

# Tree Induction

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- Prove a claim about trees using induction.

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- I.H. for a particular value of the variable covers an entire *family* of trees
- Always divide tree up at the top (root plus subtrees of its children)

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**Inductive step:** Let  $k > 0$  be an arbitrary natural number.

## Definition

A **fearsome** tree is a binary tree with each node labeled with a positive integer, such that:

- 1 If  $v$  is a leaf node, then  $v$  is labeled with 4 or 12.
- 2 If  $v$  has two children with labels  $x$  and  $y$ , then  $v$  is labeled with  $xy - 4$ .
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# Recap: Learning Objective

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- Prove a claim about trees using induction.