

## 8.2 Combinations

Example/Discussion Problems

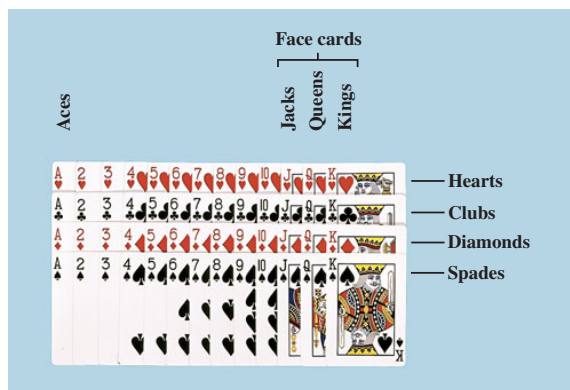


Figure 1: A standard deck of 52 cards.

1. How many 5-card poker hands are possible?

### Combinations

If  $C(n, r)$ , denotes the number of combinations of  $n$  elements taken  $r$  at a time, where  $r \leq n$ , then

$$C(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!}.$$

2. How many 5-card poker hands are possible with 2 pairs?
3. How many 5-card poker hands are possible with 3 of a kind?
4. When playing 5-card poker, what is the probability of being dealt 2 pairs? 3 of a kind?
5. A sandwich shop instructs customers to place their order as follows.

| Choose 1    | Choose 2    | Choose 0, 1, 2, or 3 |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| White       | Chicken     | Lettuce              |
| Whole Wheat | Beef        | Tomatoe              |
| Multi-grain | Bacon       | Onions               |
|             | Black Beans | Pickles              |
|             | Red Beans   | Olives               |
|             | Avacado     | Mayonaise            |
|             |             | Mustard              |
|             |             | Ketchup              |

How many different sandwiches is it possible to order?

6. In how many ways can 4 coworkers each take 2 donuts from a box of 12 distinct donuts?
  7. How many ways can a team of 16 choose 3 players to play offense, 2 players to play defense, and 1 player to play goalie?
- (Compare to choosing 1 president, 1 vice-president, 1 treasurer.)
8. A woman sending Christmas cards to her three nephews. Before mailing the 3 envelopes, she takes 9 \$100 bills and randomly splits them between the three envelopes so that each nephew receives at least one \$100 bill. How many ways are there for her to do this?

*Challenge:* What if it is not required that each nephew receive at least one \$100 bill?

9. How many ways are there to walk from W 43 St and 11th Ave to W 57 St and 6th Ave, without walking out of the way and without taking Broadway?

