

MDM4U

Factorials and Permutations

Date:

1. How many ways can we arrange 10 books on a shelf?



\_\_\_\_\_ = 10!

This is a very long way to write a number. We will use a short notation for this operation from now. It is denoted by factorial.

For any natural number  $n$ ,  $n! = n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\dots(3)(2)(1)$

Note:  $0! = 1$        $50! = 50 \times 49!$

*Example 1:* Working with factorials

$$\frac{10!}{7!} =$$

$$\frac{100!}{98!} =$$

$$6 \times 5! =$$

$$0! = 1$$

$$1! = 1$$

$$2! = 1 \cdot 2 = 2$$

$$3! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 6$$

$$4! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24$$

$$5! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 120$$

$$6! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 = 720$$

$$(n+1)n! = (n+1)!$$

$$\frac{n!}{(n-2)!} = \frac{(n+1)! + n!}{n!(n+1)!} = \frac{(n+1)n! + n!}{n!(n+1)!}$$

$$\frac{x(n+1)}{x(n+1)} \cdot \frac{1}{n!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!} = \frac{1 \times n! \cdot n+1}{n!(n+1)!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!} = \frac{n+2}{(n+1)!}$$

$$= \frac{n+1}{(n+1)n!} = \frac{n!}{n!(n+1)!} = \frac{n! (n+1+1)}{n!(n+1)!} = \frac{n! (n+2)}{n!(n+1)!} = \frac{n+1}{(n+1)!}$$

$n^P_k = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-k+1)$   
 $\frac{10!}{6!} = 10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7 = \frac{10!}{6!}$

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A **permutation** of all elements of the set of size  $n$  is the number of **distinct** arrangements of the elements. It is denoted by  ${}_n P_n = n!$  or  $P(n, n)$ .

Note: A permutation is an arrangement of elements whereby, if an element is selected, it cannot be selected again. In other words, no repeats is allowed

**Example 2:**

If the Simpsons (Bart, Lisa and Maggie) are to stand in a line for a photograph, how many arrangements could be made?

3!



For each of those 3 choices, there are 2 choices for the second position because the first person cannot be reused.

∴ There are 6 possible arrangements for these people.

**Example 3:**

Sandra has a blue, green, red, yellow and purple candy. In how many ways could they be lined up on a table?

5! = 120



A permutation of size  $r$  of  $n$  elements is the number of **distinct** arrangements of the  $r$  elements.

$${}_n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

Note:  $n > r$   $P(n, r)$

$$nPr$$

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**Example 4:**

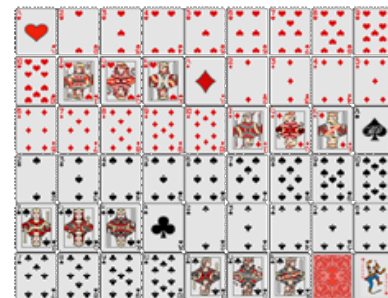
There are 10 magazines in a box. Five of them are to be placed onto a shelf in the library. In how many ways could they be arranged?



$$10 P_5 = 30240$$

**Example 5:**

From a standard deck of 52 cards, in how many ways could each of the following be arranged?



- a) Five face cards (J,Q,K of 4 suits) <sup>444</sup> 12 cards

$$12 P_5 = 95040$$

- b) Eight hearts

$$13 P_8 = 51891840$$

- c) Nine black cards

$$26 P_9 = \frac{26!}{17!}$$

$$n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

**Example 6:**

In how many ways could the SAC, consisting of a president, vice president, treasurer and publicist be selected from 5 males and 5 females candidate if

- a) There are no restrictions? — — — —

$$10 P_4 = 5040$$

- b) The president and vice-president may not be of the same sex?

$$\textcircled{0} \underline{5587}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \times 2$$

$$5 \times 5 \times 8 \times 7 \times 2 = 2800$$

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**Example 7:**

Eric has a briefcase with a three-digit combination lock. He can set the combination himself, and his favourite digits are 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Each digit can be used at most once.



- a) How many permutations of three of these five digits are there?

$${}_5P_3 = 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60$$

- b) If you think of each permutation as a three-digit number, how many of these numbers would be odd numbers?

$$\underline{4} \underline{3} \underline{3} = 36$$

- c) How many of the three-digit numbers are even numbers and begin with a 8?

$$\underline{1} \underline{3} \underline{1} = 3$$

- d) How many of the three-digit numbers are even numbers and do not begin with a 8?

Indirect method: ways for 3-digit even numbers - ways for 3-digit even numbers starting with 8

Part (a) - Part (b) - Part (c) = Part (d) = 21

If ends with 8     $\underline{4} \underline{3} \underline{1}$     If not end with 8     $\underline{3} \underline{3} \underline{1}$     12 + 9 = 21

- e) Is there a connection among the four answers above? If so, state what it is and why it occurs.

They are connected by the indirect method because the total of 3-digit numbers is the sum of total 3-digit odd numbers and total 3-digit even numbers, and the total of 3-digit even numbers is the sum of total 3-digit even number starting with 8 and total 3-digit even numbers not starting with 8.