

# 3779. Minimum Number of Operations to Have Distinct Elements

Solved ●

Medium  Topics  Hints

You are given an integer array `nums`.

In one operation, you remove the **first three elements** of the current array. If there are fewer than three elements remaining, **all** remaining elements are removed.

Repeat this operation until the array is empty or contains no duplicate values.

Return an integer denoting the number of operations required.

### Example 1:

**Input:** `nums = [3,8,3,6,5,8]`

**Output:** 1

**Explanation:**

In the first operation, we remove the first three elements. The remaining elements `[6, 5, 8]` are all distinct, so we stop. Only one operation is needed.

### Example 2:

**Input:** `nums = [2,2]`

**Output:** 1

**Explanation:**

After one operation, the array becomes empty, which meets the stopping condition.

### Example 3:

**Input:** `nums = [4,3,5,1,2]`

**Output:** 0

**Explanation:**

All elements in the array are distinct, therefore no operations are needed.


### Constraints:

- `1 <= nums.length <= 105`
- `1 <= nums[i] <= 105`

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/5

Yes No

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