

Here are symbols we use in math:

$\{ \}$ Set notation. For example, $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$.

\in **Element of.** E.g., $1 \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.

\exists **There exists.**

\ni **Such that.** In English, a is divisible by b if there is a k such that $a \div b = k$.

In math, a is divisible by b if $\exists k \ni \frac{a}{b} = k$, where a, b , and k are natural numbers.

\forall **All.** For example, in English: the **inverse property** is that for every real number not zero there exists a reciprocal that is also a real number, such that the product of the number and the reciprocal is one.

In math: if R is the set of real numbers, $\forall a \neq 0, a \in R, \exists \frac{1}{a} \in R \ni a \times \frac{1}{a} = 1$.

Δ **Change.** E.g., $\Delta y = y_2 - y_1$.

(a, b) **Ordered pair.** For example, the coordinates of a point (x, y) .

Sets :

$n(A)$ The **cardinality** of the set A . E.g., for $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $n(A) = 3$.

\sim **Equivalence.** Sets A and B are equivalent, $A \sim B$ if $n(A) = n(B)$

\emptyset The **empty** set. $\emptyset = \{ \}$.

$\cup \cap$ **Union and intersection** Union means or, intersection means and.

E.g., $A \cup B$ means the set of elements that are either in A **or** in B .

E.g., $A \cap B$ means the set of elements in both A **and** B .

Difference. $A - B$ means the set of elements that are in A and not in B .

E.g., $\{1, 2, 4\} - \{2, 3\} = \{1, 4\}$.

\subseteq **subset.** For example, let A and B be sets. $A \subseteq B$.

$A \subseteq B$ if $\forall a \in A$ then $a \in B$.

Another definition of equality: $A = B$ if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.

\subset **proper subset.** For example, if $A \subset B$, then $A \subseteq B$ and $A \neq B$.

Slash through symbol means not. E.g., \neq means not equal, or $\not\subseteq$ means not a subset.

E.g, $A \not\subseteq B$ means that A is not a subset of B .

E.g., $a \notin A$ means that a is not an element of the set B .

\aleph_0 Aleph null, the cardinality of the set of natural numbers, also called countable infinity.

E.g., $n(\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}) = \aleph_0$.

Let us not confuse this with ∞ , which is the last integer, as we count 1, 2, 3, ...

c The continuous infinity of real numbers. The number of points on a line between 0 and 1 is c .

iff :: **if and only if**. *A iff B* means *A* implies *B* AND *B* implies *A*. $A \leftrightarrow B$.

For example: $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ iff $a \times d = c \times b$.

∴ **Therefore.**

$f(x)$ **Function.** f is a function of x . Given x , this gives f . E.g., $f(x) = mx + b$.

We may write it as $y(x)$.

! **Factorial.** $n! = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots 1$

$\sum_{i=0}^n f(i)$ means we sum the function $f(i)$ from $i = 0$ to $i = n$.

Written out, this is $f(0) + f(1) + f(2) + \dots + f(n)$

E.g., $\sum_{i=1}^3 (i+1) = 2 + 3 + 4$.

In a similar fashion $\prod_{i=0}^n f(i)$ means we take the product of $f(i)$ from $i = 0$ to $i = n$.

Written out, this is $f(0) \times f(1) \times f(2) \times \dots \times f(n)$

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