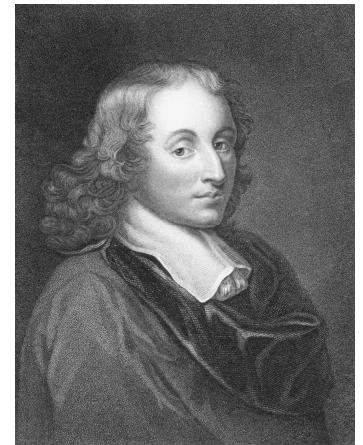




# Blaise Pascal (19 June 1623 – 19 August 1662)

- French mathematician, physicist, inventor, philosopher, writer, and Catholic theologian
- Laid the foundation for the modern theory of probabilities and formulated what came to be known as Pascal's principle of pressure
- Importantly provided solution to a gambling issue called problem of points, also called the problem of division of the stakes, a classical problem in probability theory.
- Motivated the beginnings of modern probability theory in the 17th century, it led Pascal to the first explicit reasoning about what today is known as an expected value.
- The problem concerns a game of chance with two players who have equal chances of winning each round. The players contribute equally to a prize pot, and agree in advance that the first player to have won a certain number of rounds will collect the entire prize. Now suppose that the game is interrupted by external circumstances before either player has achieved victory. How does one then divide the pot fairly.



After: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Problem\\_of\\_points](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Problem_of_points)