

Homework 2, due Friday, 1/31:

1. Let H and K be subgroups of G . Prove that $H \cap K$ is a subgroup of G .
2. Let H and K be subgroups of G . Prove that $H \cup K$ is a subgroup of G if and only if either $H \subseteq K$ or $K \subseteq H$.
3. Let a be an element of a group G . Prove that $C_G(a) = C_G(a^{-1})$.
4. Prove that if $H \leq G$, $K \leq G$, and $H \subseteq K$, then $H \leq K$.
5. Give an example of an infinite subset H of an infinite group G such that H is closed under the group operation (i.e. $h_1, h_2 \in H$ implies $h_1 * h_2 \in H$), but H is *not* a subgroup of G .
6. Let G be a group.
 - (a) Let $H \leq G$. Show that $C_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid g^{-1}hg = h \text{ for all } h \in H\}$.
 - (b) Let $g, h \in G$. Prove that $(g^{-1}hg)^n = g^{-1}h^n g$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
 - (c) Conclude that $C_G(h) \leq C_G(h^n)$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. (In other words, *if g commutes with h , then g commutes with all powers of h .*)