

5 Five V



Corresponding ordinal: fifth.

The number 5 is the third odd number, the third prime number, and the fifth deficient number. Any prime number is deficient because its only proper divisor is 1.

The number $5 = 2^2 + 1$ is a *Fermat prime*—an odd prime of the form $2^k + 1$.

A *twin-prime pair* is a pair of primes that differ by 2. The number 5 is in the first twin-prime pair 3, 5. The number 5 is also in the second twin-prime pair 5, 7. It is the only number that appears in two twin-prime pairs.

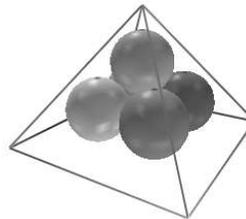
As the sum of four or fewer squares: $5 = 1^2 + 2^2$. Fermat proved that any prime of the form $4k + 1$ is a sum of two squares.

As the sum of nine or fewer cubes: $5 = 1^3 + 1^3 + 1^3 + 1^3 + 1^3$.

As the difference of two squares: $5 = 3^2 - 2^2$.

The number 5 appears in the Pythagorean triples [3, 4, 5] and [5, 12, 13].

The number 5 is a pyramidal number.



The number 5 is the only prime that is both the sum and the difference of two primes.

The number 5 is the only known *untouchable* odd number. If the Goldbach conjecture is true, then there are no other odd untouchable numbers. (Number Freak)

A plane closed polygon with five sides is called a *pentagon*.

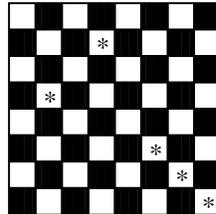
This five-pointed figure is called a *pentagram*:



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There are five regular polyhedrons: tetrahedron, hexahedron, octahedron, dodecahedron, and icosahedron.

The number 5 is the smallest number of queens you can put on a chess board and attack all the squares. Here is one configuration:



The fifth President of the United States was James Monroe.

The first ten amendments of the United States Constitution are called the *Bill of Rights*. The fifth amendment says that “No person shall be . . . subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.”

The fifth state to enter the Union was Connecticut.

The fifth largest state in the United States is New Mexico.

There are 5 Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

We have 5 fingers on each hand and 5 toes on each foot.

There are five players on a basketball team.

Five is the number of senses we have: hearing, sight, smell, taste, and touch.

Two people give a “high five” by slapping their right hands raised high.

A poker hand consists of five cards.

The ancients classified the physical universe into four elements: earth, fire, air, and water. But they also introduced another element, the “quinta essentia,” that made up the stars and planets. They thought that if they isolated it, they might be able to cure diseases and even make people immortal. The quinta essentia evolved into our word *quintessence*, which means the purest essence of a thing.