

Stats / Introduction to permutations and combinations

You have to determine if the order matters or does not matter and then choose that allows you to choose which one to use and then you put it in the calculator.

Permutation - order matters.

Combination - order does NOT matter.

ALEKS Calculator Buttons

You have to choose whether the order matters or does not and pick the correct button on the calculator.



n is the total amount.

r is the amount you are choosing.

Introduction to permutations and combinations

Suppose we want to choose 3 objects, without replacement, from the 4 objects pencil, eraser, desk, and chair.

(If necessary, consult a [list of formulas](#).)

(a) How many ways can this be done, if the order of the choices **is** relevant?
 $nPr = 4P3$

(b) How many ways can this be done, if the order of the choices **is not** relevant?
 $nCr = 4C3$

4 total
 3 picking

permutation - order matters
 combination - order does not matter

