

PASCAL'S TRIANGLE - BINOMIAL THEOREM

1 Use Pascal's triangle to find the expansion of each of the following.

(a) $(1+x)^6$

(b) $(1+x)^8$

(c) $(1+b)^7$

(d) $(1+2x)^3$

$$a) (1+x)^6 = \sum_{i=0}^6 {}^6C_i x^i = 1 + {}^6C_1 x + {}^6C_2 x^2 + {}^6C_3 x^3 + {}^6C_4 x^4 + {}^6C_5 x^5 + x^6$$

$$= 1 + 6x + 15x^2 + 20x^3 + 15x^4 + 6x^5 + x^6$$

$$b) (1+x)^8 = 1 + {}^8C_1 x + {}^8C_2 x^2 + {}^8C_3 x^3 + {}^8C_4 x^4 + {}^8C_5 x^5 + {}^8C_6 x^6 + {}^8C_7 x^7 + x^8$$

$$= 1 + 8x + 28x^2 + 56x^3 + 70x^4 + 56x^5 + 28x^6 + 8x^7 + x^8$$

$$c) (1+b)^7 = 1 + {}^7C_1 b + {}^7C_2 b^2 + {}^7C_3 b^3 + {}^7C_4 b^4 + {}^7C_5 b^5 + {}^7C_6 b^6 + b^7$$

$$= 1 + 7b + 21b^2 + 35b^3 + 35b^4 + 21b^5 + 7b^6 + b^7$$

$$d) (1+2x)^3 = 1 + {}^3C_1 (2x) + {}^3C_2 (2x)^2 + {}^3C_3 (2x)^3$$

$$= 1 + 3 \times 2x + 3 \times 4x^2 + 8x^3$$

$$= 1 + 6x + 12x^2 + 8x^3$$

4 The coefficient of x^4 in the expansion of $(x - \sqrt{2})^6$ is: 

A -30

B 30

C -60

D 60

$${}^6C_4 (-\sqrt{2})^2 = \cancel{20} 30$$

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5 Find the fourth term in the expansion of: (a) $(1+x)^5$ (b) $(1-2a)^7$ (c) $\left(1+\frac{3x}{4}\right)^6$

a) ${}^5C_3 = 10$ $\approx 10x^3$ degree 3

b) ${}^7C_3 \times (-2a)^3 = 35 \times (-8)a^3 = -280a^3$

c) ${}^6C_3 \times \left(\frac{3x}{4}\right)^3 = 20 \times \frac{27}{64} x^3 = \frac{135}{16} x^3$

7 Use the expansion of $\left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right)^n$ to find the value of each expression correct to four decimal places.

(a) $\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^6$

(b) $\left(\frac{19}{20}\right)^5$

(c) $\left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^4$

a) $1 - \frac{1}{x} = \frac{9}{10}$ $\approx \frac{1}{x} = 1 - \frac{9}{10} = \frac{1}{10} \approx \boxed{x=10}$

$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^6 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{10}\right)^6 = 1 + {}^6C_1 \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^1 + {}^6C_2 \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^2 + {}^6C_3 \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^3 + {}^6C_4 \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^4 + {}^6C_5 \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^5 + \left(-\frac{1}{10}\right)^6$

$\approx \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^6 = 1 - \frac{6}{10} + \frac{15}{10^2} - \frac{20}{10^3} + \frac{15}{10^4} - \frac{6}{10^5} + \frac{1}{10^6}$

$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^6 = 1 - 0.6 + 0.15 - 0.02 + 0.0015 - 0.00006 + 0.000001$
 ≈ 0.5314

b) $\frac{19}{20} = 1 - \frac{1}{x}$ $\approx \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{20}$ $x=20$

$\left(\frac{19}{20}\right)^5 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{20}\right)^5 = 1 + {}^5C_1 \left(-\frac{1}{20}\right) + {}^5C_2 \left(-\frac{1}{20}\right)^2 + {}^5C_3 \left(-\frac{1}{20}\right)^3 + {}^5C_4 \left(-\frac{1}{20}\right)^4 + \left(-\frac{1}{20}\right)^5$

