

A set is a collection of objects gathered together.





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Order doesn't matter:

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Can write elements more than once:

$$\{ \diamondsuit, \heartsuit, \diamondsuit, \diamondsuit, \diamondsuit \} = \{ \diamondsuit, \heartsuit, \diamondsuit, \clubsuit \}$$

More ways to write a set

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 $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$ is the set of all integers from 1 to n.

More ways to write a set

More ways to write a set: use words

"The set of all even integers".

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"The set of all people over 80".

"The set of all even integers".

"The set of all people over 80".

"The set of all rational numbers less than 4".

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More ways to write a set: sets with special names

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 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}$ is the set of all natural numbers.

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 \emptyset is the empty set: the set with no elements.

More ways to write a set

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Can take just the *x* in a given set:

 $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} : x = 2k + 1 \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is the set of odd integers.

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Can take just the *x* in a given set:

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 $\left\{x\in\mathbb{Q}\ :\ x^2<0
ight\}$ is the empty set.

More ways to write a set

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 $\{x + y : x, y \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}\}$ is the set $\{2, 3, 4, \dots, 12\}$.

A and B sets.

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A is a proper subset of B if $A \subseteq B$ and $A \neq B$. (Write $A \subset B$.)

Set operations

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A, B sets.

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- (e) $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.

Standard way to prove that two sets *S*, *T* are equal: prove that $S \subseteq T$ and $T \subseteq S$.