

Question 1: A die is rolled, find the probability that an even number is obtained.

Solution to Question 1:

- Let us first write the sample space S of the experiment.
 $S = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$
- Let E be the event "an even number is obtained" and write it down.
 $E = \{2,4,6\}$
- We now use the formula of the classical probability.
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 3 / 6 = 1 / 2$

Question 2: Two coins are tossed, find the probability that two heads are obtained.

Note: Each coin has two possible outcomes H (heads) and T (Tails).

Solution to Question 2:

- The sample space S is given by.
 $S = \{(H,T),(H,H),(T,H),(T,T)\}$
- Let E be the event "two heads are obtained".
 $E = \{(H,H)\}$
- We use the formula of the classical probability.
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 1 / 4$

Question 4: Two dice are rolled, find the probability that the sum is

- a) equal to 1
- b) equal to 4
- c) less than 13

Solution to Question 4:

- a) The sample space S of two dice is shown below.
 $S = \{ (1,1),(1,2),(1,3),(1,4),(1,5),(1,6)$
 $(2,1),(2,2),(2,3),(2,4),(2,5),(2,6)$
 $(3,1),(3,2),(3,3),(3,4),(3,5),(3,6)$
 $(4,1),(4,2),(4,3),(4,4),(4,5),(4,6)$
 $(5,1),(5,2),(5,3),(5,4),(5,5),(5,6)$
 $(6,1),(6,2),(6,3),(6,4),(6,5),(6,6) \}$
- Let E be the event "sum equal to 1". There are no outcomes which correspond to a sum equal to 1, hence
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 0 / 36 = 0$
- b) Three possible outcomes give a sum equal to 4: $E = \{(1,3),(2,2),(3,1)\}$, hence.
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 3 / 36 = 1 / 12$
- c) All possible outcomes, $E = S$, give a sum less than 13, hence.
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 36 / 36 = 1$

Question 5: A die is rolled and a coin is tossed, find the probability that the die shows an odd number and the coin shows a head.

Solution to Question 5:

- The sample space S of the experiment described in question 5 is as follows
 $S = \{ (1,H),(2,H),(3,H),(4,H),(5,H),(6,H) \\ (1,T),(2,T),(3,T),(4,T),(5,T),(6,T) \}$
- Let E be the event "the die shows an odd number and the coin shows a head". Event E may be described as follows
 $E = \{ (1,H),(3,H),(5,H) \}$
- The probability $P(E)$ is given by
 $P(E) = n(E) / n(S) = 3 / 12 = 1 / 4$

Question 6: A card is drawn at random from a deck of cards. Find the probability of getting the 3 of diamond.

Let E be the event "getting the 3 of diamond". An examination of the sample space shows that there is one "3 of diamond" so that $n(E) = 1$ and $n(S) = 52$. Hence the probability of event E occurring is given by

$$P(E) = 1 / 52$$

Question 7: A card is drawn at random from a deck of cards. Find the probability of getting a queen.

Solution to Question 7:

- Let E be the event "getting a Queen". An examination of the sample space shows that there are 4 "Queens" so that $n(E) = 4$ and $n(S) = 52$. Hence the probability of event E occurring is given by
 $P(E) = 4 / 52 = 1 / 13$

Question 8: A jar contains 3 red marbles, 7 green marbles and 10 white marbles. If a marble is drawn from the jar at random, what is the probability that this marble is white?

Solution to Question 8:

- We first construct a table of frequencies that gives the marbles color distributions as follows

color frequency

red 3

green 7

white 10

- We now use the [empirical](#) formula of the probability

Frequency for white color

$$P(E) = \frac{\text{Frequency for white color}}{\text{Total frequencies in the above table}}$$

$$= 10 / 20 = 1 / 2$$

- A die is rolled, find the probability that the number obtained is greater than 4.
- Two coins are tossed, find the probability that one head only is obtained.
- Two dice are rolled, find the probability that the sum is equal to 5.
- A card is drawn at random from a deck of cards. Find the probability of getting the King of heart.

