

# Combinations

A combination is an arrangement of objects in which order does not matter

MATH → PRB → 2 permutation

•  $nPr$  or  $P(n,r)$

•  $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$

• order matters

MATH → PRB → 3 combination

•  $nCr$  or  $C(n,r)$

•  $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$

• order doesn't matter

## Single-Set

From a list of 10 books, how many different groups of 5 can be selected?

$n =$  total # of objects      10  
 $r =$  # of objects chosen      5

$C(10,5)$  OR  ${}_{10}C_5$

$\frac{10!}{(10-5)!5!}$

$= 252$

Hungry Howie's is having a special ...  
4 toppings for the price of 2

If they have 12 toppings to choose from, how many different pizzas can be made?

from, how many different pizzas can be made?

$${}^{12}C_4$$

$$C(12, 4) = 495$$

$$\frac{12!}{(12-4)!4!}$$

## Multiple Sets

multiply the combinations using the basic counting principle

$$nCr \cdot nCr \cdot nCr \dots$$

From a group of 4 men and 5 women, how many committees of 2 women and 3 men can be formed?

$$4C_3 \cdot 5C_2 = 40$$

A bag contains 3 red, 5 white, 8 blue marbles. In how many ways can you choose 2 red, 3 blue, and 1 white?

$$3C_2 \cdot 5C_1 \cdot 8C_3 = 840$$