Mind The GAPP Vol. 37

Genuinely Approachable Pencil Puzzles from the CtC Discord
November 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024

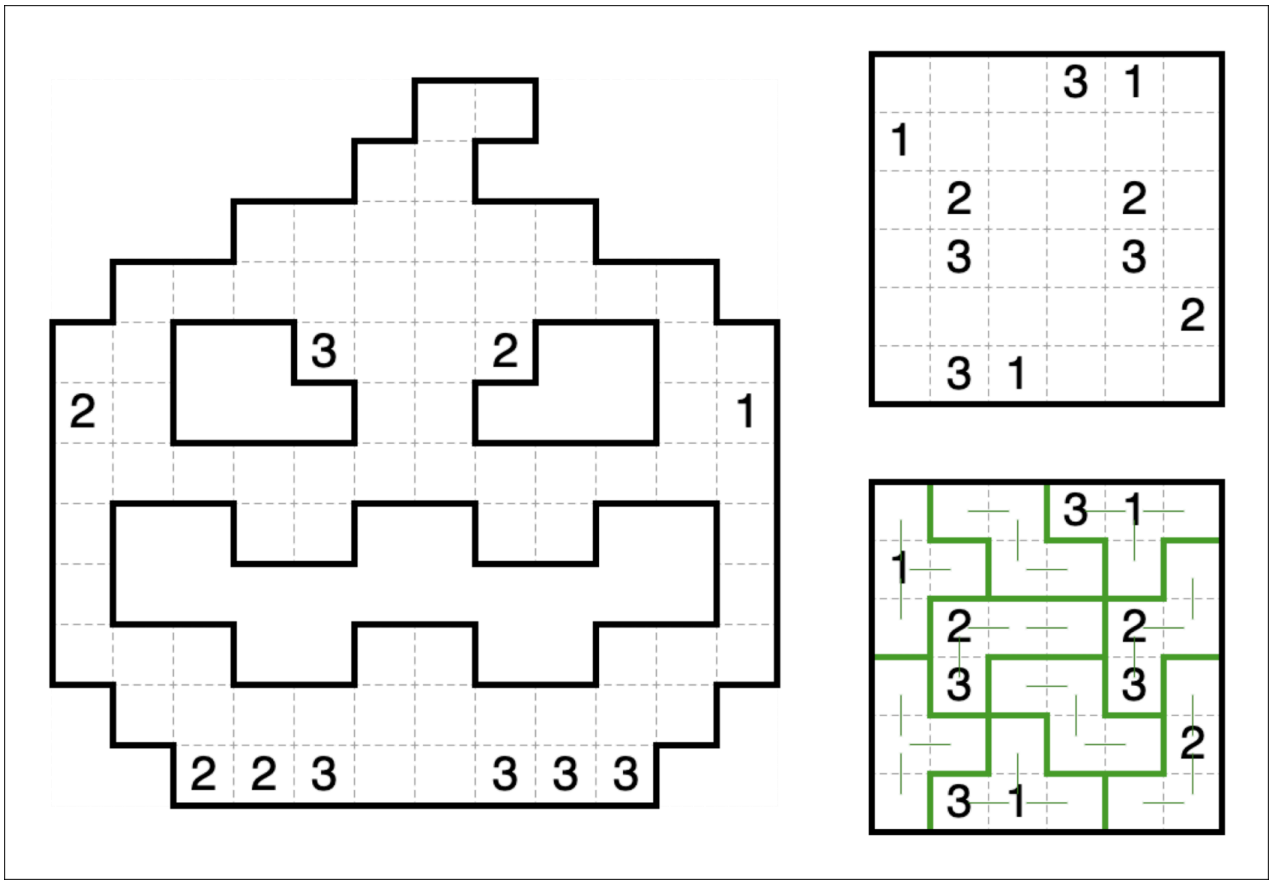
It's November, the month that's most well-known for being the 11th month of the year. This month we have reached the 1111th day of GAPP! Alas, it happened on 10 November, which is *one day* short of 11-11. Although you could argue that it still counts, since by the time Freddie posted the puzzle it's already 11 November in Kiribati.

In the last volume, we forgot to include a Pentopia in the bonus puzzles, so it has been included in this volume. We have seven bonus puzzles this time. Happy solving!

November 1, 2024: Four Cells | Walker

Boo! 👻 😱 Halloween is nearly over here at GAPP HQ… but we have a spooky surprise to wrap up the holiday! We carved this **Four Cells** pumpkin, which greets and frightens visitors from the HQ doorstep. And you'll need to carve it into more pieces to solve it! 🎃 :pika:

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of 4 orthogonally connected cells. (i.e. tetrominoes). Clued cells must have the indicated number of region borders or grid borders surrounding them. (O tetrominoes cannot have internal borders).



Example (puzz.link) by Tyrgannus: https://tinyurl.com/bn5vwtz9
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/mrkxrxav

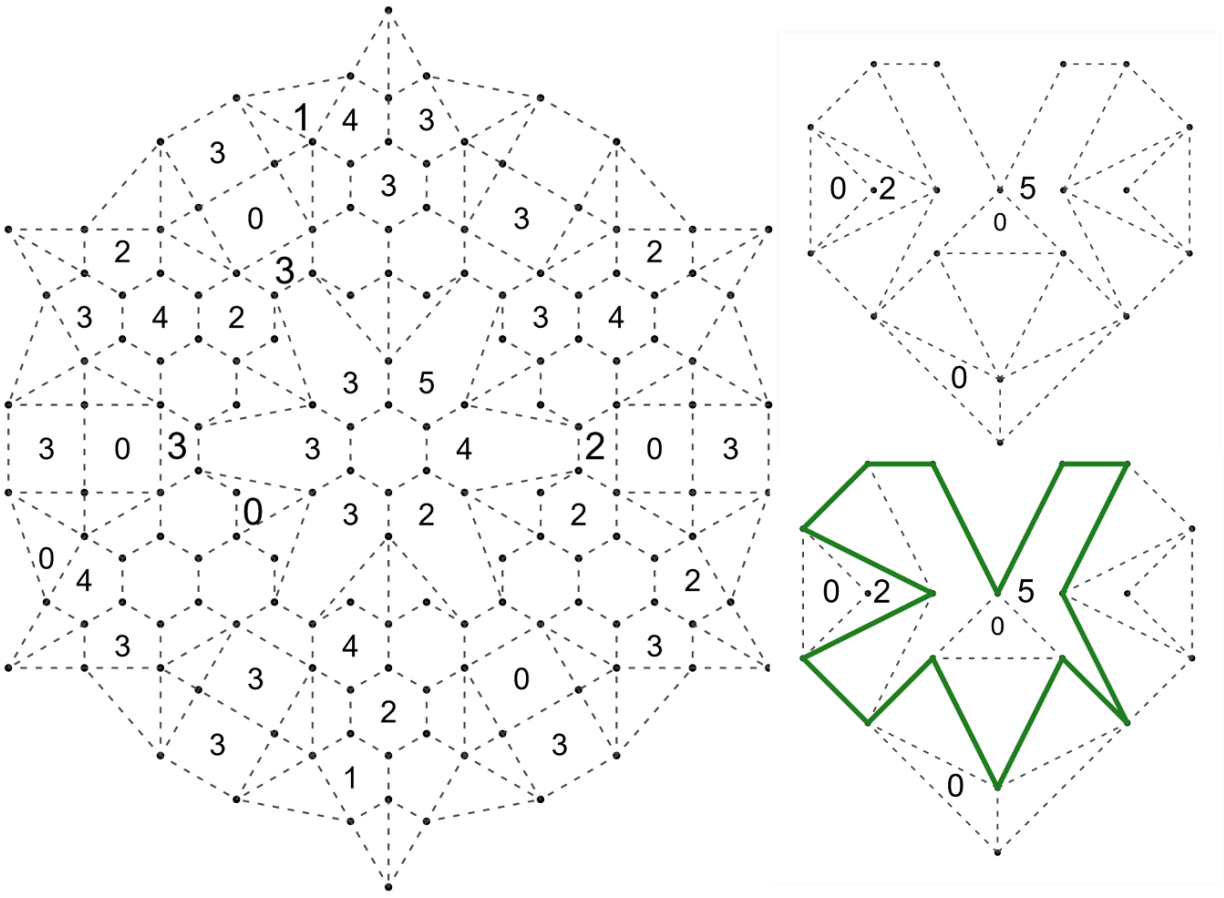
November 2, 2024: Slitherlink (Irregular) | Lavaloid

Today's ✨ *Strange-Shaped Supersized Saturday* ✨ is a **Slitherlink (Irregular)**! It started as my attempt at punchingcatto's speed setting competition on Oct 31. The challenge was to set a rangoli themed puzzle in 1 hour, but I ended up not finishing it in time. Happy Diwali!

