

Most of the formulas we have today are the result of mathematicians noticing patterns. The binomial theorem is one such pattern.

Expand  $(a + b)^n$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \& 5$

$$(a+b)^0 = 1$$

$$(a+b)^1 = a+b$$

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

$$(a+b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$

$$(a+b)^4 = a^4 + 4a^3b + 6a^2b^2 + 4ab^3 + b^4$$

$$(a+b)^5 = a^5 + 5a^4b + 10a^3b^2 + 10a^2b^3 + 5ab^4 + b^5$$

$$(a+b)^6 =$$

powers  $a$ : 6 ..... 0      Exponents add: 6  
 powers  $b$ : 0 ..... 6      1st 2 coefficients: 1, 6  
 Last 2 "      6, 1

## Pascal's Triangle

				1										
			1		1									
		1		2		1								
	1		3		3		1							
1		4		6		4		1	${}_0C_0$					
							${}_1C_0$		${}_1C_1$					
								${}_2C_0$	${}_2C_1$	${}_2C_2$				
											${}_3C_0$	${}_3C_1$	${}_3C_2$	${}_3C_3$

## Binomial Coefficient

The binomial coefficients that appear in the expansion of  $(a + b)^n$  are the values of  ${}_n C_r$  for  $r = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, n$ .

A classical notation for  ${}_n C_r$  is :  $\binom{n}{r}$  meaning "n choose r"

$${}_n C_r = \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \quad \binom{15}{11} \quad \begin{array}{l} 15C11 \\ = 1365 \end{array}$$

Expand pascal's triangle to find the next row.

$(a+b)^0$   
 $(a+b)^1$   
 $(a+b)^2$   
 $(a+b)^3$   
 $(a+b)^4$   
 $(a+b)^5$   
 $(a+b)^6$

$1$   
 $6$   $15$   $20$   $15$   $6$   $1$

$a^6b^0 + 6a^5b^1 + 15a^4b^2 + 20a^3b^3 + 15a^2b^4 + 6a^1b^5 + 1a^0b^6$

Find the coefficient of  $x^{10}$  in the expansion of  $(x + 2)^{15}$   $n = 15$

$$\binom{15}{10} x^{10} (2^5) = {}^{15}C_{10} \cdot 2^5 x^{10}$$

$$= \boxed{96,096}$$

The Binomial theorem

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For any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$(a+b)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b + \dots + \binom{n}{r}a^{n-r}b^r + \dots + \binom{n}{n}b^n$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} (x^2 + y)^3 &= \quad n=3 \\ \binom{3}{0}(x^2)^3 + \binom{3}{1}(x^2)^2(y) + \binom{3}{2}(x^2)(y)^2 + \binom{3}{3}(y)^3 \\ 1x^6 + 3x^4y + 3x^2y^2 + 1y^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$(3x - y^2)^5 \quad n=5$$

$$\binom{5}{0}(3x)^5 + \binom{5}{1}(3x)^4(-y) + \binom{5}{2}(3x)^3(y^2) + \binom{5}{3}(3x)^2(-y)^3 + \binom{5}{4}(3x)(y^2)^4 + \binom{5}{5}(-y^2)^5$$

$$1 \cdot 3^5 x^5 - 5 \cdot 3^4 x^4 y + 10 \cdot 3^3 x^3 y^2 - 10 \cdot 3^2 x^2 y^3 + 5 \cdot 3 x y^4 - y^5$$

$$243x^5 - 405x^4y + 270x^3y^2 - 90x^2y^3 + 15xy^4 - y^5$$

$$\begin{aligned} (-\#)^{\text{odd}} &= (-\#) \\ (-\#)^{\text{even}} &= (+\#) \end{aligned}$$