

Googolplex Written Out

Wolfgang H. Nitsche

A circular progress indicator consisting of many small segments arranged in a circle. Most segments are filled black, representing progress. A few segments near the top right are white, indicating the remaining portion of the task. The number "100" is positioned at the top left outside the circle, and the number "15355" is written across the middle of the circle.

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A circular arrangement of 100 small black squares, with the number 15355 written in the center. The squares are arranged in a ring, and the number is centered within the ring.

Foreword

In 1940, the mathematician Edward Kasner published the book "Mathematics and the Imagination", in which he popularized the words googol and googolplex which his nephew suggested as names for big numbers.

The number googol has been defined as 1 followed by a hundred zeros:

The much larger number googolplex has been defined as 1 followed by a googol zeros. While this number can easily be written as

$$\text{googolplex} = 10^{\text{googol}} = 10^{(10^{100})}$$

using the exponential notation, it has often been claimed that the number googolplex is so large that it can never be written out in full.

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