Rules: Draw a loop over dotted lines which does not branch or intersect itself. Number clues show how many cell edges are used by the loop.

Interface note:

- Use *Edge* > *Free* to draw your answer. For answer checking to work, line segments must be drawn between the given points, without stopping between the points. If there are three gridpoints passed in a straight line, then the line must first be drawn between Point 1 and 2, then between Point 2 and 3.
- To help with scanning, you can use *Edge* > *Free* > *R (Red)* or *Edge* > *Free* > *Fat dots* to mark edges that cannot be used.



Example (Penpa+): http://tinyurl.com/yrp6ko38
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/22h3wpfm

November 3, 2024: Akari (Hexagonal) | bakpao

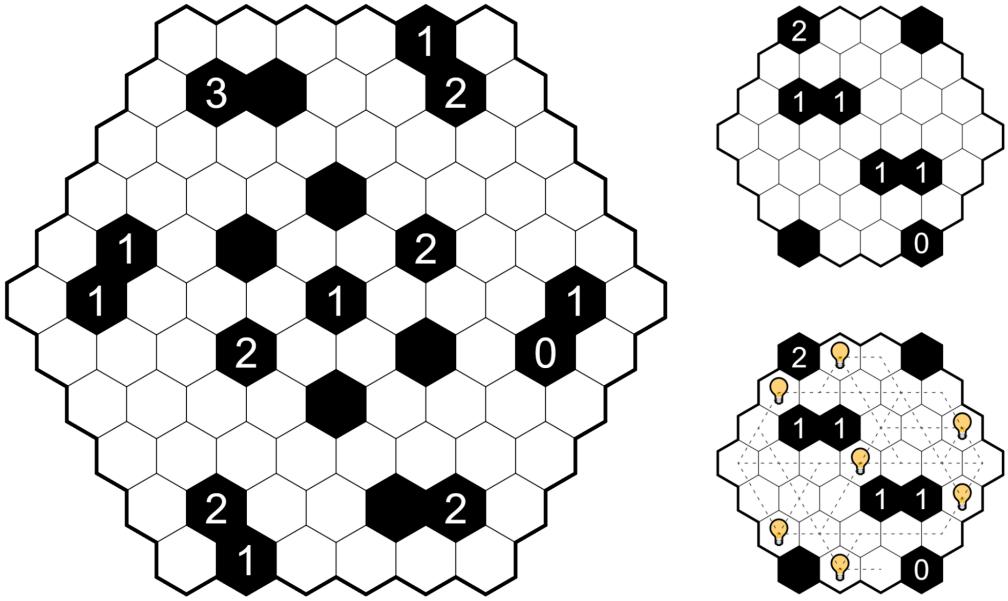
Calling all strange shape enjoyers! After the FourCells and Irregular Slitherlink, I present you with the third strange shaped puzzle in a row! Although admittedly, we've saved the least strange shaped puzzle for last... :thinkies~1:

I mentioned last time I'd write a bit about my experience at WSPC, which took place in Beijing last month. A GAPP intro would be a little too short for that, but I have since published my blog post recapping the event, so if you'd like to read about how I did, feel free to take a look! There's also a bunch of practice puzzles for types that featured in WPC that I wrote in the weeks before the event (though note these aren't necessarily GAPP level). I really like the Vista!
https://puzpao.blogspot.com/2024/10/104-wspc-2024-recap-and-practice-puzzle.html

Today's puzzle is an **Akari (Hexagonal)**!

Rules: Place lights in some cells so that every cell is illuminated. Lights illuminate the cell they are in as well as all cells seen in a straight line through all edges of their cell. Lights are obstructed by black cells. Lights may not illuminate each other. Clues represent the number of lights in the cells sharing an edge with the clue.

💻 **Interface note:** The akari composite mode in Penpa allows you to draw lines by dragging straight lines between cell centers, which is useful for marking cells a lightbulb illuminates. You can also place dots in cells that cannot contain lightbulbs (right click with mouse or double tab on mobile) and place cross marks on cell borders to indicate one of two cells must contain a lightbulb (on a border, right click with mouse or tap on mobile)

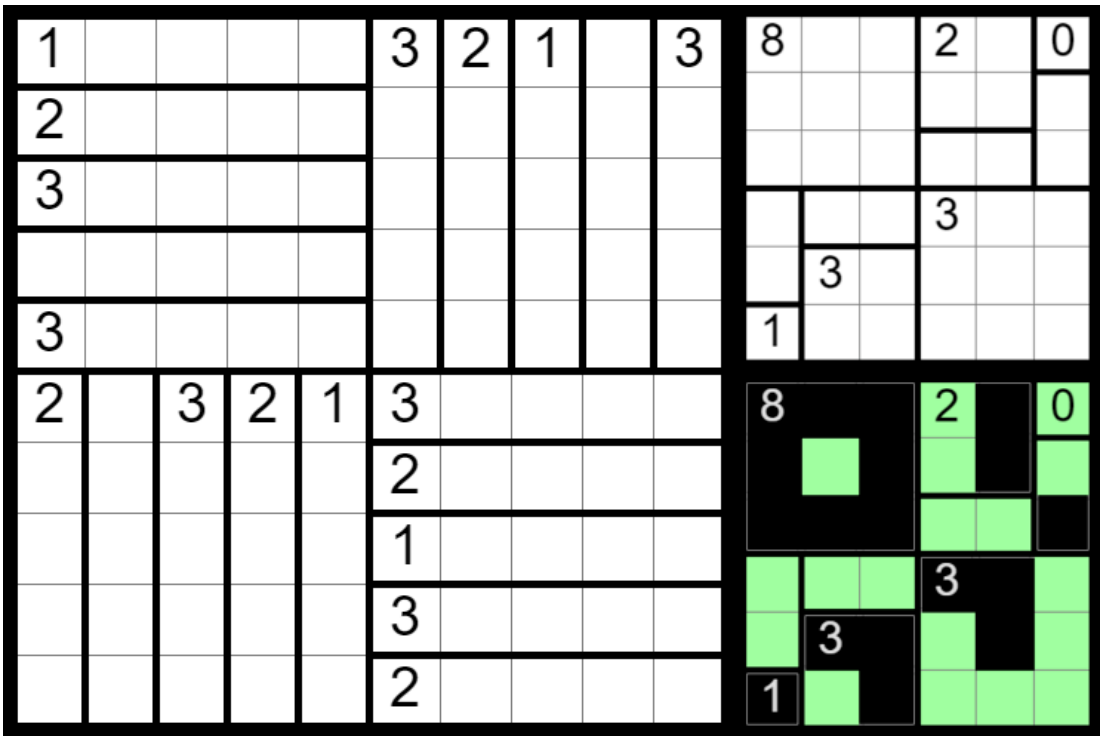


Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2c9nnkh4
Main (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/23yf9bcp

November 4, 2024: Cocktail Lamp | Menderbug

After all those strange shapes in the last few days, I think it's time to return to some good old tidy rectangles. Today's puzzle is a **Cocktail Lamp**.

Rules: Shade some cells such that all shaded cells within a region form a single orthogonally connected group. Shaded groups may not be orthogonally adjacent, but must all form a single diagonally connected network. Regions with numbers must contain the indicated amount of shaded cells. No 2x2 region may be entirely shaded.



Example (pzprxs) by Tyrg: https://tinyurl.com/mr3wdcj7
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/53d5y7e7

November 5, 2024: Slitherlink (Sheep and Wolves) | Freddie Hand

Today's puzzle is a **Slitherlink (Sheep and Wolves)**. No cabbage or boat, luckily.

Rules: Connect some pairs of orthogonally adjacent dots to form a single non-intersecting loop. To be clear, all line segments are horizontal or vertical, not diagonal. Clues represent the number of edges drawn surrounding the clue (up to four). Sheep must be inside the loop, and wolves must be outside the loop.