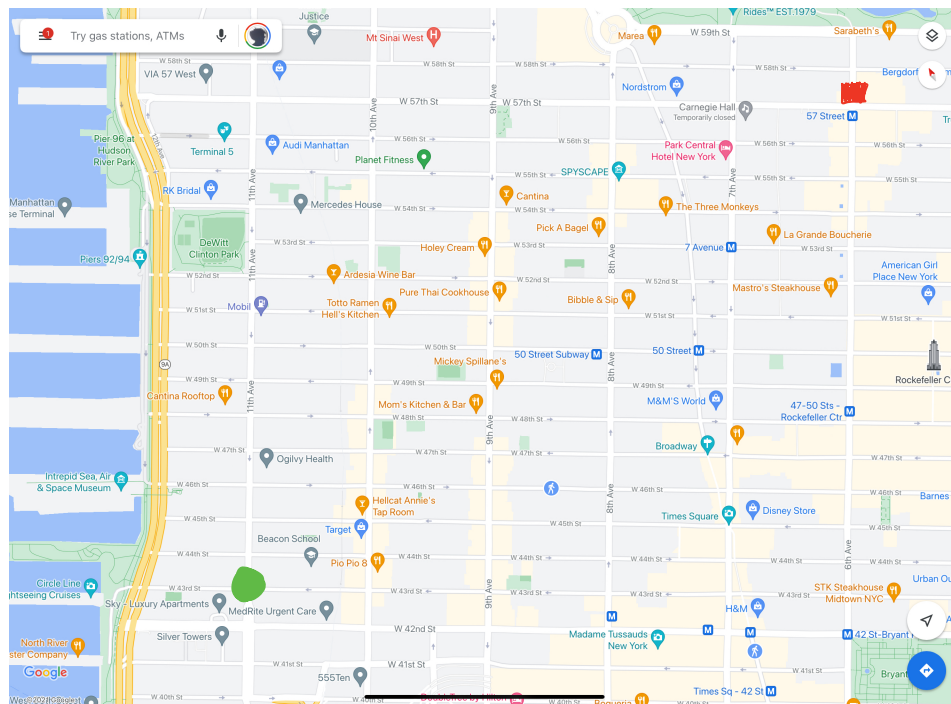


Figure 2: maps.google.com

10. How many ways are there to *drive* from W 43 St and 11th Ave to W 57 St and 6th Ave, without walking out of the way and without taking Broadway?

| Permutations                                                                       | Combinations                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Different orderings or arrangements of the $r$ objects are different permutations. | Each choice or subset of $r$ objects gives one combination. Order within the group of $r$ objects does not matter. |
| $P(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n - r)!}$                                                    | $C(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n - r)! r!}$                                                                                 |
| Clue words: arrangement, schedule, order                                           | Clue words: group, committee, set, sample                                                                          |
| <b>Order matters!</b>                                                              | <b>Order does not matter!</b>                                                                                      |

Figure 3: Permutations vs. combinations.

1. How many 5-card poker hands are possible?

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

52 CARDS IN DECK :

1 POKER HAND

|            |            |           |           |           |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <u>10♥</u> | <u>J♥</u>  | <u>Q♥</u> | <u>K♥</u> | <u>A♥</u> |
| <u>J♥</u>  | <u>10♥</u> | <u>Q♥</u> | <u>K♥</u> | <u>A♥</u> |

A MATTER?

No.

BOTH COULD BE AS  
DIFFERENT  
PERMUTATIONS  
(ORDER  
MATTERS)

# CHOICES

$$\frac{52}{1^{st}} \times \frac{51}{2^{nd}} \times \frac{50}{3^{rd}} \times \frac{49}{4^{th}} \times \frac{48}{5^{th}} = P(52, 5) = 311,875,200$$

IN POKER ORDER DOESN'T MATTER

$P(n, r)$  = # OF WAYS TO SELECT AND ARRANGE  $r$  OBJECTS FROM  $n$  OBJECTS  
(ORDER MATTERS!)

"# OF PERMUTATIONS OF  $r$  OBJECTS TAKEN FROM  $n$  OBJECTS"

Let  $C(n, r)$  = # OF WAYS TO SELECT  $r$  OBJECTS FROM  $n$  OBJECTS  
SUCH THAT THE ORDER DOES NOT MATTER

"NUMBER OF COMBINATIONS OF  $r$  OBJECTS TAKEN FROM  $n$  OBJECTS"

1. How many 5-card poker hands are possible?

$$\frac{10♥}{5} \times \frac{J♥}{4} \times \frac{Q♥}{3} \times \frac{K♥}{2} \times \frac{A♥}{1} = 5!$$

WAYS TO ORDER 5 CARDS.

↑  
IF ORDER MATTERED :  $P(52, 5)$

AND ONE WAY TO ARRIVE AT THIS NUMBER IS IN 2 STEPS:

$$P(52, 5) = \frac{C(52, 5)}{\text{CHOOSE 5 CARDS}} \times \frac{5!}{\text{ARRANGE/ORDER 5 CHOSEN CARDS}} \Rightarrow C(52, 5) = \frac{P(52, 5)}{5!}$$

$$\Rightarrow C(52,5) = \frac{52!}{(52-5)! \cdot 5!} = \frac{52!}{5! \cdot (52-5)!}$$

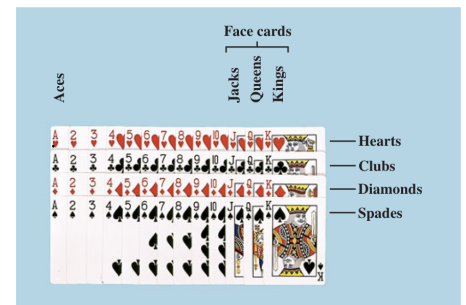
IN GENERAL:  $P(n,r) = C(n,r) \times r!$

$$C(n,r) = \frac{P(n,r)}{r!} = \frac{n!}{r! \cdot (n-r)!}$$

- How many 5-card poker hands are possible with 2 pairs?
- How many 5-card poker hands are possible with 3 of a kind?

