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founded in 1964 by N. J. A. Sloane

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(Greetings from [The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences!](#))

A005448 Centered triangular numbers: $a(n) = 3n(n-1)/2 + 1$.

(Formerly M3378)

1, 4, 10, 19, 31, 46, 64, 85, 109, 136, 166, 199, 235, 274, 316, 361, 409, 460, 514, 571, 63
694, 760, 829, 901, 976, 1054, 1135, 1219, 1306, 1396, 1489, 1585, 1684, 1786, 1891, 1999, 2
2224, 2341, 2461, 2584, 2710, 2839, 2971, 3106, 3244, 3385, 3529 ([list](#); [graph](#); [refs](#); [listen](#); [histor](#)
[text](#); [internal format](#))

OFFSET 1,2

COMMENTS These are Hogben's central polygonal numbers

2

.P

3 n

Also the sum of three consecutive triangular numbers ([A000217](#)); i.e., $a(4) = 1$
 $T_4 + T_3 + T_2 = 10 + 6 + 3$. - [Robert G. Wilson v](#), Apr 27 2001

For $k > 2$, $\text{Sum}_{n=1..k} a(n)$ gives the sum pertaining to the magic square of order
E.g., $\text{Sum}_{n=1..5} a(n) = 1 + 4 + 10 + 19 + 31 = 65$. In general, $\text{Sum}_{n=1..k} a(n) = k*(k^2 + 1)/2$. - [Amarnath Murthy](#), Dec 22 2001

Binomial transform of (1,3,3,0,0,0,...). - [Paul Barry](#), Jul 01 2003

$a(n)$ is the difference of two tetrahedral (or pyramidal) numbers: $C(n+3,3) =$
 $(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)/6$. $a(n) = \text{A000292}(n) - \text{A000292}(n-3) = (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)/6 -$
 $(n-2)(n-1)(n)/6$. - [Alexander Adamchuk](#), May 20 2006

Partial sums are [A006003\(n\) = \$n\(n^2+1\)/2\$. Finite differences are \$a\(n+1\) - a\(n\)\$
\[A008585\]\(#\)\(n\) = \$3n\$. - \[Alexander Adamchuk\]\(#\), Jun 03 2006](#)

If X is an n -set and Y a fixed 3-subset of X then $a(n-2)$ is equal to the number
3-subsets of X intersecting Y . - [Milan Janjic](#), Jul 30 2007

Equals (1, 2, 3, ...) convolved with (1, 2, 3, 3, 3, ...). $a(4) = 19 = (1, 2,$
 $\text{dot } (3, 3, 2, 1) = (3 + 6 + 6 + 4)$. - [Gary W. Adamson](#), May 01 2009

Equals the triangular numbers convolved with [1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, ...]. - [Gary W](#)
[Adamson](#) and [Alexander R. Povolotsky](#), May 29 2009

$a(n)$ is the number of triples (w,x,y) having all terms in $\{0, \dots, n\}$ and
 $\min(w+x, x+y, y+w) = \max(w,x,y)$. - [Clark Kimberling](#), Jun 14 2012

$a(n)$ = number of atoms at graph distance $\leq n$ from an atom in the graphite or
graphene network (cf. [A008486](#)). - [N. J. A. Sloane](#), Jan 06 2013

In 1826, Shiraishi gave a solution to the Diophantine equation $a^3 + b^3 + c^3$
 d^3 with $b = a(n)$ for $n > 1$; see [A226903](#). - [Jonathan Sondow](#), Jun 22 2013

For $n > 1$, $a(n)$ is the remainder of $n^2 * (n-1)^2 \bmod (n^2 + (n-1)^2)$. - [J. M.](#)
[Bergot](#), Jun 27 2013

The equation [A000578](#)(x) - [A000578](#)(x-1) = [A000217](#)(y) - [A000217](#)(y-2) is satisfied
 $y=a(x)$. - [Bruno Berselli](#), Feb 19 2014