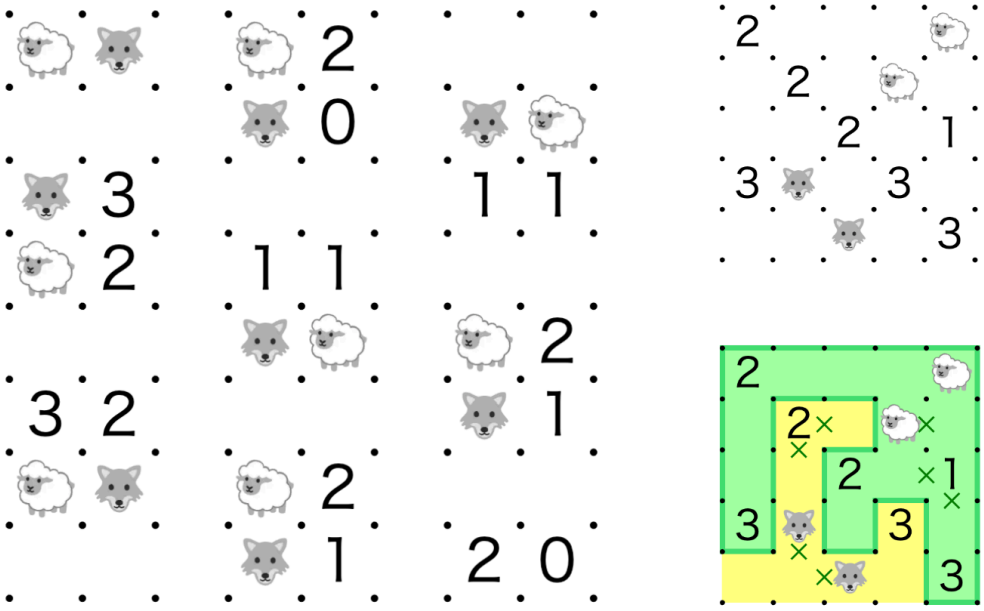
Solving Note: Inside/outside colouring is generally useful in Slitherlink, but is particularly important for this variant. There are a few properties of colouring that are useful:

- If two adjacent cells do not/cannot have a line segment between them (which you can mark with an "x" on the edge), then they are either both outside the loop or inside the loop.
- If two adjacent cells have a line segment between them, then one of them is inside the loop and one of them is outside the loop.
- For a cell on the border of the grid, if there is an edge between the cell and the outside of the grid, then that cell is inside the loop, and if there is no edge, then that cell is outside the loop.

If you wish to rely even more heavily on colouring, the following are helpful:

- No 2x2 area can be a checkerboard of inside and outside cells.
- All cells inside the loop must be connected; all cells outside the loop must connect to the edge of the grid.

There is a tickable "allow inputting background color when cell center is clicked" option that is highly recommended.



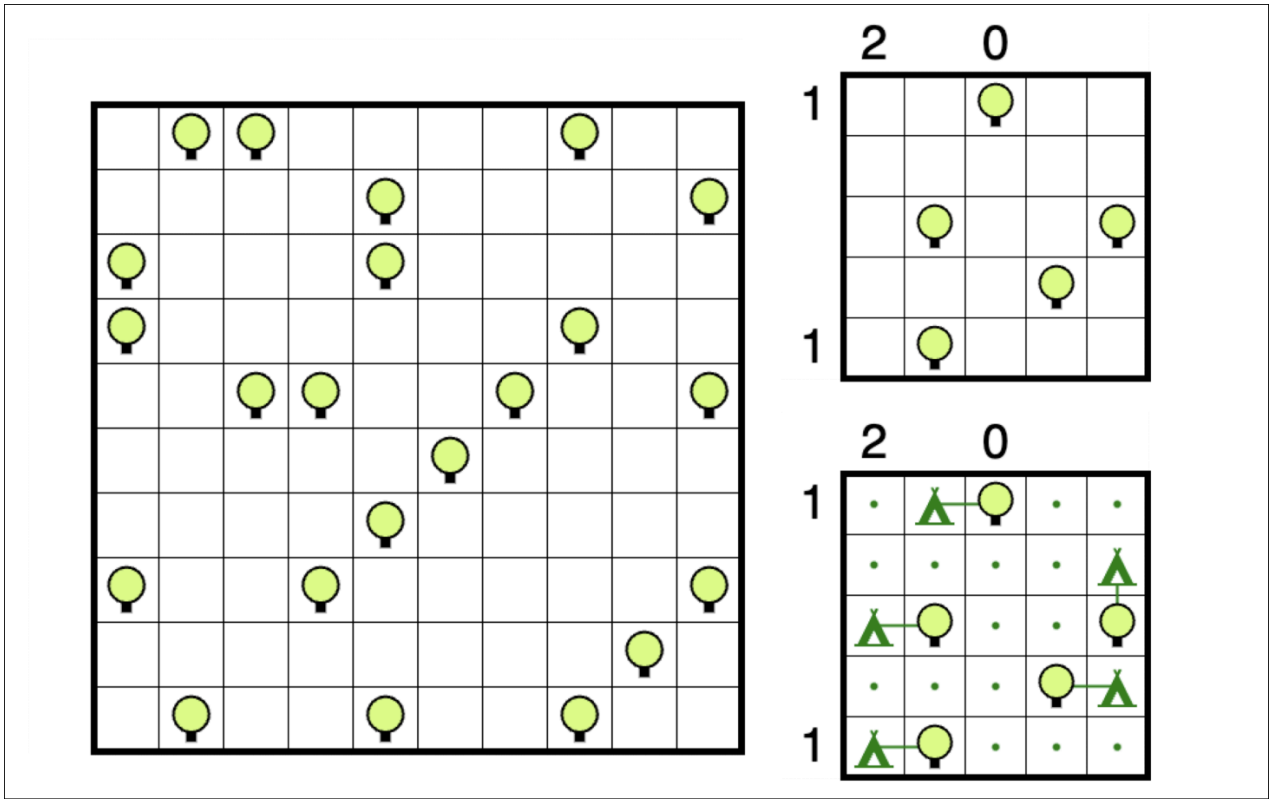
Example (pzprxs) from pzprxs rules page: https://tinyurl.com/53k4n5mn
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/zfkn5dzt

November 6, 2024: Tents | Walker

This weekend was a busy one - I walked over 20 miles! So over the start of this week, I'm planning to relax, sit outside, and solve all of my friends' puzzles that I missed during the weekend. Today's GAPP is a **Tents** without any outside numbers, showing off some common deductions involving just tree clues.

Rules: For each tree in the grid, place a tent in an empty orthogonally adjacent cell, connecting to it. Tents may not touch one another, not even diagonally. A clue given outside the grid represents the number of tents in the corresponding row or column.

Here's a **GAPP 101**: Look for places where, if a tent goes in one direction, another tree has no possible locations for its tents.



Example (puzz.link) from puzz.link rules page: https://tinyurl.com/5ed8pbcj
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/yckwpy4u

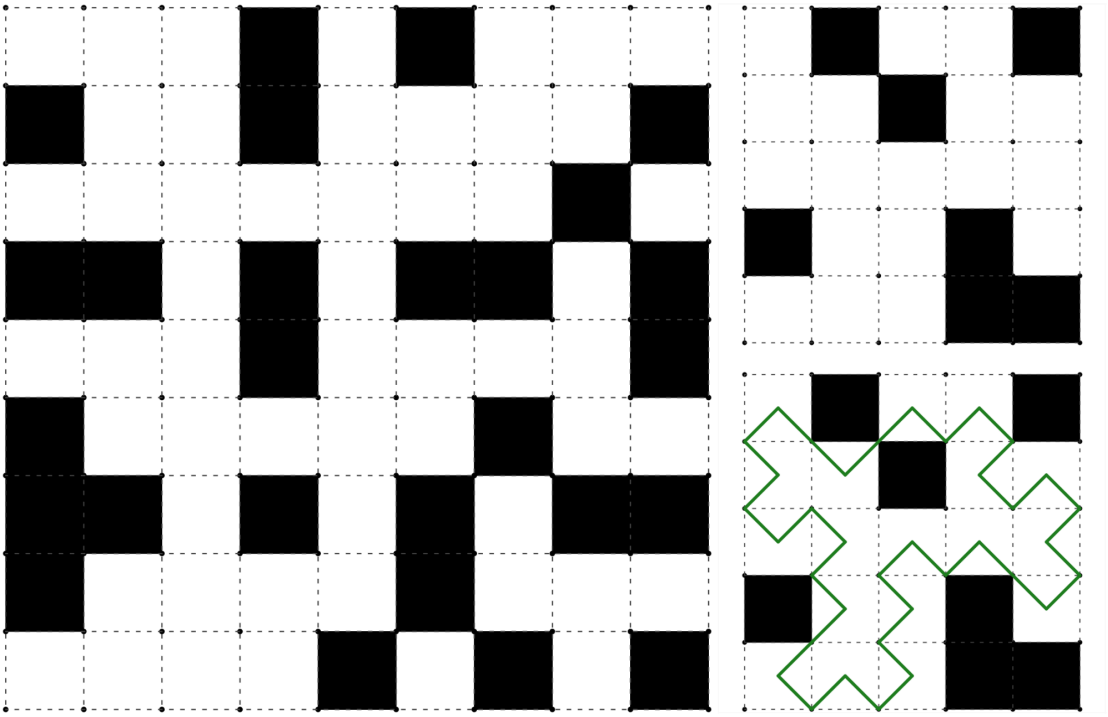
November 7, 2024: Bunnyhop | Lavaloid

Today's GAPP is a Hempuli genre -- **Bunnyhop**! It features two things I didn't know about Penpa before (Thanks Mender):

- You can rotate Tetrakis Square grids by 45 degrees.
- If you rotate a grid after removing some cells, the new width and height will be the smallest bounding box of the remaining cells.