$\left(\frac{19}{20}\right)^5 = 1 - \frac{5}{20} + \frac{10}{400} - \frac{10}{8000} + \frac{5}{160000} - \frac{1}{3200000} \approx 0.7738$

c) $\left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^4 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{100}\right)^4 = 1 + {}^4C_1 \left(-\frac{1}{100}\right) + {}^4C_2 \left(-\frac{1}{100}\right)^2 + {}^4C_3 \left(-\frac{1}{100}\right)^3 + \left(-\frac{1}{100}\right)^4$

≈ 0.9606

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2. Write the simplified expansion for each of the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2 + \sqrt{2})^4 &= {}^4C_0 2^4 (\sqrt{2})^0 + {}^4C_1 2^3 \sqrt{2} + {}^4C_2 2^2 (\sqrt{2})^2 + {}^4C_3 2 (\sqrt{2})^3 + {}^4C_4 2^0 (\sqrt{2})^4 \\
 &= 2^4 + 4 \times 8 \times \sqrt{2} + 6 \times 4 \times 2 + 4 \times 2 \times 2\sqrt{2} + 4 \\
 &= 68 + 48\sqrt{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})^5 &= {}^5C_0 (\sqrt{5})^5 + {}^5C_1 (\sqrt{5})^4 \sqrt{3} + {}^5C_2 (\sqrt{5})^3 (\sqrt{3})^2 + {}^5C_3 (\sqrt{5})^2 (\sqrt{3})^3 + {}^5C_4 (\sqrt{5}) (\sqrt{3})^4 + {}^5C_5 (\sqrt{3})^5 \\
 &= 25\sqrt{5} + 5 \times 25\sqrt{3} + 10 \times 5\sqrt{5} \times 3 + 10 \times 5 \times 3\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{5} \times 9 + 9\sqrt{3} (\sqrt{3})^5 \\
 &= [25 + 150 + 45] \sqrt{5} + [125 + 150 + 9] \sqrt{3} \\
 &= 220\sqrt{5} + 284\sqrt{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

4 The coefficient of x^5 in the expansion of $(2x + 5)^8$ is:

A 32000

B 4000

C 224000

D 1792

$${}^8C_5 (2x)^5 \times 5^3 = 56 \times 32 \times 125 x^5 = 224,000$$



5. Find the term independent of x in the expansions below:

$$\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^6$$

$$x^3 \times \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\text{So } {}^6C_3 \left(x\right)^3 \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^3$$

$$\text{which is } \boxed{20}$$

$$\left(x + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)^6$$

$$x^6$$

$$x^5 \times \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$x^4 \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)$$

3rd term
↓

$$\text{So } {}^6C_2 = \boxed{15}$$

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5 The fourth term in the expansion of $\left(\frac{a}{b} - \frac{b}{a}\right)^6$ is:

A -20

B 20

C $\frac{15a^2}{b^2}$

D $-\frac{15b^2}{a^2}$

$${}^6C_3 \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^3 \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)^3 = 20 \times \left(\frac{a \times (-b)}{b \times a}\right)^3 = 20 \times (-1)^3 = -20$$

A

6. Write and simplify the fourth term of $\left(\frac{m}{2} + 3n\right)^8$

$${}^8C_3 \left(\frac{m}{2}\right)^3 (3n)^5 = 56 \frac{m^3}{2^3} \times 243 n^5$$

$$= 1701 m^3 n^5$$

8 Write and simplify the $(k+2)$ -th term of $(a+b)^{2n}$.

$${}^{2n}C_{k+1} a^{2n-(k+1)} b^{k+1}$$

$$\text{which is } \frac{(2n)!}{(2n-k-1)!(k+1)!} \times a^{2n-k-1} \times b^{k+1}$$