

PROBABILITY

- 2018B 6. **Answer (D):** Three draws will be required if and only if the first two chips drawn have a sum of 4 or less. The draws (1, 2), (2, 1), (1, 3), and (3, 1) are the only draws meeting this condition. There are $5 \cdot 4 = 20$ possible two-chip draws, so the requested probability is $\frac{4}{20} = \frac{1}{5}$. (Note that all 20 possible two-chip draws are considered in determining the denominator, even though some draws will end after the first chip is drawn.)

- 2003A 8. **(E)** The factors of 60 are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, and 60.

Six of the twelve factors are less than 7, so the probability is $1/2$.

- 2005A 9. **(B)** There are three X's and two O's, and the tiles are selected without replacement, so the probability is

$$\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}{10}.$$

OR

The three tiles marked X are equally likely to lie in any of $\binom{5}{3} = 10$ positions, so the probability of this arrangement is $1/10$.

- 2005B 9. **(D)** An odd sum requires either that the first die is even and the second is odd or that the first die is odd and the second is even. The probability is

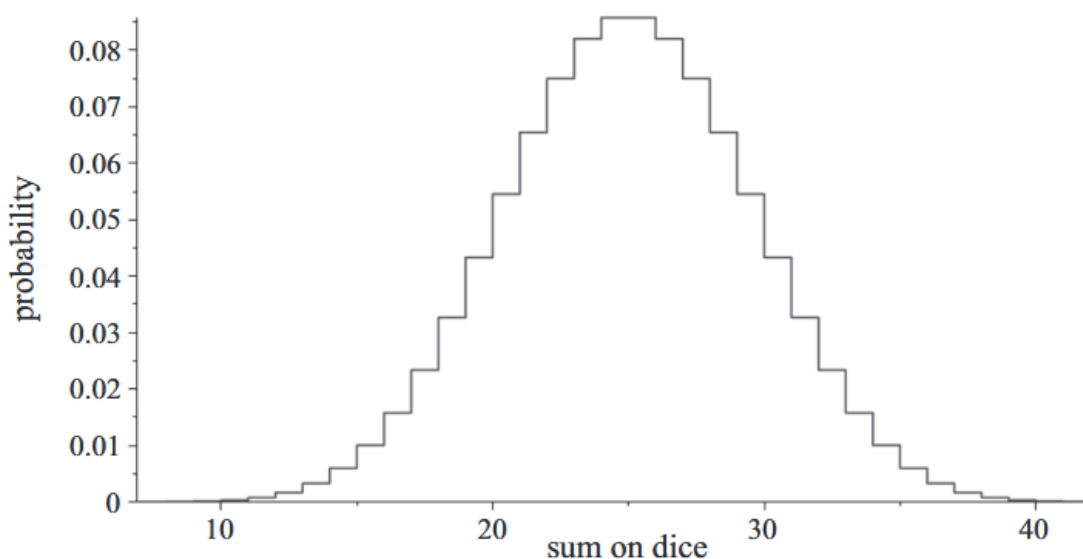
$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{9} + \frac{4}{9} = \frac{5}{9}.$$

- 2012A 9. **Answer (D):** The sum could be 7 only if the even die showed 2 and the odd showed 5, the even showed 4 and the odd showed 3, or the even showed 6 and the odd showed 1. Each of these events can occur in $2 \cdot 2 = 4$ ways. Hence there are 12 ways for a 7 to occur. There are $6 \cdot 6 = 36$ possible outcomes, so the probability that a 7 occurs is $\frac{12}{36} = \frac{1}{3}$.

- 2017B 9. **Answer (D):** The probability of getting all 3 questions right is $(\frac{1}{3})^3 = \frac{1}{27}$. Because there are 3 ways to get 2 of the questions right and 1 wrong, the probability of getting exactly 2 right is $3 (\frac{1}{3})^2 (\frac{2}{3}) = \frac{6}{27}$. Therefore the probability of winning is $\frac{1}{27} + \frac{6}{27} = \frac{7}{27}$.

2018B

9. **Answer (D):** Without loss of generality, one can assume that the numbers on opposite faces of each die add up to 7. In other words, the 1 is opposite the 6, the 2 is opposite the 5, and the 3 is opposite the 4. (In fact, standard dice are numbered in this way.) The top faces give a sum of 10 if and only if the bottom faces give a sum of $7 \cdot 7 - 10 = 39$. By symmetry, the probability that the top faces give a sum of 39 is also p . The distribution of the outcomes of the dice rolls has the bell-shaped graph shown below, so no other outcome has the same probability as 10 and 39.



- 2004A 10. **(D)** The result will occur when both A and B have either 0, 1, 2, or 3 heads, and these probabilities are shown in the table.

Heads	0	1	2	3
A	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$
B	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$	$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$

The probability of both coins having the same number of heads is

$$\frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{1}{16} + \frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{4}{16} + \frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{6}{16} + \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{4}{16} = \frac{35}{128}.$$