## Srinivasa Ramanujan: The Self-Taught Mathematics Prodigy




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Srinivasa Ramanujan was a self-taught mathematician who made significant contributions to the field. He was known for his work on number theory, analysis, and infinite series.

Ramanujan was born in 1887 in Erode, India. He showed an early interest in mathematics, but his formal education was limited. He was mostly selftaught, reading books and studying on his own.

In 1913, Ramanujan wrote a letter to G.H. Hardy, a renowned mathematician at the University of Cambridge. Hardy was impressed by Ramanujan's work and invited him to come to Cambridge. Ramanujan spent the next five years at Cambridge, collaborating with Hardy and other mathematicians. During this time, he published some of his most important work, including his famous results on modular forms.

In 1919, Ramanujan returned to India. He continued to work on mathematics, but his health was declining. He died in 1920 at the age of 32.

Despite his short life, Ramanujan made major contributions to mathematics. His work has been described as "the most remarkable that any mathematician of his age, or indeed of any age, has left behind." Ramanujan was a true genius, and his work continues to inspire mathematicians today.

## Ramanujan's Work

Ramanujan's work covered a wide range of topics in mathematics, but he is best known for his work on number theory. He made significant contributions to the theory of partitions, modular forms, and continued fractions.

In number theory, a partition of a number is a way of expressing that number as a sum of positive integers. For example, the number 5 can be partitioned in several ways, including $5,4+1,3+2$, and $3+1+1$. Ramanujan developed several important formulas for the number of partitions of a number.

Modular forms are a type of mathematical function that is defined on the upper half-plane. Ramanujan discovered several important properties of modular forms, including their relation to number theory. His work on modular forms has led to major developments in number theory and other areas of mathematics.

Continued fractions are a way of expressing a number as a sum of fractions. Ramanujan developed several important formulas for continued fractions. His work on continued fractions has led to major developments in number theory and other areas of mathematics.

## Ramanujan's Legacy

Ramanujan's work has had a profound impact on mathematics. His ideas have led to major developments in number theory, analysis, and other areas of mathematics. Ramanujan is considered one of the greatest mathematicians of all time.

Ramanujan's legacy is not only his mathematical work. He is also an inspiration to young mathematicians. His story shows that it is possible to overcome obstacles and achieve great things. Ramanujan is a reminder that anyone can achieve their dreams, no matter their circumstances.

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| File size | $: 5243 \mathrm{~KB}$ |
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| Enhanced typesetting $:$ Enabled |  |
| Word Wise | $:$ Enabled |
| Print length | $: 246$ pages |
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