Answers to above exercises:

- a) $2 / 6 = 1 / 3$
- b) $2 / 4 = 1 / 2$
- c) $4 / 36 = 1 / 9$
- d) $1 / 52$

1. A card is drawn from a well shuffled pack of 52 cards. Find the probability of:

- (i) '2' of spades
- (ii) a jack
- (iii) a king of red colour
- (iv) a card of diamond
- (v) a king or a queen
- (vi) a non-face card
- (vii) a black face card
- (viii) a black card
- (ix) a non-ace
- (x) non-face card of black colour
- (xi) neither a spade nor a jack
- (xii) neither a heart nor a red king

Solution:

In a playing card there are 52 cards.

Therefore the total number of possible outcomes = 52

(i) '2' of spades:

Number of favourable outcomes i.e. '2' of spades is 1 out of 52 cards.

Therefore, probability of getting '2' of spade

$$P(A) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 1/52$$

(ii) a jack

Number of favourable outcomes i.e. 'a jack' is 4 out of 52 cards.

Therefore, probability of getting 'a jack'

$$P(B) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 4/52$$

$$= 1/13$$

(iii) a king of red colour

Number of favourable outcomes i.e. 'a king of red colour' is 2 out of 52 cards.

Therefore, probability of getting 'a king of red colour'

$$P(C) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 2/52$$

$$= 1/26$$

(iv) a card of diamond

Number of favourable outcomes i.e. 'a card of diamond' is 13 out of 52 cards.

Therefore, probability of getting 'a card of diamond'

$$P(D) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 13/52$$

$$= 1/4$$

(v) a king or a queen

Total number of king is 4 out of 52 cards.

Total number of queen is 4 out of 52 cards

Number of favourable outcomes i.e. 'a king or a queen' is $4 + 4 = 8$ out of 52 cards.

Therefore, probability of getting 'a king or a queen'

$$P(E) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 8/52$$

$$= 2/13$$

(vi) a non-face card

Total number of face card out of 52 cards = 3 times 4 = 12

Total number of non-face card out of 52 cards = $52 - 12 = 40$

Therefore, probability of getting 'a non-face card'

$$P(F) = \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 40/52$$

$$= 10/13$$

(vii) a black face card:

Cards of Spades and Clubs are black cards.

Number of face card in spades (king, queen and jack or knaves) = 3

Number of face card in clubs (king, queen and jack or knaves) = 3

Therefore, total number of black face card out of 52 cards = 3 + 3 = 6

Therefore, probability of getting 'a black face card'

Number of favorable outcomes

$$P(G) = \frac{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 6/52$$

$$= 3/26$$

(viii) a black card:

Cards of spades and clubs are black cards.

Number of spades = 13

Number of clubs = 13

Therefore, total number of black card out of 52 cards = 13 + 13 = 26

Therefore, probability of getting 'a black card'

Number of favorable outcomes

$$P(H) = \frac{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 26/52$$

$$= 1/2$$

(ix) a non-ace:

Number of ace cards in each of four suits namely spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs = 1

Therefore, total number of ace cards out of 52 cards = 4

Thus, total number of non-ace cards out of 52 cards = 52 - 4

$$= 48$$

Therefore, probability of getting 'a non-ace'

Number of favorable outcomes

$$P(I) = \frac{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$$

$$= 48/52$$

$$= 12/13$$

(x) non-face card of black colour:

Cards of spades and clubs are black cards.