Rules: Draw "elbows" in each unshaded cell, i.e. bent lines that connect two adjacent corners of the cell. Elbows must form a single non-branching loop.

Interface note: If the answer check doesn't work but you believe your solution is correct, try checking for accidental edges along shaded cells, as they might be easy to miss.



Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/272rvdxs
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2d6v7q6j

November 8, 2024: Tapa (Aqre) | bakpao

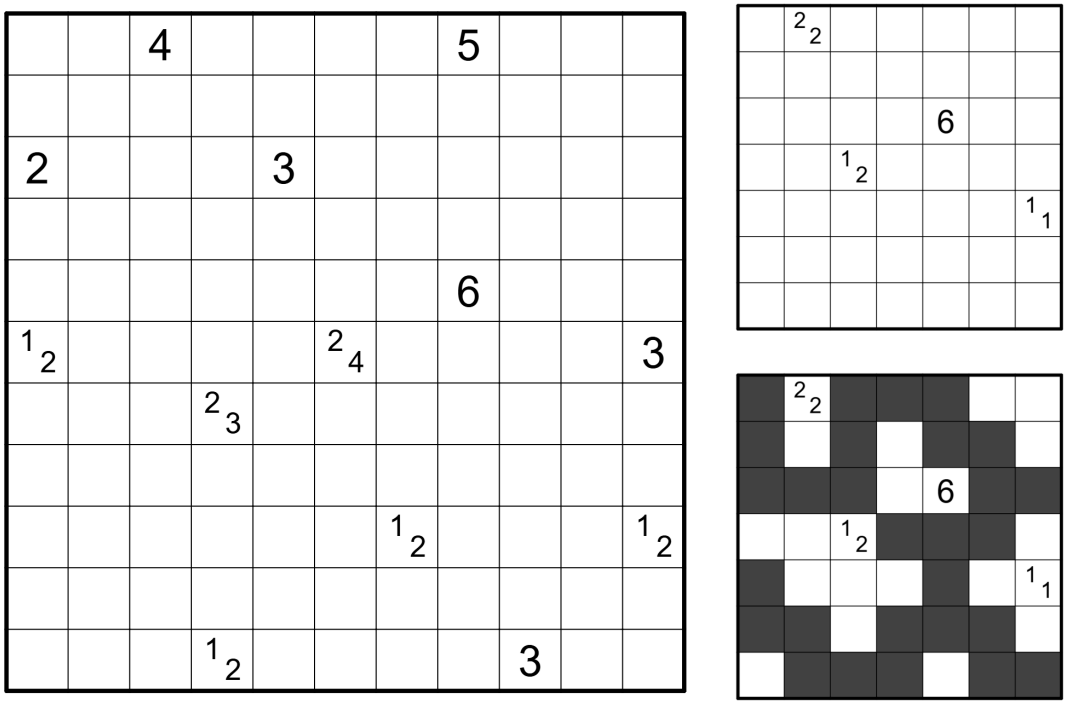
We haven't had a "We haven't had a "we haven't had an X in a while" intro in a while" intro in a while.

We haven't had a Tapa variant in a while.

Actually, that's a lie - I just recently did Tapa (Palindrome). What can I say? When inspiration is low, variant tapa never lets me down.

Today's puzzle is a **Tapa (Aqre)**!

Rules:
Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area and no 2x2 region is entirely shaded. Clues cannot be shaded, and represent the lengths of the blocks of consecutive shaded cells in the (up to) eight cells surrounding the clue. There may not exist a run of more than three consecutive shaded or unshaded cells horizontally or vertically anywhere in the grid. Note that clued cells also count as unshaded cells!

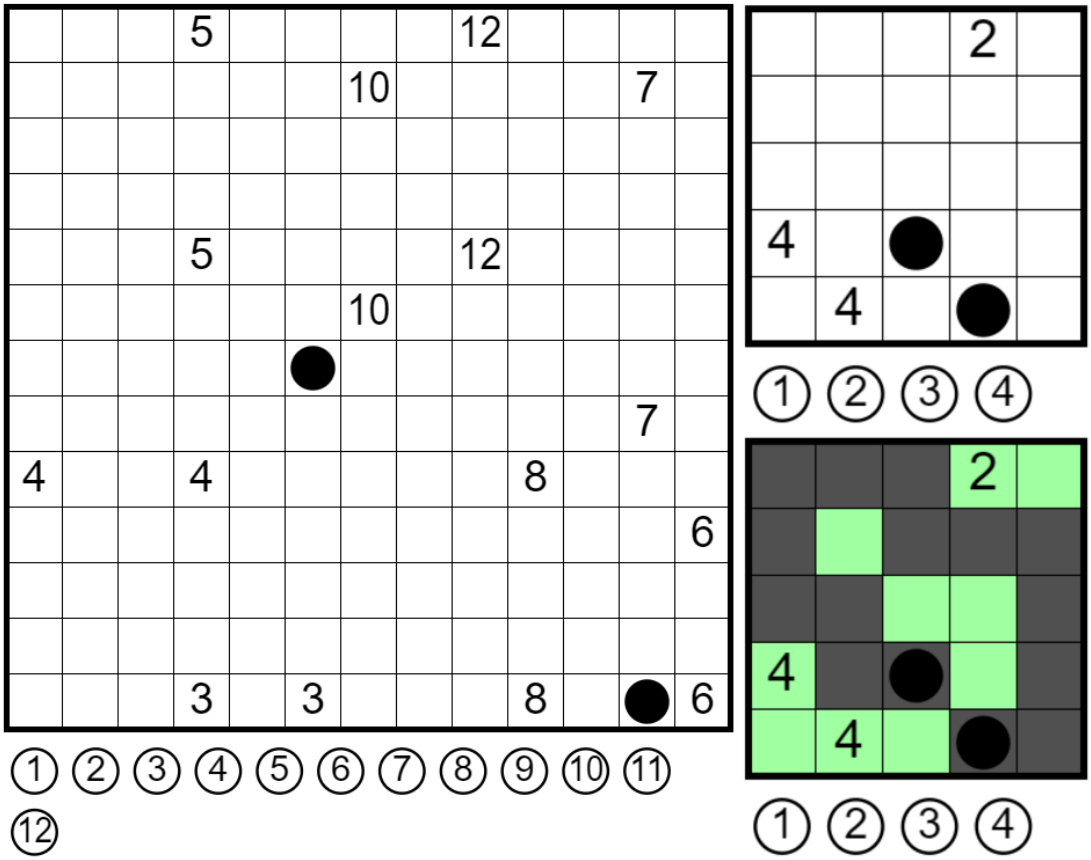


Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/299quatr
Main (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2xznq75t

November 9, 2024: Snake Egg | Menderbug

From the first week of GAPP, only a single genre remains which was never featured on a Supersized Saturday. Until today! Here is a supersized **Snake Egg**, which first appeared on day 6 of this series. Now the earliest genre that hasn't been embiggened yet is day 9's.... *checks notes*... Kropki. :clodworry:

Rules: Shade some cells to form a non-intersecting path which does not touch itself orthogonally. Circles mark the ends of the path. Exactly one orthogonally connected area of unshaded cells must exist of each size from the range given outside the grid. Cells with numbers cannot be shaded, and represent the size of the area they're in.



