

# Standard and NonStandard Dice: An Exposition

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## If you roll two standard 6-sided dice then

1. 2: (1,1). ONE way. Prob  $\frac{1}{36}$ .
2. 3: (1,2), (2,1). TWO ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{18}$ .
3. 4: (1,3), (2,2), (3,1). THREE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{12}$ .
4. 5: (1,4), (2,3), (3,2), (4,1). FOUR ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{9}$ .
5. 6: (1,5), (2,4), (3,3), (4,2), (5,1) FIVE ways. Prob  $\frac{5}{36}$ .
6. 7: (1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1) SIX ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{6}$ .
7. 8: (2,6), (3,5), (4,4), (5,3), (6,2) FIVE ways. Prob  $\frac{5}{36}$ .
8. 9: (3,6), (4,5), (5,4), (6,3) FOUR ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{9}$ .
9. 10: (4,6), (5,5), (6,4) THREE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{12}$ .
10. 11: (5,6), (6,5) TWO ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{18}$ .
11. 12: (6,6) ONE way. Prob  $\frac{1}{36}$ .

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Coefficient of  $x^n$  is number of ways to get  $n$ .

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1. 12: TWO ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{18}$ .
2. 9: THREE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{12}$ .
3. 8: NINE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{4}$ .
4. 6: TWO ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{18}$ .
5. 5: TWELVE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{3}$ .
6. 4: FOUR ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{9}$ .
7. 3: THREE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{12}$ .
8. 2: ONE ways. Prob  $\frac{1}{36}$ .

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$$(x^{a_1} + x^{a_2} + x^{a_3} + x^{a_4} + x^{a_5} + x^{a_6})(x^{b_1} + x^{b_2} + x^{b_3} + x^{b_4} + x^{b_5} + x^{b_6}) = (x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x)^2.$$

## Is there a Non-Standard Labeling That... Cont.

$$(x^{a_1} + x^{a_2} + x^{a_3} + x^{a_4} + x^{a_5} + x^{a_6})(x^{b_1} + x^{b_2} + x^{b_3} + x^{b_4} + x^{b_5} + x^{b_6}) =$$

$$(x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x)^2 = x^2(x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1)^2 =$$

$$x^2(x+1)^2(x^2-x+1)^2(x^2+x+1)^2.$$

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What properties do the polys we are looking for have?

1.  $a_6 = 1$  and  $b_6 = 1$  since otherwise cannot get a 2. So both poly's have a factor of  $x$ .
2.  $(1^{a_1} + 1^{a_2} + 1^{a_3} + 1^{a_4} + 1^{a_5} + 1^{a_6}) = 6$ . So if  $f(x)$  is a factor need  $f(1) = 6$ .

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$$x^2(x+1)^2(x^2-x+1)^2(x^2+x+1)^2 =$$

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Since  $f(1) = 6$  and  $g(1) = 6$  we have conditions

$$1 \times 2^a \times 1^b \times 3^c = 6 \text{ and } 1 \times 2^{2-a} \times 1^{2-b} \times 3^{2-c} = 6.$$

So

$$a = 1 \quad b \in \{0, 1, 2\} \quad c = 1.$$



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So

$$a = 1 \quad b \in \{0, 1, 2\} \quad c = 1.$$

$b = 0$  and  $b = 2$  are symmetric so we just do  $b = 0$  and  $b = 1$ .

# The Non-Standard Labeling

**Case  $b = 0$ :** Then the polynomials for the dice are

$$x(x+1)(x^2+x+1) = x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 + x.$$

$$x(x+1)(x^2-x+1)^2(x^2+x+1) = x^8 + x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x.$$

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So the dice are (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4) and (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8).

GREAT- these are nonstandard dice that give the same probs as standard dice.

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So the dice are (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4) and (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8).

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**Case  $b = 1$ :** Then the polynomials for the dice are

$$x(x+1)(x^2-x+1)(x^2+x+1) = (x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x).$$

$$x(x+1)(x^2-x+1)(x^2+x+1) = (x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x).$$

So the dice are (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) and (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

The standard dice.

**Upshot** there is only ONE pair of nonstandard dice that give the same probabilities as the standard dice. That pair is (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4) and (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8).