



Math for the people, by the people.

## finite and countable discrete spaces

Canonical name	FiniteAndCountableDiscreteSpaces
Date of creation	2013-03-22 15:17:11
Last modified on	2013-03-22 15:17:11
Owner	matte (1858)
Last modified by	matte (1858)
Numerical id	9
Author	matte (1858)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 54-00

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose  $X \neq \emptyset$  is equipped with the discrete topology.*

- 1. If  $X$  is finite, then  $X$  is homeomorphic to  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .*
- 2. If  $X$  is countable, then  $X$  is homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Here,  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  are endowed with the discrete topology (or, equivalently, the subspace topology from  $\mathbb{R}$ ).*

*Proof.* The first claim will be proven. If

$$X = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$$

let  $\Phi: \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow X$  be

$$\Phi(i) = a_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Since  $\Phi$  is a bijection, it is a homeomorphism.

The proof of the second claim is to that of the first. □