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Lara K. Pudwell* (lpudwell@math.rutgers.edu), Department of Mathematics, Hill Center,
Busch Campus, 110 Frelinghuysen Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854. *How to Cleverly Count
Pattern-Avoiding Words.*

A word w contains a permutation p as a pattern if w has a subsequence that is order-isomorphic to p ; otherwise, w avoids p . The study of pattern avoidance in permutations is well-studied and has been accomplished by many beautiful techniques. In 1998, Doron Zeilberger introduced the notion of prefix schemes for counting pattern-avoiding permutations. This is a divide and conquer technique driven by the pattern formed by the first few letters of the permutation. I will discuss one way of extending the method of prefix schemes to enumerate pattern-avoiding words and detail its success rate. (Received September 18, 2007)