Compound Interest Formula

Harry inherits \$7600 on his 13th birthday. The money is invested into a G.I.C. that pays 3.75%/a compounded monthly. How much will it be worth on his 18th birthday?

A:
$$P(1+i)^{n}$$

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A: $7600(1+\frac{.0375}{12})^{60}$
= 49164.67

Compound interest can sometimes apply to loans. You can think of a loan as an savings investment from the bank's point of view.

Mr. Elliott doesn't pay off \$2000 on his credit card bill. Interest is charged at a rate of 17.5% compounded daily. If he waits a whole year to back off the bill, how much will he owe?

$$A = P(1+i)^{n}$$

 $A = 2000(1+\frac{.175}{365})^{365}$
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We can also use the compound interest formula if we want to find interest or principle.

Example: Susan will start university in exactly 2 years. How much money must she invest right now (at 2.5%/a compounded monthly) to have exactly \$4000 to pay her tuition. (This amount is often referred to as the present value of the investment).

$$P = P(1+i)$$
 $P = A (1+i)$
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$$P = \frac{4000}{(1 + \frac{015}{12})^{24}} \qquad PV = A = \frac{A}{(1 + i)^{5}}$$

$$P = 4000 (1 + \frac{015}{12})$$

$$P = 43805.12$$

Example

Gerry has a savings account that pays interest compounded monthly. He deposits \$5000 into the account. Two years later the account has a balance of \$5152.18. What interest rate did the savings account pay?

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