

PROOF BY INDUCTION

Let $P(n)$ be "That every amount of postage of 18 cents or more can be formed using just 3-cent and 10-cent stamps."

Basis step $n = 18$

$P(18)$ is true, because 18 cents can be formed using 6 3-cent stamps

$$6 \cdot 3 = 18$$

Inductive step Assume that $P(k)$ is true, then a postage of k cents can be formed using just 3-cent and 10-cent stamps.

We need to prove that $P(k+1)$ is true.

If k cents can be formed using ≥ 3 3-cent stamps, then we substitute 3 3-cent stamps with 1 10-cent stamp to get $k+1$ cents. Boom.

$$3 \cdot 3 + 1 = 9 + 1 = 10 \text{ Quick maths.}$$

If k cents can be formed using < 3 3-cent stamps, then the k cents was formed with at least 2 10-cent stamps (b/c $k \geq 18$, $k = 18$, $k = 19$ and both use at least 3 3-cent stamps)

If we substitute 2 10-cent stamps with 7 3-cent stamps, then we get $k+1$ cents

$$2 \cdot 10 + 1 = 20 + 1 = 21 = 7 \cdot 3$$

We see then that $P(k+1)$ is true, in those two cases.

Conclusion: By principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all \mathbb{N} integers n . Oof, what more do you want.