

# Determine the Number of Steps Required to get Down to 1

For any number,  $i$ , the next number in the sequence is  $i/2$  if  $i$  is even or  $3i+1$  if  $i$  is odd

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In [1]: for i in range(5, 21):                # Iterate over the numbers from 5 to 20
        num_steps = 0
        curr_val = i                        # Current value in the sequence begins at i

        while(curr_val != 1):              # Continue looping the sequence until it reaches 1
            if(curr_val % 2 == 0):          # Check if the current value is even and
                curr_val /= 2              # divide by 2 if True
            else:
                curr_val = 3*curr_val+1     # Otherwise multiply by 3 and add 1
                num_steps += 1             # Increment the number of steps taken

        # Print each number followed by the number of steps taken for it to reach 1
        print("{:2d}: {:2d} steps".format(i, num_steps))
```

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5: 5 steps
6: 8 steps
7: 16 steps
8: 3 steps
9: 19 steps
10: 6 steps
11: 14 steps
12: 9 steps
13: 9 steps
14: 17 steps
15: 17 steps
16: 4 steps
17: 12 steps
18: 20 steps
19: 20 steps
20: 7 steps
```