

Useful Mathematical Notation (n is a positive integer)

\sqrt{n} is the positive square root of n .

$n!$ is **n factorial**, means $n(n - 1)(n - 2) \dots \dots 2.1$ which is the number of permutations of n objects e.g. $3!$ means the number of three digit numbers that can be made with 1, 2, and 3.

$!n$ is the number of **derangements** of n objects e.g. $!3$ means the number of three digit numbers that can be made with 1, 2, and 3 with no 1 in the hundreds position, no 2 in the tens position, and no 3 in the units position.

$n!!$ is not the same as $(n!)!$.

It is defined as $n = \begin{cases} 1 \times 3 \times 5 \dots \dots n & n \text{ odd} \\ 2 \times 4 \times 6 \dots \dots n & n \text{ even} \end{cases} \quad n \geq 2$

Other multifactorials can be defined similarly.

If n is fractional $[n]$ is the **floor** of n . $[n]$ is the largest integer less than or equal to n .

Similarly, $\lceil n \rceil$ is the **ceiling** of n . $\lceil n \rceil$ is the smallest integer larger than or equal to n .

So $\lfloor 1 \div 4 \rfloor = 0$ and $\lceil 1 \div 4 \rceil = 1$

Interesting formula: $!n = \left\lfloor \frac{n!}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \right\rfloor$

Note:

$$\sqrt{2} \approx 1.41 \quad \sqrt{3} \approx 1.73$$

$$!1=0 \quad !2=1 \quad !3=2 \quad !4=9$$

$$4!!=8$$

$$(3!)!=720 \quad (4!)!= 6.20448401 \text{ E}+23$$