

In the game of Power Countdown, you use a set of numbers to make a target number, but unlike the usual Countdown game where you can use $+$, $-$, \times or \div , the only operations you can use are raising a number to a power, taking the reciprocal of a number, or finding the product of two numbers.

Each number can only be used once. You don't have to use all the numbers. There is often more than one way of making a particular target, so see how many different ways you can find.

Here is an example:

2	3	4	5	16	32	8
---	---	---	---	----	----	---

$$2^3 = 8$$

$$32^{\frac{1}{5}} \times 16^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$(16^{\frac{1}{4}})^3 = (16^3)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Can you find any other ways of making 8?

Are there any ways which use all the numbers?

Here is another selection.

2	4	5	25	27	81	125
---	---	---	----	----	----	-----

How many ways are there to make the target number of 125?

Below is a selection of numbers and five targets.

2	5	16	243	343	512
---	---	----	-----	-----	-----

49	89	1024	216	64
----	----	------	-----	----

How many different ways can you find to make each target?

Are there any targets you can't make? How close can you get?