**final exam, prob. 1. 2, about size of power sets**

[Dirt](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/455435) 2 days ago

I was surprised that the size of the power set of a collection of n elements must be 2\**n. If the elements were not all different from each other I would expect the power set to be smaller than 2*\*n.

1. [0](javascript:void(0)) [PBK](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/428591)

2 days ago

Yes, what happened to 1.6^n? How about just saying O(n)?

Top of Form



Bottom of Form

1. [0](javascript:void(0)) [pavemina](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/438931)

2 days ago

A classic case of overthinking it, I guess? :)

Don't assume that some elements repeat unless you've got a reason to do so. And even if, remember the "worst case scenario" tactic.

* + Ha, overthinking-- for sure. They got me with that "must" word in a T/F question

–posted 2 days ago by [Dirt](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/455435)

Top of Form



Bottom of Form

1. [1](javascript:void(0)) [joshb](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/348290)

2 days ago

this answer was spelled out in the text book. an easy credit question if you had the book

* + Also mentioned in a video. :)

–posted a day ago by [pavemina](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/438931)

Top of Form



Bottom of Form

1. [2](javascript:void(0)) [Kavka](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/153760)

2 days ago

By definition, sets cannot have repeated elements, at least in mathematics. See for example, from the wikipedia article: "In mathematics, a set is a collection of well defined and distinct objects..."

* + Yes, they thought of the classical definition and accompanying theorems of a power set.

–posted a day ago by [Justagirl](https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/discussion/forum/users/35575)

Top of Form



Bottom of Form

Top of Form

Bottom of Form