

Representation of sets:

1) Roster/Tabular/listing Method-

In this form, all the elements of a set are listed, the elements are being separated by **commas** and are enclosed within curly braces **{ }**.

Example: Set of all natural numbers less than 10

$$N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\} \quad \text{or} \quad N = \{2, 1, 5, 7, 3, 8, 9, 4, 6\}$$

Note:

- a) Order of element is not important
- b) Elements are not repeated

Example: SCHOOL = {S, C, H, O, L}, LETTER = {L, E, T, R}

2) Set-Builder form/Rule Method:

In this form all the elements of a set possess a single common property **p(x)**, which is not possessed by any other element outside the set. In such case, the set is described by **{x : p(x) holds}**

Example: $V = \{a, e, i, o, u\}$

$$V = \{x : x \text{ is a vowel in English alphabet}\}$$

Representation of a statement in both form:

Statement	Roster	Set-Builder
The set of all natural numbers between 10 to 14	$A = \{11, 12, 13\}$	$A = \{x : x \in \mathbb{N}; 10 < x < 14\}$
Set of all words using in FRIEND	$W = \{F, R, I, E, N, D\}$	$W = \{x : x \text{ distinct letter are used in FRIEND}\}$

Cardinality of sets:

- Sometimes we are required to know the size of sets.
- Cardinality of a set is defined as the total number of unique elements in a set or the number of elements in a set.

Example: $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ where cardinality = 6, because number elements in set $A=6$.

- It is denoted by the **modulus sign** on both sides of the set name i.e. **|A|**, or **card(A)**, or **n(A)**. Where **|A|** and **n(A)** are mostly used. So, the cardinality of above set A is **n(A)=6**.
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Cardinality of a Finite set:

- A finite set is a set with a finite number of elements and is countable.

Example: $B = \{a, b, c, d\}$ where $n(B) = 4$

- When set B is finite, $|B|$ or $n(B)$ will be the exact number of elements in the set B.
- Finite sets are also called numerable sets.

A set is said to be finite if –

- a) It is an empty set.
- b) if there is one to one correspondence between the elements in the set (Counting each element in a set once).

Examples:

- i) Suppose there is a set X that contains all English alphabets. Then the cardinality of set X is 26 because there are 26 letters in the English Alphabet. So, $n(X) = 26$.
- ii) If there is a set of months in a year, it will have cardinality of 12, as there are 12 months in a year. So, $n(M) = 12$.

Note:

A one to one (1-1) correspondence between two sets X and Y is another name for a function $f: X \rightarrow Y$.

Example: $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $Y = \{a, b, c\}$ where $n(X) = 3$, $n(Y) = 3$ therefore, $n(X) = n(Y)$ so X and Y are equivalent sets. One to one correspondence between X and Y are-

$$1 \rightarrow a, 2 \rightarrow b, 3 \rightarrow c$$

Cardinality of Countable set:

A set is called countable if –

- a) The set is finite.
- b) If there can be one to one correspondence between the elements in the set.

Example: let a set X and $X \rightarrow N$ i.e. $n(X) = n(N)$. where N is natural numbers.

- If a set is countable and infinite then it is called a countable infinite set. Ex: N (natural numbers), Z(Integers), Q (Rational numbers).
- For an infinite countable set, the cardinality is equal to the cardinality of the set of natural numbers.
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Cardinality of a Infinite set:

- A set that is not finite is called infinite set.
- A set is infinite if it is not empty and also cannot be put into 1-1 correspondence.
- Infinite sets are countable infinite and uncountable infinite.
- The examples of infinite sets include set of whole numbers, set of all integers, set of natural numbers.

- The cardinality of infinite sets is $n(B) = \infty$, where B is any infinite set.

Note:

Sets like natural numbers (N) and integers (Z) are countable though they are infinite because it is possible to list them.