



[< Previous](#)



[Next >](#)

Combinations

Bookmark this page

Video

Start of transcript. Skip to the end.

Number of n-Bit Sequences with k 1's

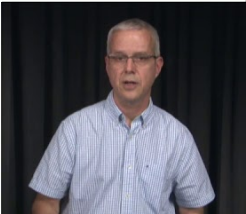
$\binom{n}{k} \triangleq \left| \binom{[n]}{k} \right| = \# \text{ n-bit sequences with k 1's}$ binomial coefficient

$\binom{3}{2} = \left| \binom{[3]}{2} \right| = |\{110, 101, 011\}| = 3$

Locations of 1's: Ordered Pairs from {1,2,3} $\# = 3^2 = 6$

12	110	110
13	101	
21	110	101
23	011	
31	101	011
32	011	

$\binom{3}{2} = \frac{3^2}{2} = \frac{6}{2}$



0:00 / 0:00

1.0x

Speaker icon

Fullscreen icon

CC icon

Quote icon

- Hello again, everyone.

Last time we talked about permutations,

and in this lecture we'll discuss combinations.

So what are they?

So first we're going to look at subsets of a set.

And so a subset of size k is called a k-subset.

4.3. Combinations

POLL

Which of the following is larger for $k \leq n$?

RESULTS

- ☐ The number of k-permutations of an n-set

90%
- ☒ The number of k-subsets of an n-set

10%

Submit

Results gathered from 21 respondents.

FEEDBACK

The number of k-permutations is larger.

In selecting subsets, the order doesn't matter, hence the number of k-subsets is the number of k-permutations divided by k!

1

0 points possible (ungraded)

In how many ways can a basketball coach select 5 starting players form a team of 15?

- ☒ $\frac{15!}{5!10!}$
- ☐ $\frac{15!}{10!}$
- ☐ $\frac{15!}{5!}$
- ☐ None of the above



Explanation

It can be deducted from partial permutation, but the order does not matter. It is $\binom{15}{5} = \frac{15^5}{5!} = \frac{15!}{5!10!}$.

Submit

You have used 1 of 2 attempts

i Answers are displayed within the problem

2

0 points possible (ungraded)

- In how many ways can you select a group of 2 people out of 5?

☒ 10

☐ 25

☐ 125

☐ None of the above



Explanation

$$\binom{5}{2} = 10.$$

- In how many ways can you select a group of 3 people out of 5?

☒ 10

☐ 25

☐ 125

☐ None of the above



Explanation

$$\binom{5}{3} = 10.$$

- In how many ways can you divide 5 people into two groups, where the first group has 2 people and the second has 3?

☒ 10

☐ 25

☐ 125

☐ None of the above



Explantion

After we determine the group of 2, the group of 3 is determined as well, hence the answer is $\binom{5}{2} = 10$.

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

i Answers are displayed within the problem

3

0 points possible (ungraded)
Ten points are placed on a plane, with no three on the same line. Find the number of:

- lines connecting two of the points,

45

✓ Answer: 45

45

Explanation
Choosing any 2 points out of the 10 points can make a line: $\binom{10}{2}$

- these lines that do not pass through two specific points (say A or B),

28

✓ Answer: 28

28

Explanation
Choosing any 2 points out of the remaining 8 points (except A, B): $\binom{8}{2}$

- triangles formed by three of the points,

120

✓ Answer: 120

120

Explanation
As no three on the same line, choosing any 3 points out of the 10 points make a triangle: $\binom{10}{3}$

- these triangles that contain a given point (say point A),

(9*8*7)/6

✗ Answer: 36

$\frac{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7}{6}$

Explanation
With point A fixed, choosing any 2 points out of the remaining 9 points make a triangle: $\binom{9}{2}$

- these triangles contain the side AB .

8

✓ Answer: 8

8

Explanation
With point A and B fixed, choosing any 1 point out of the remaining 8 points make a triangle: $\binom{8}{1}$

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

4

0 points possible (ungraded)

The set $\{1, 2, 3\}$ contains 6 nonempty intervals: $\{1\}$, $\{2\}$, $\{3\}$, $\{1, 2\}$, $\{2, 3\}$, and $\{1, 2, 3\}$.

How many nonempty intervals does $\{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$ contain?

(2^{10})

✗ Answer: 55

(2^{10})

Explanation

$\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ contains $\binom{n}{1}$ singleton intervals and $\binom{n}{2}$ intervals of 2 or more elements. Hence the total number of intervals is $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1}$. By Pascal's identity $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1} = \binom{n+1}{2}$. This can also be seen by considering the $n + 1$ midpoints $\{0.5, 1.5, \dots, n + 0.5\}$. Any pair of these points defines an interval in $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

5

0 points possible (ungraded)

A rectangle in an $m \times n$ chessboard is a cartesian product $S \times T$, where S and T are nonempty intervals in $\{1, \dots, m\}$ and $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ respectively. How many rectangles does the 3×6 chessboard have?

6*21

✓ Answer: 126

$6 \cdot 21$

Explanation

Repeating the same analysis as the above question, but for two different intervals, we have $\binom{4}{2} \cdot \binom{7}{2} = 126$.

? Hint (1 of 1): For example, the 2×2 chessboard has $3 \cdot 3 = 9$ rectangles.

Next Hint

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

6 (Graded)

8.0/8.0 points (graded)

A standard 52-card deck consists of 4 suits and 13 ranks. Find the number of 5-card hands where:

- any hand is allowed (namely the number of different hands),

2598960

✓ Answer: 2598960

2598960

4396900

Explanation

This is simply $\binom{52}{5}$.

