

A - Proof

How can you prove a number is prime by exhaustion?	<p>Prove 97 is a prime.</p> <p>$97 / 2 = 48.5$, $97 / 3 = 32.333$, $97 / 5 = 19.4$, $97 / 7 = 13.86$. We don't need to go beyond 7 since $7 < \sqrt{97} < 10$. If there is a factor above 10, there must be one below 10.</p>
Conjecture	The claim you're testing.
Consequence and equivalence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consequence: $A \Rightarrow B$ means if A is true then B is also true. Equivalence: $A \Leftrightarrow B$ means A implies B and B implies A. Eg, $x = -1 \Rightarrow x^3 = x$ yet not \Leftrightarrow since $x^3 = x$ can also have $x = 0, 1$.
Prove that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational	<p>Suppose $\sqrt{2}$ were rational</p> <p>$\rightarrow \sqrt{2} = \frac{n}{m}$, reduced</p> <p>$\rightarrow \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^2 = 2 \rightarrow n^2 = 2m^2$</p> <p>$\rightarrow n^2$ is even $\rightarrow n$ is even</p> <p>$\rightarrow n^2$ is divisible by 4</p> <p>$\rightarrow m^2$ is even $\rightarrow m$ is even</p> <p>$\rightarrow \frac{n}{m}$ is not reduced</p> <p>$\rightarrow \sqrt{2}$ is not rational</p>
Proving infinitely many primes	<p>Suppose there are only finitely many primes, let's say n of them. We denote them by p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n. Now construct a new number</p> $p = p_1 \times p_2 \times p_3 \times \dots \times p_n + 1.$ <p>Clearly, p is larger than any of the primes, so it doesn't equal one of them. Since p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n constitute <i>all</i> primes p can't be prime. Thus it must be divisible by at least one of our finitely many primes, say p_m (with $1 \leq m \leq n$). But when we divide p by p_m we get a remainder 1. That's a contradiction, so our original assumption that there are finitely many primes must be false. Thus there are infinitely many primes.</p>

