

Expand and follow the pattern:

$$(x + y)^0 = 1$$

$$(x + y)^1 = x + y$$

$$(x + y)^2 = x^2 + 2xy + y^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^3 &= (x + y)(x^2 + 2xy + y^2) \\ &= x^3 + 2x^2y + xy^2 + x^2y + 2xy^2 + y^3 \\ &= x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^4 &= (x + y)(x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3) \quad \text{"using above expansion"} \\ &= x^4 + 3x^3y + 3x^2y^2 + xy^3 + x^3y + 3x^2y^2 + 3xy^3 + y^4 \\ &= x^4 + 4x^3y + 6x^2y^2 + 4xy^3 + y^4\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^5 &= (x + y)(x^4 + 4x^3y + 6x^2y^2 + 4xy^3 + y^4) \\ &= \dots \\ &= x^5 + 5x^4y + 10x^3y^2 + 10x^2y^3 + 5xy^4 + y^5\end{aligned}$$

Generalize:

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^n &= \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} y^r \\ &= \binom{n}{0} x^n y^0 + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y^1 + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^0 y^n\end{aligned}$$

Ex. Expand $(x-2)^6$.

$$\begin{aligned}(x-2)^6 &= {}_6C_0(x^6)(-2)^0 + {}_6C_1(x^5)(-2)^1 + {}_6C_2(x^4)(-2)^2 + {}_6C_3(x^3)(-2)^3 \\ &\quad + {}_6C_4(x^2)(-2)^4 + {}_6C_5(x^1)(-2)^5 + {}_6C_6(x^0)(-2)^6 \\ &= x^6 + 6(-2)x^5 + (15)(4)x^4 + 20(-8)x^3 + 15(16)x^2 + 6(-32)x + 64 \\ &= x^6 - 12x^5 + 60x^4 - 160x^3 + 240x^2 - 192x + 64\end{aligned}$$

Ex. Find the first four terms of $\left(2x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^9$.

$$\begin{aligned}\left(2x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^9 &= \sum_{r=0}^9 {}_9C_r(2x)^{9-r}(-x^{-1})^r \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^9 (-1)^r ({}_9C_r)(2^{9-r})x^{9-2r} \\ &= {}_9C_0(2^9)x^9 - {}_9C_1(2^8)x^7 + {}_9C_2(2^7)(x^5) - {}_9C_3(2^6)(x^3) + \dots \\ &= 512x^9 - 2304x^7 + 4608x^5 - 5376x^3 + \dots\end{aligned}$$