Example (pzprxs) by Walker: https://tinyurl.com/ytws8ef2
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/ypu7hnyv

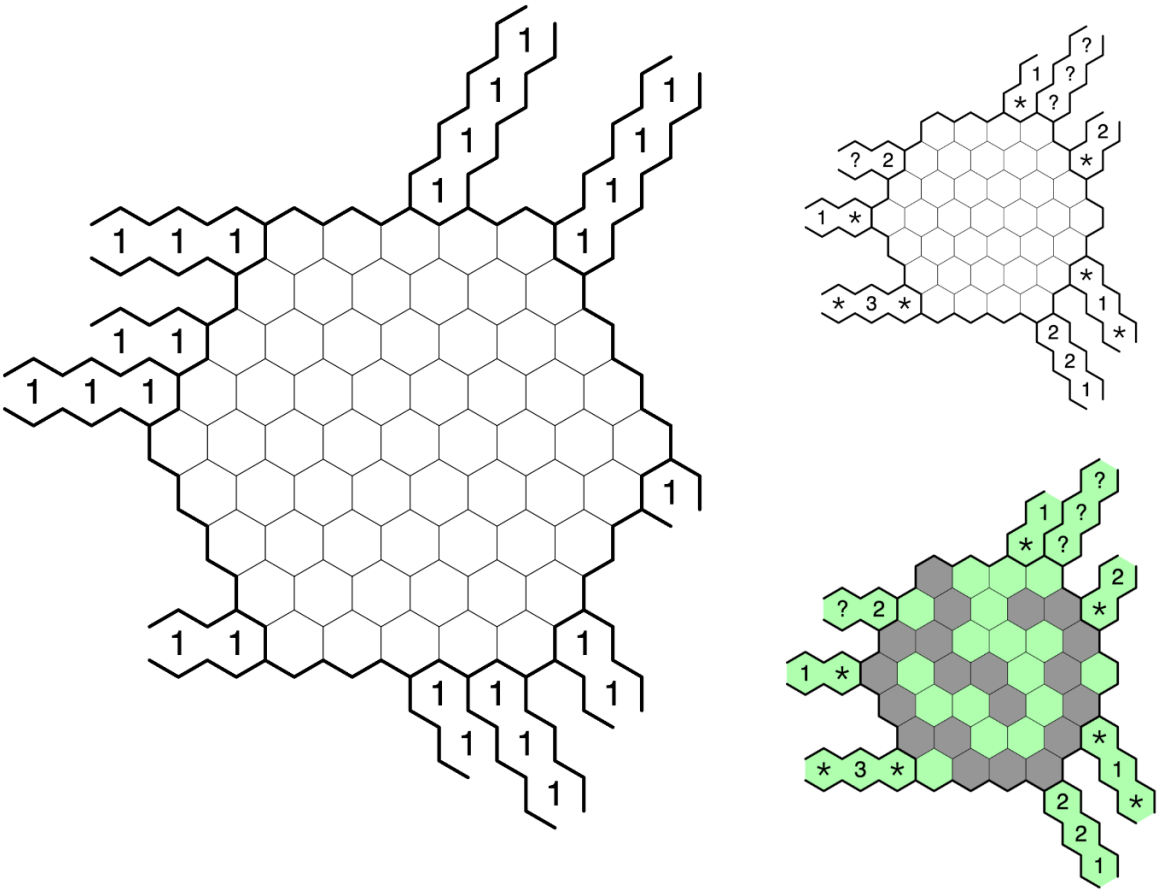
November 10, 2024: Cross the Streams (Hex) | Freddie Hand

Today is the 1111th day of GAPP! So we're celebrating with this **Cross the Streams (Hex)**.

Be warned - this puzzle is extra hard, so it comes with a flashing red warning sign and a record *eleven* GAPP 101s, aka a **GAPP 1111**. (ok, not actually).

Rules: Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. No "triangle" of 3 cells (i.e. 3 cells that share a point) can be entirely shaded. Clues outside the grid represent the lengths of the blocks of consecutive shaded cells in the corresponding row or column, in order. A question mark represents one block of an unknown number of cells. An asterisk represents any number of blocks of shaded cells, including none at all.

All vertical clues and columns, whether slanted left or right, should be read from top to bottom.

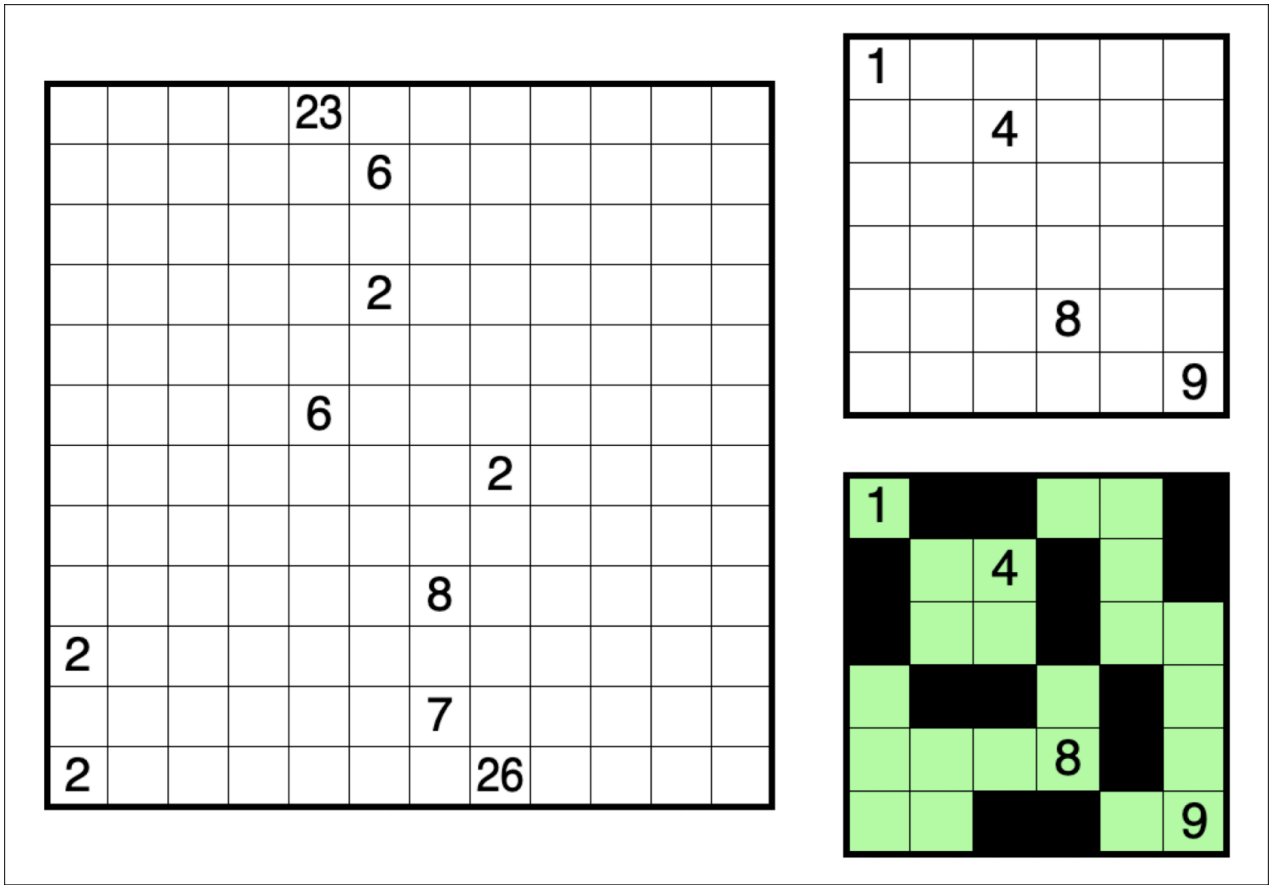


Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2b2zbrsb
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2ylopxpc

November 11, 2024: Norinuri | Walker

Today's GAPP is a **Norinuri**, with two large numbers! I generally don't like to count large numbers, and try to make sure they're either maximal or minimal (as large as possible / as small as possible, given the other clues.) In this case, the numbers are minimal…

Rules: Shade some cells to divide the grid into regions. Each shaded cell must share an edge with exactly one other shaded cell. Clues cannot be shaded, and every orthogonally connected area of unshaded cells contains exactly one clue, the value of which represents the size of the area.

