

Cardinal, Ordinal and Nominal Numbers

Cardinal: how many

Ordinal: position

Nominal: name

Cardinal Numbers

A Cardinal Number says how many of something there are, such as one, two, three, four, five.

A Cardinal Number answers the question "How Many?"

Example: here are **five** coins:



It does **not** have fractions or decimals, it is only used for counting.

How to remember: "Cardinal is Counting"

Ordinal Numbers

An Ordinal Number tells us the position of something in a list.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and so on (see [Cardinal and Ordinal Numbers Chart](#) for more.)

Example: In this picture the girl is **2nd**:



And the two pups are **3rd** and **4th**.

How to remember: "Ordinal says what Order things are in".

Nominal Numbers

A Nominal Number is a number used only as a name, or to identify something (not as an actual value or position)

Examples:

- the number on the back of a player: "8"
- a zip code: "91210"
- a model number: "380"

How to remember: "Nominal is a Name".

Example With Everything



In this photo there are **6** cars. Car Number "**99**" (with the yellow roof) is in **1st** position:

- **6** is a Cardinal Number (it tells how many)
- **1st** is an Ordinal Number (it tells position)
- "**99**" is a Nominal Number (it is basically just a name for the car)

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