2. 2 PAIRS: 2 CARDS OF ONE DENOMINATION  
 2 CARDS OF ANOTHER DENOMINATION  
 1 CARD OF A THIRD DENOMINATION

VALUE  
↓



### Multiplication Principle

Suppose  $n$  choices must be made, with

$m_1$  ways to make choice 1,

$m_2$  ways to make choice 2,

and so on, with

$m_n$  ways to make choice  $n$ .

Then there are

$$m_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot \dots \cdot m_n$$

different ways to make the entire sequence of choices.

.) Q♥ Q♦ 8♥ 8♠ 5♦

# WAYS TO GET 2 PAIRS

44 CARDS  
NOT Q  
NOT 8  
↓

$$\underbrace{C(13,1) \times C(4,2)}_{1^{st} \text{ PAIR}} \times \underbrace{C(12,1) \times C(4,2)}_{2^{nd} \text{ PAIR}} \times C(44,1) = 247,104$$

CHOOSE VALUE FOR 1<sup>st</sup> PAIR      CHOOSE CARDS FOR 1<sup>st</sup> PAIR      CHOOSE VALUE FOR 2<sup>nd</sup> PAIR      CHOOSE CARDS FOR 2<sup>nd</sup> PAIR      CHOOSE 5<sup>th</sup> CARD

Note:  $C(n, 1) = \frac{n!}{1!(n-1)!} = \frac{n \cdot \cancel{(n-1)!}}{\cancel{(n-1)!}} = n$

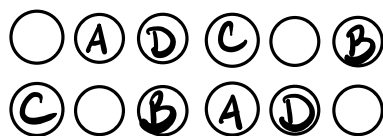
5. A sandwich shop instructs customers to place their order as follows.

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|             | Avacado     | Mayonaise            |
|             |             | Mustard              |
|             |             | Ketchup              |

Note:  $C(n, 0) = \frac{n!}{0!(n-0)!} = \frac{n!}{n!} = 1$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{CHOOSE } 0 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \frac{C(3,1)}{\text{COL 1}} \times \frac{C(6,2)}{\text{COL 2}} \times \frac{C(8,0)}{\text{COL 3}} \\
 \text{CHOOSE } 1 \text{ ITEM FROM COL 3 : } \frac{C(3,1)}{\text{COL 1}} \times \frac{C(6,2)}{\text{COL 2}} \times \frac{C(8,1)}{\text{COL 3}} \\
 \text{CHOOSE } 2 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \frac{C(3,1)}{\text{COL 1}} \times \frac{C(6,2)}{\text{COL 2}} \times \frac{C(8,2)}{\text{COL 3}} \\
 \text{CHOOSE } 3 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \frac{C(3,1)}{\text{COL 1}} \times \frac{C(6,2)}{\text{COL 2}} \times \frac{C(8,3)}{\text{COL 3}}
 \end{array}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \text{CHOOSE } 0 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \\ \text{CHOOSE } 1 \text{ ITEM FROM COL 3 : } \\ \text{CHOOSE } 2 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \\ \text{CHOOSE } 3 \text{ ITEMS FROM COL 3 : } \end{array}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{ADD TOGETHER} \\ \text{FOR TOTAL.} \end{array}$$

6. In how many ways can 4 coworkers each take 2 donuts from a box of 12 distinct donuts?



coworkers A, B, C, D.

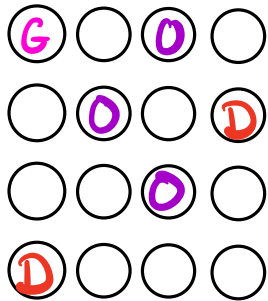
MULT. PRINC.

$$\frac{C(12,2)}{\text{CHOOSE DONUTS FOR COWORKER A}} \times \frac{C(10,2)}{\text{CHOOSE DONUTS FOR COWORKER B}} \times \frac{C(8,2)}{\text{CHOOSE DONUTS FOR COWORKER C}} \times \frac{C(6,2)}{\text{CHOOSE DONUTS FOR COWORKER D}}$$

$$\frac{12!}{2!10!} \times \frac{10!}{2!8!} \times \frac{8!}{2!6!} \times \frac{6!}{2!4!} = \frac{12!}{2!2!2!4!} = 1,247,400$$

7. How many ways can a team of 16 choose 3 players to play offense, 2 players to play defense, and 1 player to play goalie?