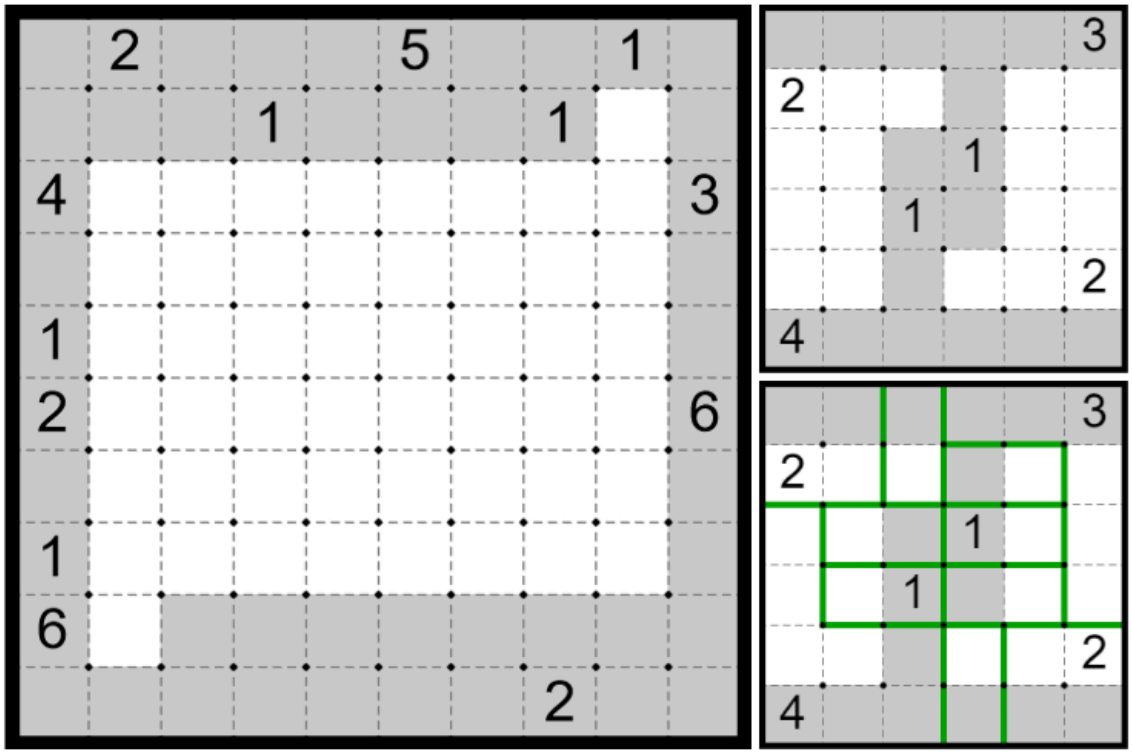


Example (puzz.link) by Jovi: https://tinyurl.com/22hzcj5d
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/ycxxtfrv

November 12, 2024: Double Choco | Lavaloid

Today's GAPP is a **Double Choco**! I'm not sure where the middle part of the puzzle went, but I'm sure y'all could still figure it out.

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of orthogonally connected cells, each containing a connected group of white cells and a connected group of grey cells, with the property that the shape of the white cells is identical to the shape of the grey cells, allowing rotations and reflections. Clued cells must belong to a region containing the indicated number of white cells and the indicated number of grey cells.



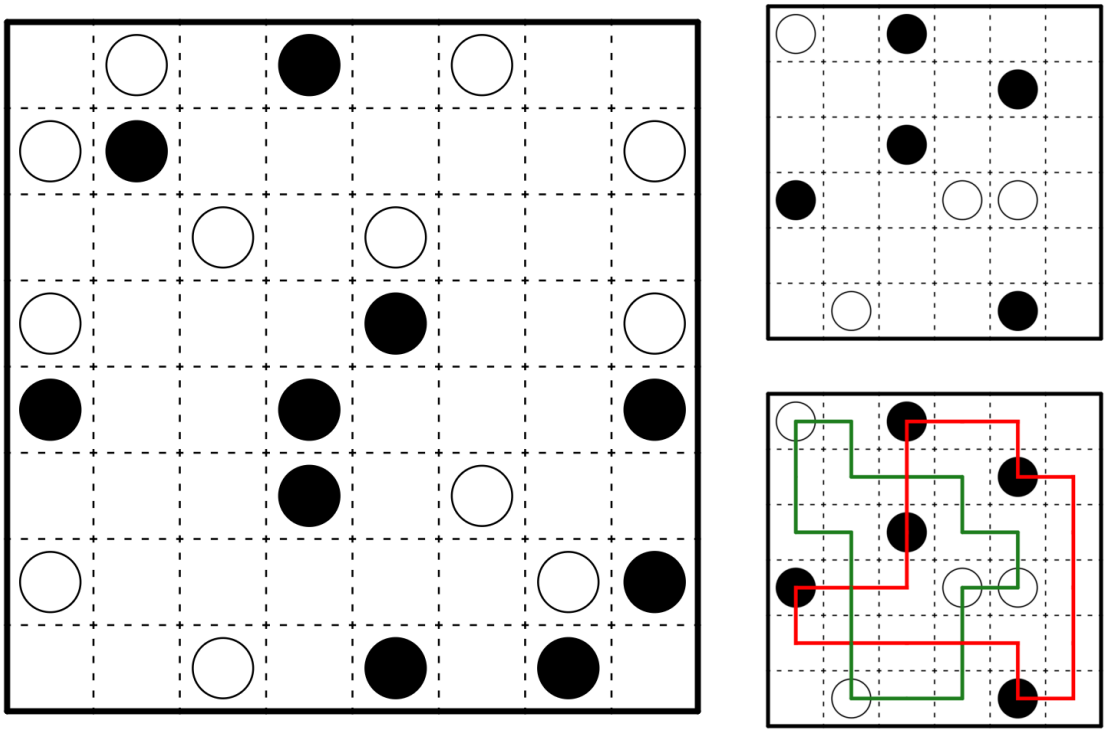
Example (puzz.link) by jovi: https://tinyurl.com/mvwexdn2
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/4yknfprs

November 13, 2024: Double Marble | bakpao

It's a double Double feature! Today's puzzle is a **Double Marble**. ~~Stay tuned for Choco Marble tomorrow!~~

Rules: Draw two loops through the centers of some cells. The loops may intersect each other only in cells without circles, but may not turn at their intersection or otherwise overlap. The loops may not intersect themselves. One loop passes through all white circles, the other loop passes through all black circles.

💻 **Interface note:** You may find the puzzle easier to solve when using two colors to distinguish the different loops (see example). You can do this by switching from the preselected Composite mode to Line mode and using any two colors you choose. Do note however that for answer check to trigger, both loops must be redrawn in green.



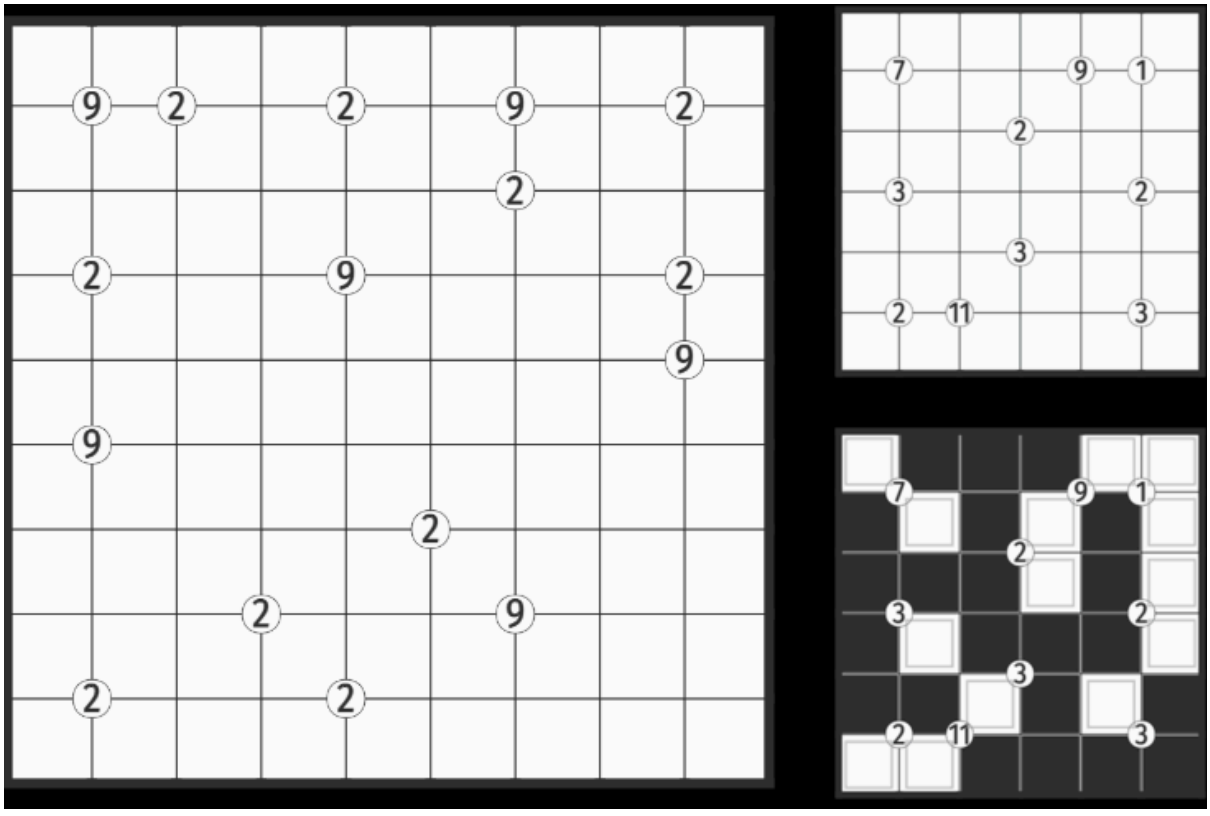
Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2bkgucb8
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/29zvrcdu

