

If the probability of hitting a target is  $\frac{3}{4}$  and 9 shots are fired independently, what is the probability of hitting the target once or not at all?

**Solution:**

Let the random variable X corresponds to the number of hits of a target out of 9 shots.

Here  $X \sim B(n, p)$ , where

$n = 9$  - number of shots which are fired independently

$p = P(\text{hitting a target}) = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75$

$$P(X = r) = P(r) = {}^n C_r p^r q^{n-r}$$

$q = 1 - p$

$r = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 9$

$$P(X = r) = P(r) = {}^9 C_r (0.75)^r (1 - 0.75)^{9-r} = {}^9 C_r (0.75)^r (0.25)^{9-r}$$

Required probability:

$$P(X \geq 1) = 1 - P(X = 0) = 1 - {}^9 C_0 (0.75)^0 (0.25)^9 = 1 - (0.25)^9 = 0.9999962$$

$$P(X = 0) = 0.0000038$$

**Answer:**

The probability of hitting the target once is 0.9999962.

The probability of hitting the target not at all is 0.0000038.