Number of spades = 13

Number of clubs = 13

Therefore, total number of black card out of 52 cards = $13 + 13 = 26$

Number of face cards in each suits namely spades and clubs = $3 + 3 = 6$

Therefore, total number of non-face card of black colour out of 52 cards = $26 - 6 = 20$

Therefore, probability of getting 'non-face card of black colour'

Number of favorable outcomes

$P(J) = \frac{\text{Total number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$

$$= 20/52$$

$$= 5/13$$

(xi) neither a spade nor a jack

Number of spades = 13

Total number of non-spades out of 52 cards = $52 - 13 = 39$

Number of jack out of 52 cards = 4

Number of jack in each of three suits namely hearts, diamonds and clubs = 3

[Since, 1 jack is already included in the 13 spades so, here we will take number of jacks is 3]

Neither a spade nor a jack = $39 - 3 = 36$

Therefore, probability of getting 'neither a spade nor a jack'

Number of favorable outcomes

$P(K) = \frac{\text{Total number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}}$

$$= 36/52$$

$$= 9/13$$

(xii) neither a heart nor a red king

Number of hearts = 13

Total number of non-hearts out of 52 cards = $52 - 13 = 39$

Therefore, spades, clubs and diamonds are the 39 cards.

Cards of hearts and diamonds are red cards.

Number of red kings in red cards = 2

Therefore, neither a heart nor a red king = $39 - 1 = 38$

[Since, 1 red king is already included in the 13 hearts so, here we will take number of red kings is 1]

Therefore, probability of getting 'neither a heart nor a red king'

$$\begin{aligned} P(L) &= \frac{\text{Number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{Total number of possible outcome}} \\ &= 38/52 \\ &= 19/26 \end{aligned}$$

Two different coins are tossed randomly. Find the probability of:

(i) getting two heads

(ii) getting two tails

(iii) getting one tail

(iv) getting no head

(v) getting no tail

(vi) getting at least 1 head

(vii) getting at least 1 tail

(viii) getting atmost 1 tail

(ix) getting 1 head and 1 tail

Solution:

When two different coins are tossed randomly, the sample space is given by

$$S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$$

Therefore, $n(S) = 4$.

(i) getting two heads:

Let E_1 = event of getting 2 heads. Then,

$$E_1 = \{HH\} \text{ and, therefore, } n(E_1) = 1.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } P(\text{getting 2 heads}) = P(E_1) = n(E_1)/n(S) = 1/4.$$

(ii) getting two tails:

Let E_2 = event of getting 2 tails. Then,

$$E_2 = \{TT\} \text{ and, therefore, } n(E_2) = 1.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } P(\text{getting 2 tails}) = P(E_2) = n(E_2)/n(S) = 1/4.$$

(iii) getting one tail:

Let E_3 = event of getting 1 tail. Then,

$E_3 = \{TH, HT\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_3) = 2$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting 1 tail}) = P(E_3) = n(E_3)/n(S) = 2/4 = 1/2$

(iv) getting no head:

Let E_4 = event of getting no head. Then,

$E_4 = \{TT\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_4) = 1$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting no head}) = P(E_4) = n(E_4)/n(S) = 1/4$.

(v) getting no tail:

Let E_5 = event of getting no tail. Then,

$E_5 = \{HH\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_5) = 1$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting no tail}) = P(E_5) = n(E_5)/n(S) = 1/4$.

(vi) getting at least 1 head:

Let E_6 = event of getting at least 1 head. Then,

$E_6 = \{HT, TH, HH\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_6) = 3$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting at least 1 head}) = P(E_6) = n(E_6)/n(S) = 3/4$.

(vii) getting at least 1 tail:

Let E_7 = event of getting at least 1 tail. Then,

$E_7 = \{TH, HT, TT\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_7) = 3$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting at least 1 tail}) = P(E_7) = n(E_7)/n(S) = 3/4$.

(viii) getting atmost 1 tail:

Let E_8 = event of getting atmost 1 tail. Then,

$E_8 = \{TH, HT, HH\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_8) = 3$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting atmost 1 tail}) = P(E_8) = n(E_8)/n(S) = 3/4$.

(ix) getting 1 head and 1 tail:

Let E_9 = event of getting 1 head and 1 tail. Then,

$E_9 = \{HT, TH\}$ and, therefore, $n(E_9) = 2$.

Therefore, $P(\text{getting 1 head and 1 tail}) = P(E_9) = n(E_9)/n(S) = 2/4 = 1/2$.