase in Mexico**

- You can buy this card almost anywhere in Mexico – from grocery stores to gas stations.
- It is called a “Tarjeta Telefónica”
 - Instead of using coins in their pay-phones, Mexicans use this pre-paid “Tarjeta Telefónica” or “Phone Card”.
- It is best to buy the least expensive “Tarjeta Telefónica” you can find, as when you use it in combination with a 01-800 number, it does not reduce the value of the card.
- It should cost 50 pesos or less, and you can use it indefinitely if you use it in combination with phone card from the United States.

When you get to Mexico, you will be able to call the United States from any pay phone. Simply insert your “Tarjeta Telefónica” into the pay phone and follow the instructions. The instructions are in Spanish, so if you don’t understand, this is more or less what the process will be like:

- Insert your “Tarjeta Telefónica” into the pay phone
- The phone will take a few moments to verify the amount on your “Tarjeta Telefónica”
- Once the amount is verified, you should dial your international 800 number – with the international code for the US, it should look like this: 01 + 800 + xxx-xxxx
 - Dialing slowly will give better results
- In either English or Spanish, they will ask for your pin number
- Then you will need to enter the area-code, plus the phone number you want to reach
- There will be an automated message telling you how much money you have on your card, and how long that will allow you to talk for – then it will connect you to your number

Note: If ordering from Noblecom.com, make sure to bring all of the Mexico access numbers they have listed on their website, as some will work better on some phones than others.

If you have any questions about the process, please email me, and I would be happy to help clarify.

Sincerely,

Hayley Klein – hfklein@gmail.com

(ISL Veteran– North Central Mexico, August 2006 and March 2007)