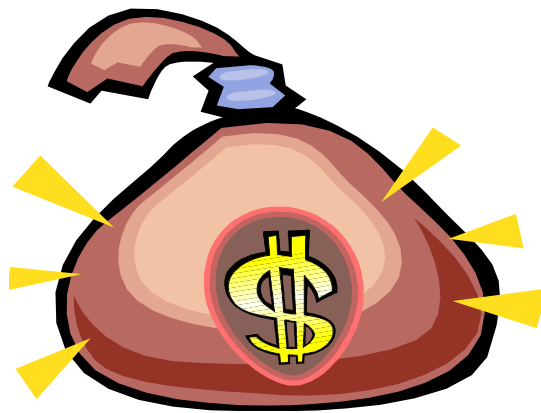


# How to Split the Pot

In the 1600's probability was born from a math problem that plagued the high-living noblemen: how to split the pot in a dice game that had to be discontinued.



Let's suppose that you and one of your cronies were playing a dice game of those times. Each of you has bet 32 pistoles (the equivalent of about \$200 in gold value today) that your chosen number will turn up three times on a die before the other player's number has done so. After the game has been under way for a while, your number, 6, has turned up twice; your opponent's number, 2, has turned up only once. At this point you receive a sudden summons to an audience with the young King Louis XIV. How should the players split the 64 pistoles on the table?