

Mini-Lecture 11.2



Permutations

Order Matters

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

ex: ${}_5 P_3 = \frac{5!}{2!}$
 $= \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 1}$
 $= 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3$

Examples:

1. Seven seats are positioned in a row at a movie theatre. Alice, Betty, Craig, Dan, Evelyn, Frank, and Gavin want to sit together in this row.

a. How many different ways can they be arranged?

$$7! = \underline{7} \underline{6} \underline{5} \underline{4} \underline{3} \underline{2} \underline{1} = {}_7 P_7 = \boxed{5040}$$

b. How many different ways can they be arranged if Betty sits in the second seat?

$$\underline{6} \underline{B} \underline{5} \underline{4} \underline{3} \underline{2} \underline{1} \quad 6! = \boxed{720} \quad {}_6 P_6$$

c. How many different ways can they be arranged if Craig and Gavin want to sit in the aisle seats?

$$\underline{2} \underline{5} \underline{4} \underline{3} \underline{2} \underline{1} \underline{1} = \boxed{240}$$

2. You need to arrange 12 of your favorite photographs on the mantel above a fireplace. How many ways can you arrange the photographs?

$$12! = {}_{12} P_{12} = \boxed{479,001,600}$$

3. Evaluate the factorial expressions:

a. $\frac{8!}{3!}$

$$\boxed{6720}$$

b. $\frac{1045!}{1044!}$

$$\boxed{1045}$$

c. $(8-3)!$

$$\boxed{120}$$

d. $9! - 7!$

$$\boxed{357,840}$$

e. $\left(\frac{20}{5}\right)!$

$$\boxed{24}$$

f. $\frac{15!}{(15-3)!} = \frac{15!}{12!} = 15 \cdot 14 \cdot 13$

$$\boxed{2730}$$

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4. Use the formula for ${}_n P_r$ to evaluate each expression. $= \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$

a. ${}_{10} P_4$

$$\frac{10!}{6!} = 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7$$

$$\boxed{5040}$$

b. ${}_3 P_3$

$$\frac{3!}{0!}$$

$$\boxed{6}$$

c. ${}_3 P_0$

$$\frac{3!}{(3-0)!}$$

$$\boxed{1}$$

d. ${}_{145} P_2$

$$\frac{145!}{143!}$$

$$\boxed{20,880}$$

e. ${}_{25} P_1$

$$\frac{25!}{24!}$$

$$\boxed{25}$$

5. A club with fifteen members is to choose four officers – president, vice-president, treasure, and secretary. If each office is to be held by one person and no person can hold more than one office, in how many ways can those offices be filled?

$$\underline{15} \underline{14} \underline{13} \underline{12} = \boxed{32,760}$$

${}_{15} P_4$ # of Permutations for 15 objects taken 4 at a time

$$\frac{15!}{(15-4)!} = \frac{15 \cdot 14 \cdot 13 \cdot 12 \cdot 11!}{11!}$$

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6. In how many distinct ways can the letters of the word SASSAFRAS be arranged?

$$\frac{n!}{p! \cdot q! \cdot r! \dots} = \frac{9!}{4! \cdot 3!} = \frac{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 4!} = \boxed{2520}$$

S-4 A-3 F, R

7. There are fifteen balloons – 3 blue, 4 red, 2 green, 3 yellow, and 3 orange. In how many distinct ways can the balloons be arranged?

$$\frac{15!}{3! \cdot 4! \cdot 2! \cdot 3! \cdot 3!}$$

$$\frac{15 \cdot 14 \cdot 13 \cdot 12 \cdot 11 \cdot 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}$$

$$\boxed{126,120,000}$$

$$\frac{15!}{4! \cdot 3^3 \cdot 2^4}$$