November 14, 2024: Landvermessung | Menderbug

Landvermessung (also known as *Land Survey* or *Land Measurement*) was added to Kudamono this week, which is a great excuse to revisit this wonderful genre.

Rules: Shade some cells such that **no closed loops exist among the shaded cells (not even a 2x2)**. A clue indicates the number of cells in the shortest path of shaded cells that visits all of those touched by the clue.

A little **GAPP 101** which you probably only need if you can't find a start at all: (ROT13) Pyhrf terngre guna guerr zhfg nyjnlf or fheebhaqrq ol n purpxreobneq, jvgu gur gjb funqrq pryyf pbaarpgrq ol n cngu bs gur vaqvpngrq yratgu.



Example (Kudamono) by Tyrg: https://tinyurl.com/bdcpb26j
Example (Penpa+) by Tyrg: https://tinyurl.com/4mv8224s
Puzzle (Kudamono): https://tinyurl.com/3fx5e8a3
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2bzrtzv6

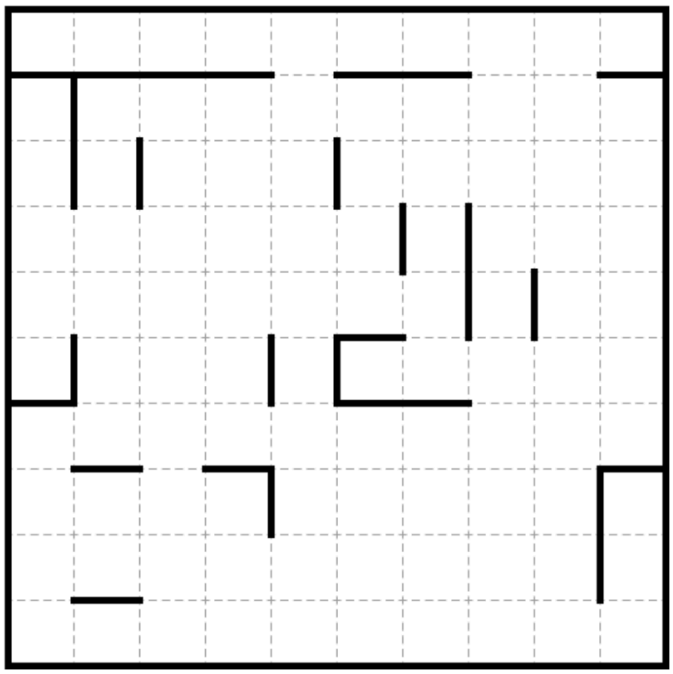
November 15, 2024: Pentominous (Borders) | Freddie Hand

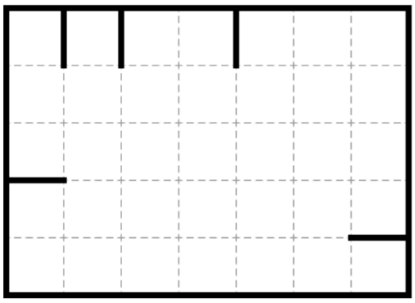
It's been a long time since our last **Pentominous (Borders)**. I like the fact that this variant is completely independent of pentomino labelling decisions. So I'd like to propose a new naming system to be used in today's puzzle:

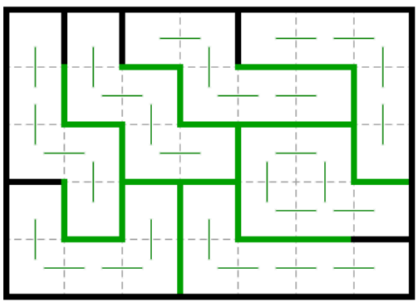
F: God
I: -_-
L: The Walking Stick
N: Z
P: The Blob
T: ⊥
U: The Crab
V: The Chevron
W: Waluigi
X: The Blokus Opening
Y: Yasmin
Z: Zachary

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of five orthogonally connected cells so that no regions of the same shape share an edge, counting rotations and reflections as the same. Clued cells must belong to a region with the pentomino shape associated with that letter. Borders must separate two different regions.

I've included Penpa+ links in case you like prefer to solve pentomino puzzles with colouring; this should work with answer check since Penpa+ treats edges between two different colours as being drawn in.





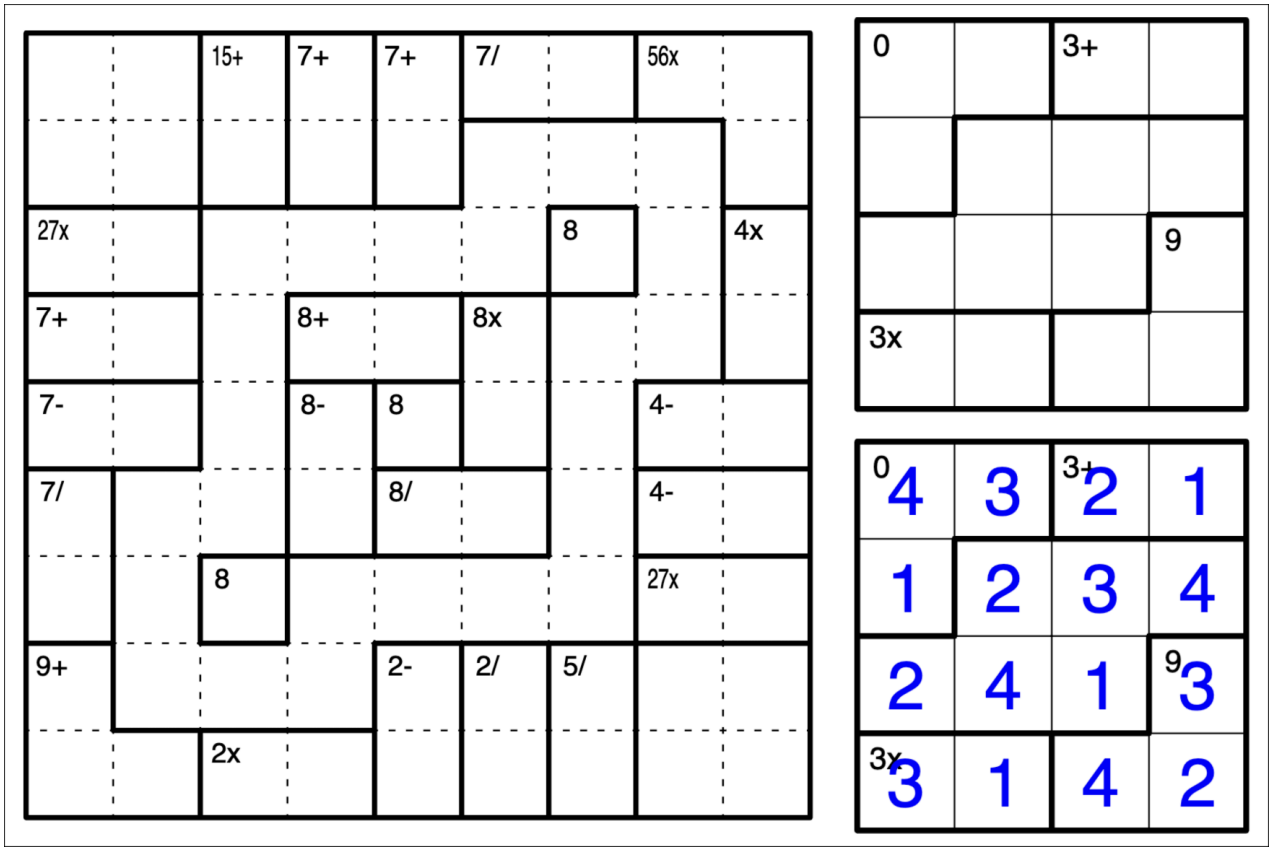


Example (Puzz.link, by jovi): https://tinyurl.com/4dyaa8ks
Example (Penpa+, by jovi): https://tinyurl.com/2ypkoltq
Puzzle (Puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/23n9287h
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/22eqw7j8

