



MATH PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Spring 2025

Problem 1

Five mascots, including Pistol Pete and Paydirt Pete, line up for a photo. How many ways can the five mascots line up such that Pistol Pete and Paydirt Pete are not standing next to each other?

We welcome solutions from everyone. The undergraduate participant from the NMSU main campus with the most correct solutions at the end of the semester will receive an award of \$500.

Solutions must be mathematically rigorous and originally obtained by the participants. Participants will be notified if their solutions are correct within a week.

Deadline: Monday, February 17, 10 am

Next problem will be posted on February 17

Send solutions to: mathpotw@nmsu.edu

More information at: <https://math.nmsu.edu/activities/math-problem-of-the-week.html>