(Compare to choosing 1 president, 1 vice-president, 1 treasurer.)



CHOOSE 3 OFFENSIVE PLAYERS  
FROM 16 PLAYERS

$$: C(16, 3)$$

CHOOSE 2 DEFENSIVE PLAYERS  
FROM 13 PLAYERS

$$: C(13, 2)$$

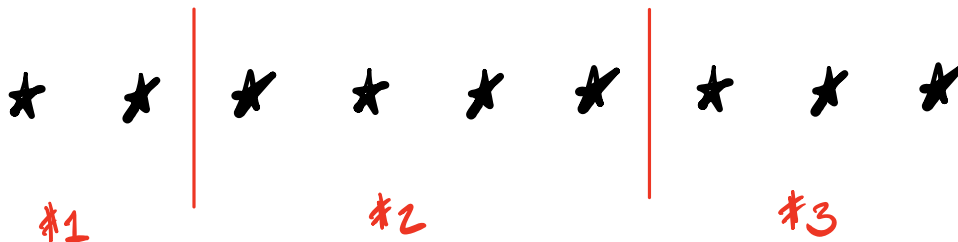
CHOOSE 1 GOALIE  
FROM 11 PLAYERS

$$: C(11, 1)$$

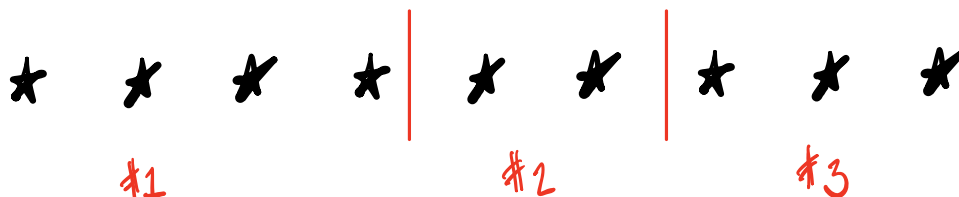
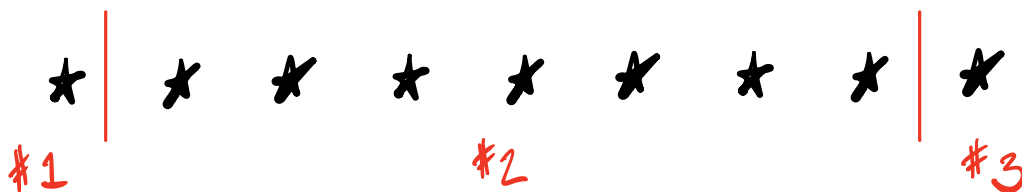
MULT. PRINCIPLE:

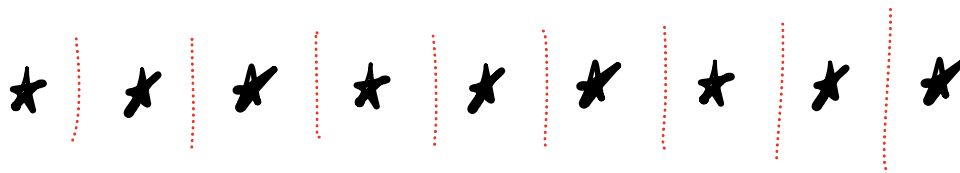
$$C(16, 3) \times C(13, 2) \times C(11, 1) = 480,480$$

8. A woman sending Christmas cards to her three nephews. Before mailing the 3 envelopes, she takes 9 \$100 bills and randomly splits them between the three envelopes so that each nephew receives at least one \$100 bill. How many ways are there for her to do this?



"STARS & BARS"  
(COMBOS METHOD)





How many ways are there to insert 2 bars in between 9 stars?

How many ways are there to choose 2 places to put bars, out of 8 places?

$$C(8, 2) = \frac{8!}{2!6!} = \frac{8 \cdot 7}{2} = 28$$