

# Combinations

A set or collection of things in no particular order

In permutations: ORDER MATTERS

In combinations: Order does NOT matter

In general,  
the number of combinations of "n"  
things taken or chosen "r" at a time

$${}^n C_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!} \text{ Reads "n choose r"}$$

Perms:

Phone numbers  
Locker Combinations  
License Plates

**VS.**

Combs:

Card hands  
Lottery Numbers  
Committees

Ex) In how many ways can a committee of 4 be chosen from 4 teachers and 3 students if

(a) all are equally eligible?

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

$${}^7 C_4 = \frac{7!}{(7-4)! 4!} = \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4!}{3! 4!} = 35$$

(b) If Amanda, one of the students, has to be on the committee, how many are possible?

$${}^1 C_1 \cdot {}^6 C_3 = 20$$

*Amanda*

(c) the committee must include 2 teachers AND 2 students?

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Teachers} \cdot \text{Students} \\ & {}^4 C_2 \cdot {}^3 C_2 \\ & \frac{4!}{(4-2)! 2!} \cdot \frac{3!}{(3-2)! 2!} \\ & \frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2!}{2! 2!} \cdot \frac{3 \cdot 2!}{2!} \\ & 6 \cdot 3 \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$$

Ex) A cribbage hand consists of 6 cards

52  
13♥ 13♠ 13♣ 13♦

(a) How many different hands are possible?

$$52 C_6$$

(b) How many hands with 3 kings only are possible?

kings · Rest

$$4 C_3 \cdot 48 C_3$$

(c) How many hands with 2 or more kings?

multiply

$$\frac{02}{2 \text{ kings}} \quad 4 C_2 \cdot 48 C_4 = 1,167,480$$

$$\frac{02}{3 \text{ kings}} \quad 4 C_3 \cdot 48 C_3 = 69,184$$

$$\frac{03}{4 \text{ kings}} \quad 4 C_4 \cdot 48 C_2 = 1,128$$

$$\underline{1,237,792}$$

add

Ex) A class has 15 girls and 20 boys.

(a) How many committees of eight consisting of 3 girls and 5 boys can be made?

boys · girls

$$20 C_5 \cdot 15 C_3$$

(b) If Jill, Melissa, and Adam must be on the committee of eight?

J+M    A    boys - girls

$$2 C_2 \cdot 1 C_1 \cdot 19 C_4 \cdot 13 C_1$$

(c) A committee of 5 with at least 3 girls?

$$3 \text{ girls} \quad 15 C_3 \cdot 20 C_2 =$$

$$4 \text{ girls} \quad 15 C_4 \cdot 20 C_1 =$$

$$5 \text{ girls} \quad 15 C_5 \cdot 20 C_0 =$$

## Solving Equations with Combinations

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

Ex) Solve for n

(a)  ${}_nC_2 = 21$

$$\frac{n!}{(n-2)!2!} = 21$$

$$\frac{n(n-1)\cancel{(n-2)!}}{\cancel{(n-2)!} \cdot 2} = 21$$

$$n^2 - n - 42 = 0$$

$$(n-7)(n+6) = 0$$

$$n = 7 \quad n = \cancel{6}$$

(b)  ${}_nC_{\frac{n-2}{r}} = 6$

$$\frac{n!}{(\cancel{n-(n-2)})! \cdot (n-2)!} = 6$$

$$\frac{n!}{2!(n-2)!} = 6$$

$$\frac{n(n-1)\cancel{(n-2)!}}{2!\cancel{(n-2)!}} = 6$$

$$n(n-1) = 12$$

$$n^2 - n - 12 = 0$$

$$(n+3)(n-4) = 0$$

$$n = \cancel{3} \quad n = 4$$

Ex) Solve for n if  $2({}_nC_2) = {}_{n+1}C_3$

$$\frac{2n!}{(n-2)!2!} = \frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1-3)!3!}$$

$$\frac{n!}{\cancel{(n-2)!} \cdot 2!} = \frac{(n+1)!}{\cancel{(n-2)!} \cdot 3!}$$

$$6 = \frac{(n+1)!}{n!}$$

$$6 = \frac{(n+1)\cancel{(n)!}}{\cancel{n!}}$$

$$n = 5$$

## QUIZ FRIDAY

Permutations only

- Fundamental Counting Principle
- Restrictions \* Fill first  
i.e. Female President etc.  
Start and end with vowel
- Repeating Letters → divide by # of repeats!
- Cases — multiply across & add down ↓
  - Alternating boys + girls
  - at least / at most
- Arrangements — 2 people won't sit together  
Subtract Total — together

① Pink WS

② p. 73 | #15