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## proof of Cantor's theorem

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Classification msc 03E17 Classification msc 03E10 The proof of this theorem is fairly using the following construction, which is central to Cantor's diagonal argument.

Consider a function  $F \colon X \to \mathcal{P}(X)$  from a set X to its power set. Then we define the set  $Z \subseteq X$  as follows:

$$Z = \{ x \in X \mid x \notin F(x) \}$$

Suppose that F is a bijection. Then there must exist an  $x \in X$  such that F(x) = Z. Then we have the following contradiction:

$$x \in Z \Leftrightarrow x \notin F(x) \Leftrightarrow x \notin Z$$

Hence, F cannot be a bijection between X and  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ .