

Name: _____ Date: _____

Number vs. Amount

The words **number** and **amount** are often confused and misused. Figuring out which one to use is often as easy as determining whether it's possible to count the people, places, or things to which you are referring.

Use **number** to refer to things that you CAN count.

Examples:

There is a large **number** of plastic flamingos on the lawn.

Olivia tripped over a **number** of toys on her way to getting her little brother out of bed.

Use **amount** to refer to a quantity—something that you CANNOT count.

Examples:

While baking cookies, Sebastian spilled a significant **amount** of flour on the floor.

No **amount** of scrubbing will remove the doodle that Tracy drew on the desk.

Directions: Underline the correct boldface word in each sentence below.

1. Pitchers generally have a smaller **number/amount** of hits than first basemen.
2. Tyrell reached into his backpack and pulled out a large **number/amount** of books.
3. My grandmother puts a skimpy **number/amount** of peanut butter on my sandwiches.
4. The twins stockpiled an enormous **number/amount** of snowballs on the porch.
5. There is always a certain **number/amount** of confusion backstage before the show starts.
6. Only a small **number/amount** of Amber's cousins were able to attend the reunion.

Directions: Write the correct word—*number* or *amount*—in each blank below. Then write your own sentence using *number* or *amount*.

7. Selena insists on having the same _____ of ice cubes in each glass.
8. Looking outside during the blizzard, I was astonished by the _____ of snow on the ground.
9. Mitch listens to a huge _____ of music, and he always knows the newest singers.
10. An increasing _____ of dentists have TVs in their examining rooms.
11. _____