

5. Show that using only 3¢ and 4¢ stamps it is possible to put exactly n ¢ on a letter for any $n \geq 8$.

Base case: $8¢ = 2 \times 4¢$.

Assume we can put exactly k ¢ on a letter, $k \geq 8$.

If one of the stamps is a 3¢, then take it off and add a 4¢ to get $(k+1)¢$.

If no 3¢ were used, then all the stamps are 4¢. As $k \geq 8$ there are at least two of them. So remove two 4¢ and add $3 \times 3¢$ to get $(k+1)¢$. This closes the induction.

6. Use induction to show that $\sum_{j=0}^n 2^j = 2^{n+1} - 1$.

Base case $n=1$ $\sum_{j=0}^1 2^j = 2^0 + 2^1 = 1 + 2 = 3 = 2^{1+1} - 1$

Induction step Assume $\sum_{j=0}^k 2^j = 2^{k+1} - 1$

Add 2^{k+1} to both sides

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} 2^j + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+1} - 1 + 2^{k+1}$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} 2^j = 2 \cdot 2^{k+1} - 1 = 2^{k+2} - 1$$

which completes the induction.

7. Use induction to show that $4^n - 1$ is divisible by 3 for all $n \geq 1$.

Base case $n=1$. $4^1 - 1 = 3$ is divisible by 3.

Assume $4^k - 1$ is divisible by 3. Then for some integer ℓ $4^k - 1 = 3\ell$. Therefore $4^k = 3\ell + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } 4^{k+1} - 1 &= 4 \cdot 4^k - 1 = 4(3\ell + 1) - 1 \\ &= 12\ell + 4 - 1 \\ &= 12\ell + 3 \\ &= 3(4\ell + 1) = 3(\text{Integer}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $4^{k+1} - 1$ is divisible by 3. This completes the induction.