

The Fundamental Principle of Counting

Fundamental Principle of Counting: If one thing can occur in  $m$  ways and a second thing can occur in  $n$  ways, and a third thing can occur in  $p$  ways, and so on, then the sequence of things can occur in  $m \times n \times p \times \dots$  ways.

Practice Exercises

Find the number of possible outcomes for each scenario using the fundamental counting principle.

- Boys and girls in a family with two children.
- Choosing a cellphone that comes in black, white, or transparent that is 3G or 4G.
- A choice of muffin or toast bread with coffee, milk, or juice.
- Basketball uniform in white, red, blue, yellow, or green which comes in sizes small, medium, or large.
- A die is rolled thrice.

Problem Set

Find the number of possible outcomes for each scenario using the fundamental counting principle.

- Clocks come in 2 styles: wall or desk. They come in 5 colors: white, black, red, blue, or orange.
- Elias has a choice of a queen or king with a choice of hearts, diamonds, clubs, or spades.
- A coin is tossed five times.
- A coin is tossed and a die is rolled.
- Notebooks come in 4 colors: red, yellow, green, and blue. They come in 2 types: 5-subject and 7-subject.

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