

Prove that the sum of two even integers is even.

Restatement in symbols: $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^{\text{even}} \text{Even}(x + y)$.

Proof:

[Label where your proof starts.]

Let x and y be arbitrary even integers.

[This is a prose form of universal instantiation.]

By the definition of even, there exist integers k and p such that $x = 2k$ and $y = 2p$.

[We know x and y are even, so we invoke the definition of even. Notice that because the definition of even involves an existential quantifier, we had to pick two different variable names.]

By algebra, $x + y = 2k + 2p = 2(k + p)$.

[We are trying to make $x + y$ look like $2 \cdot$ (an integer).]

Let $m = k + p$. $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ by the closure of the integers under addition.

[Must show that this is an integer.]

$x + y = 2m$, and therefore $x + y$ is therefore even by the definition of even.

[We have shown what we wanted to prove, that $x + y$ is even, so we may stop here. Some people would continue with the following:]

Because x and y were chosen arbitrarily, we know $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^{\text{even}} \text{Even}(x + y)$.

[The statement above is a prose form of universal generalization.]

Alternative restatement in symbols: $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z} (\text{Even}(x) \wedge \text{Even}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x + y)$.

Proof:

[Label where your proof starts.]

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

[This is a prose form of universal instantiation.]

Assume x and y are even.

[This is a prose form of opening a conditional world.]

By the definition of even, there exist integers k and p such that $x = 2k$ and $y = 2p$.

[We know x and y are even, so we invoke the definition of even. Notice that because the definition of even involves an existential quantifier, we had to pick two different variable names.]

By algebra, $x + y = 2k + 2p = 2(k + p)$.

[We are trying to make $x + y$ look like $2 \cdot$ (an integer).]

$k + p \in \mathbb{Z}$ by the closure of the integers under addition.

[Must show that this is an integer.]

$x + y$ is therefore even by the definition of even.

[As in the first example, we have shown what we wanted to prove, that $x + y$ is even, so we may stop here. Some people would continue with language describing the closing of the conditional world, and the universal generalization.]