[A242357](#)($a(n)$) = n . - [Reinhard Zumkeller](#), May 11 2014

[A255437](#)($a(n)$) = 1. - [Reinhard Zumkeller](#), Mar 23 2015

The first differences give [A008486](#). $a(n)$ seems to give the total number of
triangles in the n -th generation of the six patterns of triangle expansion
in the link. - [Kival Ngaokrajang](#), Sep 12 2015

REFERENCES R. Reed, The Lemming Simulation Problem, Mathematics in School, 3 (#6, Nov. 19
front cover and pp. 5-6.

N. J. A. Sloane and Simon Plouffe, The Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences, Acad
Press, 1995 (includes this sequence).

LINKS Seiichi Manyama, [Table of n, a\(n\) for n = 1..10000](#) (terms 1..1000 from T. D. N
Paul Barry, [Centered polygon numbers, heptagons and nonagons, and the Robbins](#)
[numbers](#), arXiv:2104.01644 [math.CO], 2021.

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Guo-Niu Han, [Enumeration of Standard Puzzles](#) [Cached copy]
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 Clark Kimberling and John E. Brown, [Partial Complements and Transposable Dispersions](#), J. Integer Seqs., Vol. 7, 2004.
 Kival Ngaokrajang, [Illustration of triangles expansion](#)
 Simon Plouffe, [Approximations de séries génératrices et quelques conjectures](#), Dissertation, Université du Québec à Montréal, 1992; arXiv:0911.4975 [math.NA], 2009.
 Simon Plouffe, [1031 Generating Functions](#), Appendix to Thesis, Montreal, 1992
 R. Reed, [The Lemming Simulation Problem](#), Mathematics in School, 3 (#6, Nov. 1974), front cover and pp. 5-6. [Scanned photocopy of pages 5, 6 only, with annotations by R. K. Guy and N. J. A. Sloane]
 B. K. Teo and N. J. A. Sloane, [Magic numbers in polygonal and polyhedral clusters](#), Inorgan. Chem. 24 (1985), 4545-4558.
 Eric Weisstein's World of Mathematics, [Centered Triangular Number](#)
[Index entries for sequences related to centered polygonal numbers](#)
[Index entries for linear recurrences with constant coefficients](#), signature (3, -3, 1).

FORMULA

Expansion of $x*(1-x^3)/(1-x)^4$.
 $a(n) = C(n+3, 3) - C(n, 3) = C(n, 0) + 3*C(n, 1) + 3*C(n, 2)$. - [Paul Barry](#), Jul 01 2003
 $a(n) = 1 + \sum_{j=0..n-1} (3*j)$. - [Xavier Acloque](#), Oct 25 2003
 $a(n) = A000217(n) + A000290(n-1) = (3*A016754(n) + 5)/8$. - [Lekraj Beedassy](#), Nov 2005
 Euler transform of length 3 sequence [4, 0, -1]. - [Michael Somos](#), Sep 23 2006
 $a(1-n) = a(n)$. - [Michael Somos](#), Sep 23 2006
 $a(n) = \text{binomial}(n+1, n-1) + \text{binomial}(n, n-2) + \text{binomial}(n-1, n-3)$. - [Zerinvary Lajos](#), Sep 03 2006
 Row sums of triangle [A134482](#). - [Gary W. Adamson](#), Oct 27 2007
 Narayana transform ([A001263](#)) * [1, 3, 0, 0, 0, ...]. - [Gary W. Adamson](#), Dec 29 2007
 $a(n) = 3*a(n-1) - 3*a(n-2) + a(n-3)$, $a(1)=1$, $a(2)=4$, $a(3)=10$. - [Jaume Oliver Lafont](#), Dec 02 2008
 $a(n) = A000217(n-1)*3 + 1 = A045943(n-1) + 1$. - [Omar E. Pol](#), Dec 27 2008
 $a(n) = a(n-1) + 3*n-3$. - [Vincenzo Librandi](#), Nov 18 2010
 $\sum_{n \geq 1} 1/a(n) = A306324$. - [Ant King](#), Jun 12 2012
 $a(n) = 2*a(n-1) - a(n-2) + 3$. - [Ant King](#), Jun 12 2012
 $a(n) = A101321(3, n-1)$. - [R. J. Mathar](#), Jul 28 2016
 E.g.f.: $-1 + (2 + 3*x^2)*\exp(x)/2$. - [Ilya Gutkovskiy](#), Jul 28 2016
 $a(n) = A002061(n) + A000217(n-1)$. - [Bruce J. Nicholson](#), Apr 20 2017
 From [Amiram Eldar](#), Jun 20 2020: (Start)
 $\sum_{n \geq 1} a(n)/n! = 5*e/2 - 1$.
 $\sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^n * a(n)/n! = 5/(2*e) - 1$. (End)
 $a(n) = A000326(n) - n + 1$. - [Charlie Marion](#), Nov 21 2020

