

Telephone Instructions

BY CLIFF NOTES

Phone dialing 101. Land lines.

Cell phones are different and will be explained a little later, hold your water.

The area code for Los Cabos is 624. It includes Cabo San Lucas, San Jose and Los Barriles.

Examples:

To dial land-to-land phones within the Los Cabos area, just dial the seven digit number i.e.: Gringo Gazette would be 143 0865

Long distance dialing: From another city to the GG in Los Cabos dial 01 (624) + 143 0865. Dialing long distance is just like dialing long distance in the States and Canada except you are dialing 01 instead of 1 before an area code.

Todos Santos and La Paz are in the 612 area code.

To dial within the La Paz area from the La Paz area just dial the seven digit number. For example the restaurant La PazLapa would be 123 4757 if you are calling from La Paz. If you are calling the restaurant from within the Los Cabos area code you must dial long distance: 01 (612) 123 4757.

Calling from out side the country to Los Cabos: 011-52 (624) + phone number. The 011 tells the phone company you want an over seas connection, 52 is the country code for Mexico and gets you into this country and the rest is just the area code and phone number. That's if you are calling a land line. If you are calling a cell phone in Los Cabos, you now have to throw in an additional "1" before the area code. As in 011-52 + 1 (624) + phone number.

From out of the country to La Paz: 011 52 (612) 123 4757. (The long distance operator, Mexico's country code, La Paz's area code, the restaurant's seven digit phone number.) Remember, if you are calling a cell phone in La Paz from outside the country, you now have to throw in an additional "1" before the area code.

Phone dialing 102. Cell phones.

To call a cell phone which is outside your own area code, it's a whole new ballgame. Example: to call a cell phone in

La Paz from a land line in Los Cabos, dial 045 (612) + the seven digit phone number. The 045 tells the phone company that the caller pays for the call.

To call a cell number that is either in the same or a different area code but still within Mexico, just dial the seven digit number starting with the area code even though you are in the same area code. Example: You are in the Los Cabos area and you want to call a La Paz cell number: dial (612) + phone number. If you are in La Paz and want to call a La Paz cell, you must dial (612) + phone number.

From out of the country to a Los Cabos or La Paz cell number you now have to throw in an additional "1" before the area code. As in 011-52 + 1 (624) + phone number. Remember that?

Cell phones are getting trickier so you gotta get it in your head that the only time you treat them any different is when you are in the same area code. The 044 is currently only used when dialing from a land line to a cell number in your same area code. The 045 is used when calling from a land line to a cell phone outside your area. To call from cell to cell within Mexico just dial the area code + the seven digit number.

If you think this is a screwball way to run a phone company, you're going to love this: The man who owns the company has recently been recognized as the richest man in the world and he made nearly all his fortune by owning the Mexican telephone system and using his political clout to keep out competition. ✎



Emergency Phone Numbers

Fire department 060 or 122- 0054

Red Cross 060 or 122- 1111/ 122-1222

066 - Local emergency help, pretty much like 911 in the US and Canada.

074 - Green Angels highway help, Free of charge. Only requires payment if spare parts are provided.

088 - Federal Police, Anonymous reports can be filed. Your call is received in Mexico City. They do follow up that action is taken. This is ideal to get rid of a "tiendita" or small drug dealing operation in your barrio

089 - Also for anonymous reports on organized crime and drug dealing. Goes straight to Mexico City Army or Navy and they also follow up to see that action is taken.

Calling U.S. Toll Free Numbers

Those wonderful folds at Telmex block access to toll free numbers in the United States, but if you must call your bank or your credit card company while down here there is a work-around

- to call an 800 number, change the 800 to 880
- to call an 888 number, change the 888 to 881
- to call an 877 number, change the 877 to 882
- to call an 866 number, change the 866 to 883

You still need to dial 001 before dialing your new toll free number, and this call will cost you money.