- all five cards are of same suit,

4*1287

✓ Answer: 5148

4 · 1287

Explanation

There are 4 suits in total and 13 cards in each suit, hence $4 \cdot \binom{13}{5}$ hands.

- all four suits are present,

685464

✓ Answer: 685464

685464

Explanation

One of the 4 suits will appear twice, hence $4 \cdot \binom{13}{2} \cdot 13^3$ hands.

- all cards are of distinct ranks.

1317888

✓ Answer: 1317888

1317888

Explanation

First pick 5 out of 13 ranks, then choose their suits. Therefore there are $\binom{13}{5} \cdot 4^5$ hands.

? **Hint (1 of 1):** For example, for hands where all cards are of the same suit, count the number of hands with 5 clubs, or with 5 diamonds, etc.

Next Hint

Submit

You have used 1 of 4 attempts

❗ Answers are displayed within the problem

7 (Graded)

2.0/2.0 points (graded)

A company employs 4 men and 3 women. How many teams of three employees have at most one woman?

☐ 21

☒ 22

☐ 23

☐ 24



Explanation

There are $\binom{4}{3} = 4$ teams with 0 women and $\binom{3}{1} \times \binom{4}{2} = 3 \times 6 = 18$ teams with 1 woman, for a total of 22.

Submit

You have used 1 of 2 attempts

i Answers are displayed within the problem

8 (Graded)

5.0/5.0 points (graded)

A (tiny) library has 5 history texts, 3 sociology texts, 6 anthropology texts and 4 psychology texts. Find the number of ways a student can choose:

- one of the texts,

18

✓ Answer: 18

18

Explanation

- two of the texts,

153

✓ Answer: 153

153

Explanation

- one history text and one other type of text,

65

✓ Answer: 65

65

Explanation

The student can choose 5 different history texts, and $3 + 6 + 4 = 13$ other texts, by the product rule there are $5 \cdot 13 = 65$ ways of doing that.

- one of each type of text,

360

✓ Answer: 360

360

Explanation

The student selects one text of each type, by the product rule this can be done in $5 \cdot 3 \cdot 6 \cdot 4 = 360$ ways.

- two of the texts with different types.

119

✓ Answer: 119

119

Explanation

There are $5 \cdot 3 = 15$ ways to choose one history and one sociology text, $5 \cdot 6 = 30$ ways to choose one history and one anthropology text, etc. In total there are $5 \cdot 3 + 5 \cdot 6 + 5 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 6 + 3 \cdot 4 + 6 \cdot 4 = 119$ ways.

Submit

You have used 1 of 4 attempts

i Answers are displayed within the problem

9

0 points possible (ungraded)

In how many ways can 7 distinct red balls and 5 distinct blue balls be placed in a row such that

- all red balls are adjacent,

3628800

✓ Answer: 3628800

3628800

ExplanationThere are 6 ways to place 7 red balls adjacent. Hence the number of ways is $6 \times 7! \times 5! = 3628800$.

- all blue balls are adjacent,

4838400

✓ Answer: 4838400

4838400

ExplanationThere are 8 ways to place 5 red balls adjacent. Hence the number of ways is $8 \times 7! \times 5! = 4838400$.

- no two blue balls are adjacent.

✗ Answer: 33868800

ExplanationFirst, decide on the locations of the red and blue balls. Arrange all 7 red balls in a line, we can then choose 5 out of the 8 gaps (including those at the beginning and end) to place the blue balls. Since the balls are distinct we can permute the blue balls, and the red balls, for a total of $\binom{8}{5} 7! 5!$ arrangements.

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

❗ Answers are displayed within the problem

10

0 points possible (ungraded)

For the set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ find the number of:

- subsets,

2^7

✓ Answer: 2^7

2⁷**Explanation**There are 7 elements in the set. The number of subsets is 2^7 .

- 3-subsets,

✗ Answer: 35

ExplanationChoose 3 elements out of 7. The number of ways is $\binom{7}{3} = 35$.

- 3-subsets containing the number 1,

✖ Answer: 15

Explanation

1 is fixed.
Choose 2 elements out of 6. The number of ways is $\binom{6}{2} = 15$.

- 3-subsets not containing the number 1.

✖ Answer: 20

Explanation

Choose 3 elements out of 6 (excluding 1). The number of ways is $\binom{6}{3} = 20$.

? Hint (1 of 1): A 3-subset is a subset with 3 elements.

Next Hint

Submit

You have used 4 of 4 attempts

ⓘ Answers are displayed within the problem

11 Functions.

0 points possible (ungraded)
A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is *injective* or *one-to-one* if different elements in X map to different elements in Y , namely,

$$\forall x \neq x' \in X, \quad f(x) \neq f(x').$$

A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is *surjective* or *onto* if all elements in Y are images of at least one element of X , namely,

$$\forall y \in Y \quad \exists x \in X, \quad f(x) = y.$$

For sets $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $B = \{a, b, c, d\}$, find the number of

- functions from A to B ,

- functions from B to A ,

- one-to-one functions from A to B ,

- onto functions from B to A .

Submit

You have used 0 of 4 attempts

Discussion

Hide Discussion

Topic: Topic 4 / Combinations

Add a Post

Show all posts

▼

by recent activity

▼

There are no posts in this topic yet.

✕

< Previous

Next >



edX

- About
- Affiliates
- edX for Business
- Open edX
- Careers
- News

Legal

- Terms of Service & Honor Code
- Privacy Policy
- Accessibility Policy
- Trademark Policy
- Sitemap

Connect

- Blog

