



Mystery Number Patterns: Make Your Own!

A pattern is a sequence that repeats. There are patterns all around us! A pattern can be made up of numbers, colors, shapes, or other Odd-some things. Do you see the pattern here?:



Patterns don't always repeat. Sometimes they get bigger, or grow, like in this example: **12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22**. How the pattern repeats is called the **rule** of the pattern. In the example above, the rule of the pattern is +2.

Agents, create your own patterns using any numbers you'd like! Remember, zero is a number, and sometimes numbers go even lower than zero. Your pattern can too if you like.

For the first two patterns, write just the beginning of a number pattern. You'll write numbers in the first four spaces and leave the last four empty. Your pattern must grow or shrink, not just repeat numbers. For example: 16, 14, 12, 10, __, __, __, __.

The rule is -2. The numbers that would complete the pattern are 8, 6, 4, and 2. Now it's your turn!

Pattern 1

Pattern 2

____, ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____

Next, create a pattern with the four blanks between some of the numbers. For example: __, 6, __, 12, __, 18, __, 24. The rule is +3. The missing numbers are 3, 9, 15, and 21.

Pattern 3

Pattern 4

____, ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____ , ____

When you are finished starting your patterns, ask a friend or family member to try to figure out the rest. Be ready to explain the rule for the pattern that you used to create each one.

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