

1-1 Permutations and Combinations

Objective:

- To count permutations
- To count combinations

Common Core Content Standard:

S.CP.9 Use permutations and combinations to compute probabilities of compound events and solve problems.

When counting is impractical, the _____ using multiplication can be used instead.

Take note**Key Concept Fundamental Counting Principle**

If event M can occur in m ways and is followed by event N that can occur in n ways, then event M followed by event N can occur in $m \cdot n$ ways.

Example 3 pants and 2 shirts give $3 \cdot 2 = 6$ possible outfits.

Example 1: Using the Fundamental Counting Principle

An old website requires a four-character password consisting of three numbers and one letter. A new website requires a six-character password consisting of three numbers and three letters. How many more passwords can be made for the new website?

A _____ is an arrangement of items in a particular order.

For any positive integer n , _____ is $n! = n(n-1) \cdot \dots \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$. Zero factorial is $0! = 1$.

Example 2: Finding the Number of Permutations of n Items

In how many ways can you arrange nine CDs one after another on a shelf?

Sometimes you are interested in the number of permutations possible using all of the objects from a set, but just a few at a time. You can still use the Fundamental Counting Principle or factorial notation.

Take note

Key Concept Number of Permutations

The number of permutations of n items of a set arranged r items at a time is

$${}_n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq n.$$

Example ${}_{10} P_4 = \frac{10!}{(10-4)!} = \frac{10!}{6!} = 5040$

Example 3: Finding ${}_n P_r$

In how many ways can a first, second, and third baseman be selected from eight players?

A selection in which order does not matter is a _____.

Take note

Key Concept Number of Combinations

The number of combinations of n items of a set chosen r items at a time is

$${}_n C_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq n.$$

Example ${}_5 C_3 = \frac{5!}{3!(5-3)!} = \frac{5!}{3! \cdot 2!} = \frac{120}{6 \cdot 2} = 10$

