

## MATH 6: HOMEWORK: PERMUTATIONS

An announcement: You can register for Math Kangaroo until December 15. All the info is on:  
<https://schoolnova.org/nova/node/728>

In general, if we are ordering  $k$  objects from a collection of  $n$  so that no repetitions are allowed, then this is referred to as a *permutation* of  $k$  objects from the collection of  $n$ , the number of ways to make such a selection of permutations is called  ${}_n P_k$ , and

$${}_n P_k = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$$

In particular, if we take  $k = n$ , it means that we are selecting one by one all  $n$  objects — so this gives the number of possible ways to order  $n$  objects:

$${}_n P_n = n! = n(n-1) \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

We read  $n!$  as “ $n$  factorial”. By convention,  $0! = 1$ , similar to the way that  $x^0 = 1$ .

For example: there are  $52!$  ways to mix the cards in the usual card deck.

Note that the number  $n!$  grow very fast:  $2! = 2$ ,  $3! = 6$ ,  $4! = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24$ ,  $5! = 120$ ,  $6! = 620$

For example:

$${}_6 P_4 = 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 = \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{6!}{2!}$$

Circular Permutations: The number of permutations of  $n$  elements in a circle with  $n$  places is  $(n-1)!$

That is since the circle can be rotated.

Additionally, if we can flip over the circle (we can do it with a beads as an example, not with a table). The number of permutations is:

$$P'_n = \frac{1}{2} (n-1)!$$

1. A sly elementary school teacher decides to play favorites without telling anyone. If they have 15 students in their class, in how many ways can they choose a favorite student, a second favorite student, and a third favorite student?
2. Compute  $\frac{6!}{3!}$ ,  $6! - 3!$ ,  ${}_5P_2$ ,  ${}_5P_3$
3.
  - a. How many ways are there to draw 3 cards from a 52-card deck? (Order matters: drawing first king of spades, then queen of hearts is different from drawing them in opposite order).
  - b. How many ways are there to draw 3 cards from a 52-card deck if after each drawing we record the card we got, then return the card to the deck and reshuffle the deck? (As before, order matters.)
  - c. We draw 3 cards from a 52-card deck, and after each drawing we record the card we got, then return the card to the deck and reshuffle the deck. What is the probability that all 3 drawn cards are different?
- a. sit in a different order every day for a year? How about two years?
4.
  - a. How many 5s are there in the prime factorization of the number 100!? How many 2s?
  - b. In how many zeroes does the number 100! end?
5. 10 people must form a circle for some dance. In how many ways can they do this?
6. In this problem, you have to express your answer as a simplified exponent (you do not have to compute numerically the expressions that you find). Simplify the expressions below using the power laws:  $(a \times b)^n = a^n \times b^n$ ,  $(a^n)^m = a^{n \times m}$ ,  $a^n a^m = a^{n+m}$ ,  $a^n / a^m = a^{n-m}$ ,  $a^{-n} = 1/a^n$  and  $a^0 = 1$ .
 

(a)  $\frac{2^5 4^4}{2^7}$       (b)  $6^5 \times 3^{-4}$       (c)  $\frac{5^{-2}}{5^{-4}}$
7. Simplify:  $(2^{10} \div (2^3)^3 + (2^2)^{2^2} + (3^8)^9 + ((3^2)^4)^9 - ((2^7)^3)^2) \div (1 + 2^6 + 4^3 + 3^{7^2} - 2^{4^1})$