



STEM SMART Single Maths 27 - Binomial Expansion - Natural n

## Binomial Expansion - Natural n

### A-level Maths Topic Summaries - Series

**Subject & topics:** Maths | Algebra | Series      **Stage & difficulty:** A Level P1

Fill in the blanks below to complete the notes on binomial expansion for integer powers of  $n$ .

The binomial theorem is used to expand brackets of the form  $(a + b)^n$ . For integer powers of  $n$ ,

$$(a + b)^n = \binom{n}{0} \square + \binom{n}{1} \square b + \binom{n}{2} a^{n-2} \square + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} a \square + \binom{n}{n} b^n$$

The  $\binom{n}{r}$  brackets are the numbers in  triangle. It is useful to know that

- $\binom{n}{0} = \binom{n}{n} = \square$
- $\binom{n}{1} = \binom{n}{n-1} = \square$

Items:

1
a
 $a^{n-1}$ 
 $a^n$ 
 $b^2$ 
 $b^{n-1}$ 
n
Pascal's

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## Expand and Simplify Binomials

**Pre-Uni Maths for Sciences C1.1****Subject & topics:** Maths | Algebra | Series    **Stage & difficulty:** A Level P1**Part A**

$$(x + 1)^4$$

Expand and simplify  $(x + 1)^4$ .

The following symbols may be useful: x

**Part B**

$$(z + 2a)^3$$

Expand and simplify  $(z + 2a)^3$ .

The following symbols may be useful: a, z

**Part C**

$$(a - b)^5$$

Expand and simplify  $(a - b)^5$ .

The following symbols may be useful: a, b

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## Binomial Expansion 3

Pre-Uni Maths for Sciences C1.7

**Subject & topics:** Maths | Algebra | Series      **Stage & difficulty:** A Level C1

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Expand  $(3 - a)^4$  in ascending powers of  $a$  up to and including the term in  $a^3$ . Hence, without using a calculator, evaluate  $(2.9)^4$  correct to 2 decimal places

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## Binomial Expansion 7

**Subject & topics:** Maths | Algebra | Series

**Stage & difficulty:** A Level P2

Use binomial expansion to expand and simplify the expression  $\left(ax^2 + \frac{2}{x}\right)^5$ .

The following symbols may be useful: x

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# Find Coefficients 1

Pre-Uni Maths for Sciences C1.2

Subject & topics: Maths | Algebra | Series      Stage & difficulty: A Level P1

Find the coefficient of  $x^3$  in the expansion of:

Part A

$(x - 10)^5$

$(x - 10)^5$

Part B

$(2x - \frac{1}{2})^6$

$\left(2x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^6$

Part C

$(x - y)^{10}$

$(x - y)^{10}$

The following symbols may be useful: x, y

Part D

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^7$$

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^7$$

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## Find Coefficients 2

Pre-Uni Maths for Sciences C1.3

Subject &amp; topics: Maths | Algebra | Series      Stage &amp; difficulty: A Level P1

Without expanding the binomials, find:

Part A

**Coefficient of  $x^4y^6$** The coefficient of  $x^4y^6$  in the expansion of  $(x^2 + 3y^2)^5$ .

Part B

**Coefficient of  $x^{20}$** The coefficient of  $x^{20}$  in the expansion of  $(x^2 + 3x)^{12}$ .

Part C

**The coefficient of  $ab^7$** The coefficient of  $ab^7$  in the expansion of  $(a + \frac{1}{4}b)^8$ .



Part D

Constant term

The constant term in the expansion of  $\left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{8}{x}\right)^9$ .

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# Group and Expand

Pre-Uni Maths for Sciences C1.5

Subject & topics: Maths | Algebra | Series      Stage & difficulty: A Level P1

Expand  $(1 - 2x + 3x^2)^7$  in ascending powers of  $x$  as far as  $x^3$ .

The following symbols may be useful: x

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## Binomial Theorem Applied to Variable Acceleration

**Subject & topics:** Maths | Algebra | Series    **Stage & difficulty:** A Level P2

The force  $F(t)$  N on a particle of mass 4 kg at time  $t$  s is given by

$$F(t) = (\sqrt{t} + 2)^5 - (\sqrt{t} - 2)^5$$

for  $t \geq 0$ .

At  $t = 0$  the particle is at rest at the origin. Find an expression for its displacement from the origin,  $x$  m, in terms of  $t$ .

The following symbols may be useful:  $t$ ,  $x$

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