

for a total of $8 \times 9 \times 8 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 5760000$ phone numbers that do not start with 5.

Using the sum rule, we add this to our other value to get a total of 5,760,720 total possible phone numbers under the given rules.

Here is a quick problem for you guys:

How many 3 letter words can you form that have two consonants and a vowel?

Permutations

A permutation of objects is simply an arrangement of those objects. A common example of permutations deals with words. How many “words” can you form out of the letters A, B, C, and D, without repeating a letter. Essentially, the question boils down to how many ways can you order a set of objects. In this case, we know we have four choices for the first object. Once we have made that choice, it is clear that we will always have three choices for the next object. In particular, we find the following:

$$\overline{4} \times \overline{3} \times \overline{2} \times \overline{1} = 24 \text{ possible permutations.}$$

In general, imagine the number of ways to permute n objects. Using the same process as above we find:

$$\overline{n} \times \overline{(n-1)} \times \dots \times \overline{2} \times \overline{1} = n! \text{ possible permutations.}$$

(Note: For those of you unfamiliar with the $!$ notation, it is read as “factorial”. $n!$ is simply defined as the product of all the positive integers in between 1 and n , inclusive.)

Now, consider the following problem:

Given n distinct objects, how many permutations are there of r of those objects, where $1 \leq r \leq n$.

Using the product rule as before, we find:

$$\overline{n} \times \overline{(n-1)} \times \dots \times \overline{(n-k+1)} = n!/(n-k)! \text{ possible permutations.}$$