



# Math Mole

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*It feels like a Tuesday*

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- Today's Editor: Michael
- Wednesday: Alina

### Quotes:

*I think therefore I am.* – Rene Descartes

*The human mind has never invented a labor-saving machine equal to algebra.* – Unknown

### Puzzles:

**Father of Algebra:** Diophantus's youth lasted one sixth of his life. He grew a beard after one twelfth more. After one seventh more of his life, he married. 5 years later, he and his wife had a son. The son lived exactly one half as long as his father, and Diophantus died four years after his son.

How many years did Diophantus live?

**Apple a Day:** A shop sells apples at \$1 each. Each of these apples are wrapped in a special wrapper. You can trade 3 of these wrappers for 1 apple. If you have \$15, how many apples can you get altogether?

## Mathematician of the Day



Georg Friedrich Bernhard Riemann, 1826-1866, Germany.

- Riemann was born in Breselenz, Hanover (now Germany).
- Riemann had one brother and four sisters and was the second oldest of the six children. When Riemann was 20 years old, his mother passed away, but Riemann had a very close relationship with his father and family, in general, throughout his life. In 1862, Riemann married Elise Koch, and they had one daughter together.
- Until the age of ten, Riemann was taught by his father, who was a minister. In 1846, Riemann began studying theology at the University of Göttingen. He quickly changed his studies to math, though, and studied under Moritz Stern and Gauss. In 1847, Riemann went to Berlin University where he was taught by Steiner, Jacobi, and Eisenstein. Two years later, Riemann went back to Göttingen for his Ph.D.
- In the early 1850s, Riemann was appointed to a post in Göttingen. In 1857, he became a professor at the university. Riemann was eventually appointed to the chair of mathematics at Göttingen and elected to the Berlin Academy of Sciences in 1859. He was also elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1866.
- Theoretical physics was greatly influenced by Riemann's ideas about geometry of space. The Riemann zeta function also has a significant effect on both math and physics. Additionally, he defined what is today called the Riemann integral.
- Riemann died of Tuberculosis in Italy in 1866.
- Early on, Riemann was viewed as a good, but not great, student.

## Career Spotlight: Accountant

**Job Description:** An accountant is a certified financial expert in the jurisdiction of many countries. Accountants originally worked only in public practice, selling advice and services to other individuals and businesses, but today, in addition, many work within private corporations, the financial industry and various government bodies. Accountancy is the measurement, disclosure or provision of assurance about financial information that helps managers, investors, tax authorities and other decision makers make resource allocation decisions.

**Education:** A bachelor's degree is the minimum requirement, and to advance, you'll need additional certification or graduate-level education. Those in the accounting field can earn the Certified Public Accountant designation by meeting experience and educational exam.

**Work Condition:** Most accountants work in a typical office setting. Self-employed accountants may be able to do part of their work at home. Accountants employed by public accounting firms and government agencies may travel frequently to perform audits at branches of their firm, clients' places of business, or government facilities. Most accountants generally work a standard 40-hour week, but many work longer hours, particularly if they are self-employed and have numerous clients. Tax specialists often work long hours during the tax season.

**Salary:** Payscale reports that the median salary for an accountant makes around \$39,640 the first year, \$40,510 in the next 4 years and rises steadily from \$44,300 from 5 years on. An accountant will almost always be in demand, as the axiom goes, "there will always be death and taxes."

**Job Outlook:** CPA accountants will continue to be in high demand, especially as states increase the education and experience requirements for the certification. Certified Management Accountants and those with MBAs will also fare well. Having a specialty, such as information systems, government regulation or international business, will help you land a job. Those without a degree or certification and those vying for the upper-most echelons of accounting will find keen competition for jobs.

### Sources:

<http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Accountant/Salary>

[http://www.jobbankusa.com/career\\_employment/accountants\\_auditors/work\\_conditions.html](http://www.jobbankusa.com/career_employment/accountants_auditors/work_conditions.html)