

# Proof by Exhaustion

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A horizontal number line with integers from -3 to 11. The integers are: ..., -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, ... The integers 6 and 7 are enclosed in a yellow dashed rectangular box.

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This is called a **proof by cases** (alternatively, a **proof by exhaustion**) and works by showing that the theorem is true regardless of what specific outcome arises.

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After splitting into cases, it's a good idea to summarize what you just did so that the reader knows what to take away from it.

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# Some Little Exercises

- Here's a list of other theorems that are true about odd and even numbers:
  - **Theorem:** The sum and difference of any two even numbers is even.
  - **Theorem:** The sum and difference of an odd number and an even number is odd.
  - **Theorem:** The product of any integer and an even number is even.
  - **Theorem:** The product of any two odd numbers is odd.
- Feel free to use these results going forward.
- If you'd like to practice the techniques from today, try your hand at proving some of these results!