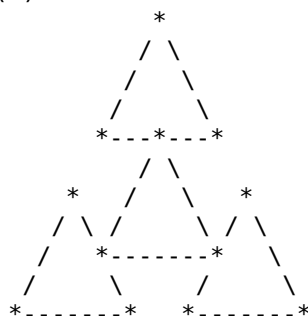
EXAMPLE

From [Seiichi Manyama](#), Aug 12 2017: (Start)

$a(1) = 1$:



$a(2) = 4$:



$a(3) = 10$:



.....
a(4) = 19:

(End)

MAPLE [A005448](#) := n->(3*(n-1)^2+3*(n-1)+2)/2: seq([A005448](#)(n), n=1..100);
[A005448](#) := -(1+z+z**2)/(z-1)^3; # [Simon Plouffe](#) in his 1992 dissertation for c
0

MATHEMATICA FoldList[#1 + #2 &, 1, 3 Range@ 50] (* [Robert G. Wilson v](#), Feb 02 2011 *)
Join[{1, 4}, Total/@Partition[Accumulate[Range[50]], 3, 1]] (* [Harvey P. Dale](#),
17 2012 *)
LinearRecurrence[{3, -3, 1}, {1, 4, 10}, 50] (* [Vincenzo Librandi](#), Sep 13 2015

PROG (PARI) {a(n)=3*(n^2-n)/2+1} /* [Michael Somos](#), Sep 23 2006 */
(PARI) isok(n) = my(k=(2*n-2)/3, m); (n==1) || ((denominator(k)==1) &&
(m=sqrtint(k)) && (m*(m+1)==k)); \\ [Michel Marcus](#), May 20 2020
(Haskell)
a005448 n = 3 * n * (n - 1) `div` 2 + 1
a005448_list = 1 : zipWith (+) a005448_list [3, 6 ..]
-- [Reinhard Zumkeller](#), Jun 20 2013
(MAGMA) I:=[1, 4, 10]; [n le 3 select I[n] else 3*Self(n-1)-3*Self(n-2)+Self(n
n in [1..60]]; // [Vincenzo Librandi](#), Sep 13 2015

CROSSREFS Cf. [A000217](#), [A000292](#), [A001263](#), [A001844](#), [A002061](#), [A006003](#) = partial sums, [A0084](#)
[A008585](#) = first differences, [A045943](#), [A134482](#), [A226903](#), [A242357](#), [A255437](#).
Sequence in context: [A162505](#) [A025720](#) [A022793](#) * [A301247](#) [A037040](#) [A007077](#)
Adjacent sequences: [A005445](#) [A005446](#) [A005447](#) * [A005449](#) [A005450](#) [A005451](#)

KEYWORD nonn,easy,nice

AUTHOR [N. J. A. Sloane](#), [R. K. Guy](#), Dec 12 1974

STATUS approved

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