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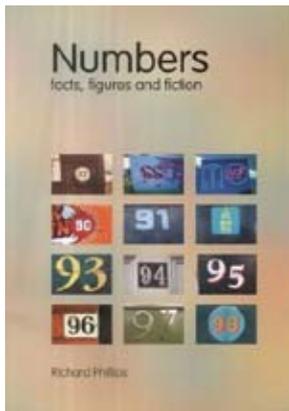
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January 2005

Reviews

'Numbers: facts, figures and fiction'

reviewed by Helen Joyce



Numbers: facts, figures and fiction

By Richard Phillips

This charming book is in its second edition (the first was published in 1994). It is about integers, with a short section for each number between 1 and 200, and a line for each between 201 and 999. There are "boxes" for interesting facts and definitions, such as "perfect number", and a few "large numbers" also make the cut, including 1729, the subject of a famous anecdote about Hardy and Ramanujan, and 10^{1000} , the googol. The book finishes with two pages about infinity, and then "hints, answers and more questions".

It is full of pictures, and the facts about numbers range from legal (16 is the age of consent) to incidental (44 is the international dialling code for the UK) to purely mathematical (30 is a pyramidal number) to deliciously irrelevant (forty is the only English number to have all its letters in alphabetical order). The text is littered with questions, and the book would make a lovely complement to David Wells' "Dictionary of curious and interesting numbers".

If the foundation of mathematical ability and pleasure is a close acquaintance with the first few numbers, then this book has a part to play in laying those foundations. And if you are well past the foundations stage, you should still enjoy dipping in and out of this attractive volume.

'Numbers: facts, figures and fiction'

Book details:

Numbers: facts, figures and fiction

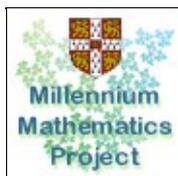
Richard Phillips

paperback – 144 pages (2004)

Badsey Publications

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Facts, Figures And Fiction. The nation fails to arrive at a consensus over a fresh census. All the provinces as well as the ethnic groups realised the power of large population figures and every group wanted to inflate its numbers. Under the 1974 act on delimitation of constituencies, the 207 National Assembly seats were as follows. General seats: NWFP-26, Punjab-115, Sindh-43, Baluchistan-7. Reserved seats: Women-10 and non-Muslims-6. In 1978, General Zia raised the number of non-Muslim seats to eight. In 1984, he further enlarged the National Assembly by increasing Muslim seats to 207, the seats for women to 20 and the non-Muslim seats to 10. There are "boxes" for interesting facts and definitions, such as "perfect number", and a few "large numbers". It is full of pictures, and the facts about numbers range from legal (16 is the age of consent) to incidental (44 is the international dialling code for the UK) to purely mathematical (30 is a pyramidal number) to deliciously irrelevant (forty is the only English number to have all its letters in alphabetical order). The text is littered with questions, and the book would make a lovely complement to David Wells' "Dictionary of curious and interesting numbers". If the foundation of mathematical ability and pleasure is a close acquaintance with the first few numbers, then this boo

The social and cultural changes of the last century have transformed death from an everyday fact to something hidden from view. Shifting between the practical and the theoretical, the professional and the intimate, the real and the fictitious, this collection of essays explores the continued power of death over our lives. It examines the idea and experience of death from an interdisciplinary [Show full abstract] perspective, including studies of changing burial customs throughout Europe; an account of a "dying party" in the Netherlands; examinations of the fascination with violent Start by marking "Numbers: Facts, Figures and Fiction" as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€¦ Want to Read. You will find the answers in Numbers. The book is full of facts, both mathematical and cultural, tantalising problems and anecdotes. A light-hearted reference book for all ages. This new edition has been updated Have you ever wondered how Room 101 got its name, or what you measure in oktas? Which number links Alice in Wonderland, rainbows and the Egyptian Book of the Dead? You will find the answers in Numbers. The book is full of facts, both mathematical and cultural, tantalising problems and anecdotes. A light-hearted reference book for all ages. This new edition has been updated with dozens 1 " The number 1 is NOT prime number, as many people believe. It is also the exact amount of butler schools in the US and the number of public telephones in Kabul. Square root 2 (or 1.41...) - " is also called Pythagoras' constant. Paper sizes (A4, A3 etc.) are all based on a single aspect ratio of the square root of two. 13 - One of the most widespread superstitious beliefs is that the number 13 is unlucky. So common is this that many hotels and office buildings in Europe and the United States do not have a room number 13 or a floor 13. We can all get a bit superstitious on Friday the 13th. Handpicked related content: 7 words to make your essays sound more academic. Full text views reflects the number of PDF downloads, PDFs sent to Google Drive, Dropbox and Kindle and HTML full text views. Total number of HTML views: 0. Total number of PDF views: 0 *. Loading metrics Abstract views.