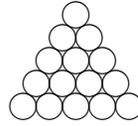


15 Fifteen XV



Corresponding ordinal: fifteenth.

The number $15 = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5$ is a triangle (see above). If you play pool, you know this.

The number 15 is the eighth odd number and the eighth composite number.

As a product of primes: $15 = 3 \cdot 5$.

The number 15 has four divisors: 1, 3, 5, 15.

The number 15 is the thirteenth deficient number: $s(15) = 1 + 3 + 5 + 9 < 15$.

As the sum of four or fewer squares: $15 = 1^2 + 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2$.

As the sum of nine or fewer cubes: $15 = 7 \cdot 1^3 + 2^3$. The number 15 is the first of only 15 numbers that can be written as the sum of eight cubes, but no fewer. The others are 22, 50, 114, 167, 175, 186, 212, 231, 238, 303, 364, 420, 428, and 454.

As the difference of two squares: $15 = 4^2 - 1^2 = 8^2 - 7^2$.

The number 15 occurs in five Pythagorean triples: $[8, 15, 17]$, $[9, 12, 15]$, $[15, 20, 25]$, $[15, 36, 39]$, $[15, 112, 113]$. The first and the last are primitive.

As a sum of three odd primes: $3 + 5 + 7$ and $5 + 5 + 5$

There are 15 three-digit prime palindromes: 101, 131, 151, 181, 191, 313, 353, 373, 383, 727, 757, 787, 797, 919, and 929.

There are $1 + 5$ primes less than 15. (Prime Curios)

The number 15 is the smallest *emirpimes*, a number that is the product of two primes (a *semiprime*) whose reversal (51) is also the product of two primes.

The fifteenth President of the United States was James Buchanan.

The fifteenth state to enter the Union was Kentucky.

The fifteenth largest state in the United States is Kansas.

There are 15 letters in “uncopyrightable” and “dermatoglyphics”, which are the two longest words that don’t repeat a letter. (Number Gossip)

The 15-puzzle is a sliding-square puzzle that became immensely popular in 1880 and continues to be popular today. It consists of blocks labeled 1 through 15 in a four-by-four box, so there is one vacant position. The idea is to slide the blocks around from one configuration to another. It turns out that it is impossible to go from one of the two configurations below to the other.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	15	14	

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	

A *meridian* is a great circle on the earth that passes through the poles. The standard meridians are 15 degrees apart. Because $15 \times 24 = 360$, each of the standard meridians marks an hour from the prime meridian, which goes through Greenwich, England.

The number 15 is the first point scored by a side in a game of tennis.

Cards adding up to 15 score in the game of cribbage.

A quarter of an hour is 15 minutes. In telling time, we speak of 4:15 as being *a quarter past four* and 2:45 as being *a quarter to three*.