

Faa's Formula

$$[f(g(x))]^{(n)} = \sum_{\{j_k\}} \frac{n!}{\prod_k j_k! k!^{j_k}} f^{(\sum_k j_k)}(g(x)) \prod_k (g^{(k)}(x))^{j_k}$$

$\sum_k k \cdot j_k = n$

(for one of your projects, prove this using Taylor's series)

The coefficient is "n-choose j_k indistinguishable groups of k for each k ."

Examples (each row inside the table is a set $\{j_k\}$. The sum is over all such sets.)

$n=1$

		1	1
1	1		

 $[f(g)]^{(1)} = f^{(1)}(g) \cdot g^{(1)} = f^{(1)} g^{(1)}$

$n=2$

		2	1	1
1	1	0		
2	0	2		

 $[f(g)]^{(2)} = \frac{2!}{1!2!} f^{(1)} g^{(2)} + \frac{2!}{2!1!^2} f^{(2)} g^{(1)2} = f^{(1)} g^{(2)} + f^{(2)} g^{(1)2}$

$n=3$

		3	2	1
1	1	0	0	
2	0	1	1	
3	0	0	0	3

 $[f(g)]^{(3)} = \frac{3!}{1!3!} f^{(1)} g^{(3)} + \frac{3!}{1!1!1!2!} f^{(2)} g^{(1)} g^{(2)} + \frac{3!}{3!1!^3} f^{(3)} g^{(1)3}$
 $= f^{(1)} g^{(3)} + 3 f^{(2)} g^{(1)} g^{(2)} + f^{(3)} g^{(1)3}$

$n=4$

		4	3	2	1
1	1	0	0	0	
2	0	1	0	1	
2	0	0	2	0	
3	0	0	1	2	
4	0	0	0	4	

 $[f(g)]^{(4)} = \frac{4!}{1!4!} f^{(1)} g^{(4)} + \frac{4!}{1!1!1!3!} f^{(2)} g^{(1)} g^{(3)} + \frac{4!}{2!2!2!} f^{(2)} g^{(2)2}$
 $+ \frac{4!}{2!1!2!2!} f^{(3)} g^{(1)2} g^{(2)} + \frac{4!}{4!1!^4} f^{(4)} g^{(1)4}$
 $= f^{(1)} g^{(4)} + 4 f^{(2)} g^{(1)} g^{(3)} + 3 f^{(2)} g^{(2)2} + 6 f^{(3)} g^{(1)2} g^{(2)} + f^{(4)} g^{(1)4}$

See's Flanders, American Mathematical Monthly, v. 108 #6, June-July 2001

Johnson, " " " " , v. 109 #3, March 2002

Crack, " " " " , v. 112 #2, February 2005