

# Encyclopedia of Mathematics

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# Chapter 1

## Set Theory

### 1.1 Primitive Notions

Let there be *sets*.

Let there be a binary relationship between sets called *membership*, denoted  $\in$ . If  $a \in b$  we say  $a$  is a *member* or *element* of  $b$ , or  $b$  *contains*  $a$ , and also write  $b \ni a$ . If this does not hold, we write  $a \notin b$  or  $b \not\ni a$ .