November 16, 2024: TomTom | Walker

While I'm not delivering the highly anticipated Supersized Kropki today, I did realize that we haven't had a number placement puzzle in a little while! So here's a Supersized **TomTom**, themed around my favorite number, 8. Like a lot of Latin Square genres, TomTom can take a while to solve on a large grid (and especially on mobile), so the time standards for this puzzle are longer than usual for GAPP. You can do it! 😄 🎉

Rules: Place a number from 1 to N into each cell so that each row and column contains every number from that range with no repeats, where N is the side length of the grid. A clue represents the value obtained by applying an operation iteratively on the numbers in the region the clue is in. If no operation is given, it may be any of +, -, ×, or ÷. Subtraction and division in regions with more than two numbers are handled by taking the largest number and subtracting/dividing all the others. A region with a single cell contains the number in its clue.



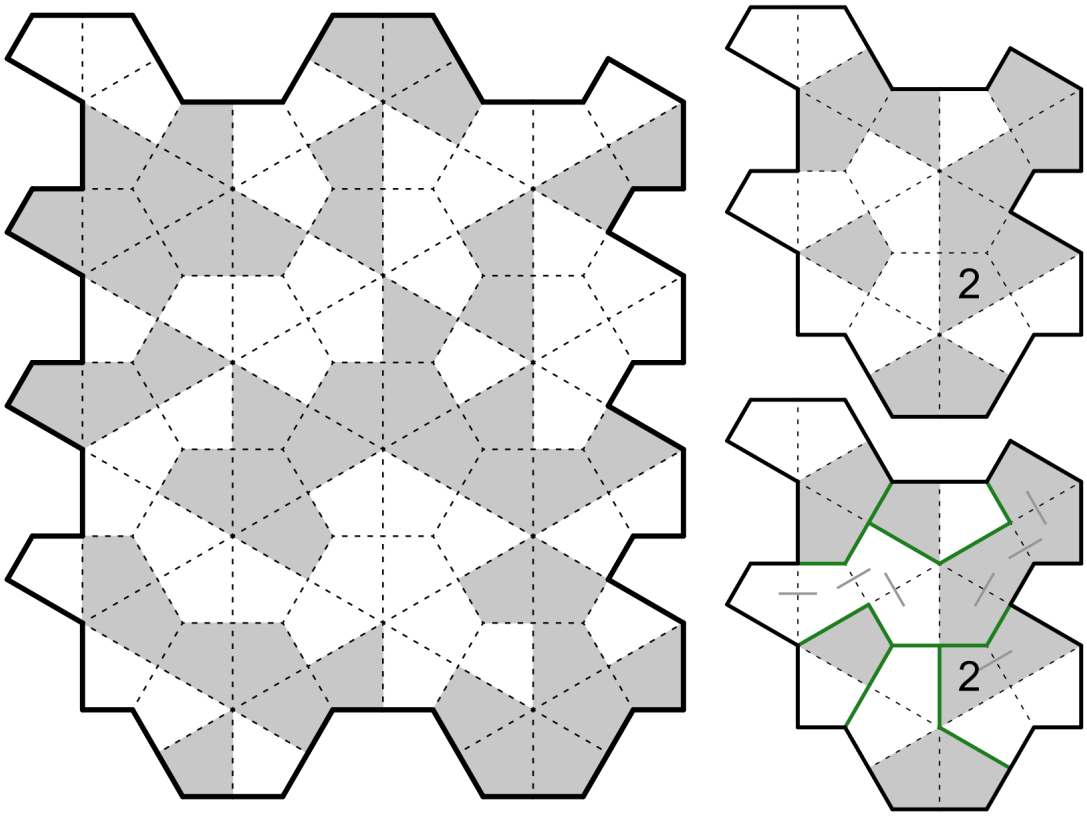
Example (Penpa+) by clover: https://tinyurl.com/2gt5ov5w
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/23s88ce3

November 17, 2024: Double Choco (Deltoidal Trihexagonal) | Lavaloid

Today's ✨ *Strange-Shaped Sunday* ✨ is... another Double Choco?

So the last Double Choco was set a while ago as a backup puzzle. Then a few days ago I was scrolling my ideas list for strange-shaped ideas and saw that I have a half-finished **Double Choco (Deltoidal Trihexagonal)**, and that's where today's puzzle came from.

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of orthogonally connected cells, each containing a connected group of white cells and a connected group of grey cells, with the property that the shape of the white cells is identical to the shape of the grey cells, allowing rotations and reflections. Clued cells must belong to a region containing the indicated number of white cells and the indicated number of grey cells.

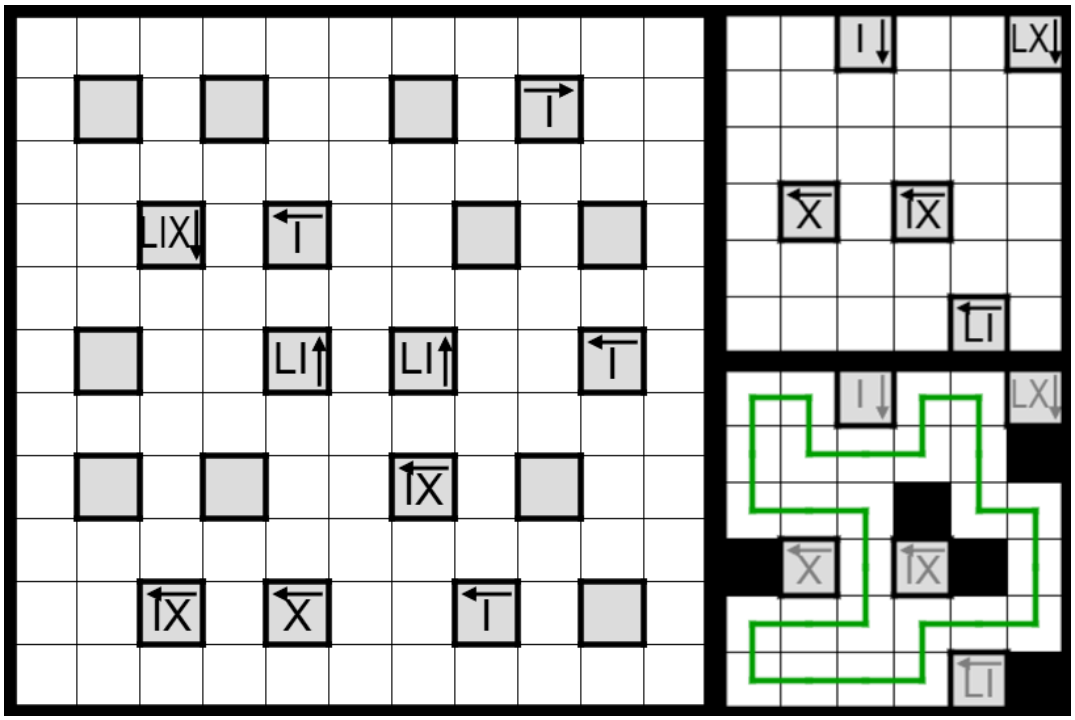


Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2a4v6clo
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/252xraxx

November 18, 2024: LIX Loop | bakpao

~~Time for another double Double feature! Today's puzzle is a Double Marble on a deltoidal trihexagonal grid!~~ Unfortunately it's no longer Sunday, so all you strange shape enjoyers will have to be a little more patient for that one. Instead, today we revisit **LIX Loop**!

Rules: Shade some empty cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and draw a non-intersecting loop through the centres of all the remaining empty cells. L, I and X refer to cells containing a turn, cells containing a straight loop segment and shaded cells, respectively. Clues represent the majority of these cell types in a straight line in the indicated direction. If multiple cell types are tied for the majority, all of them are listed in the clue. *(Note that clues can see through, but ignore other clues.)*

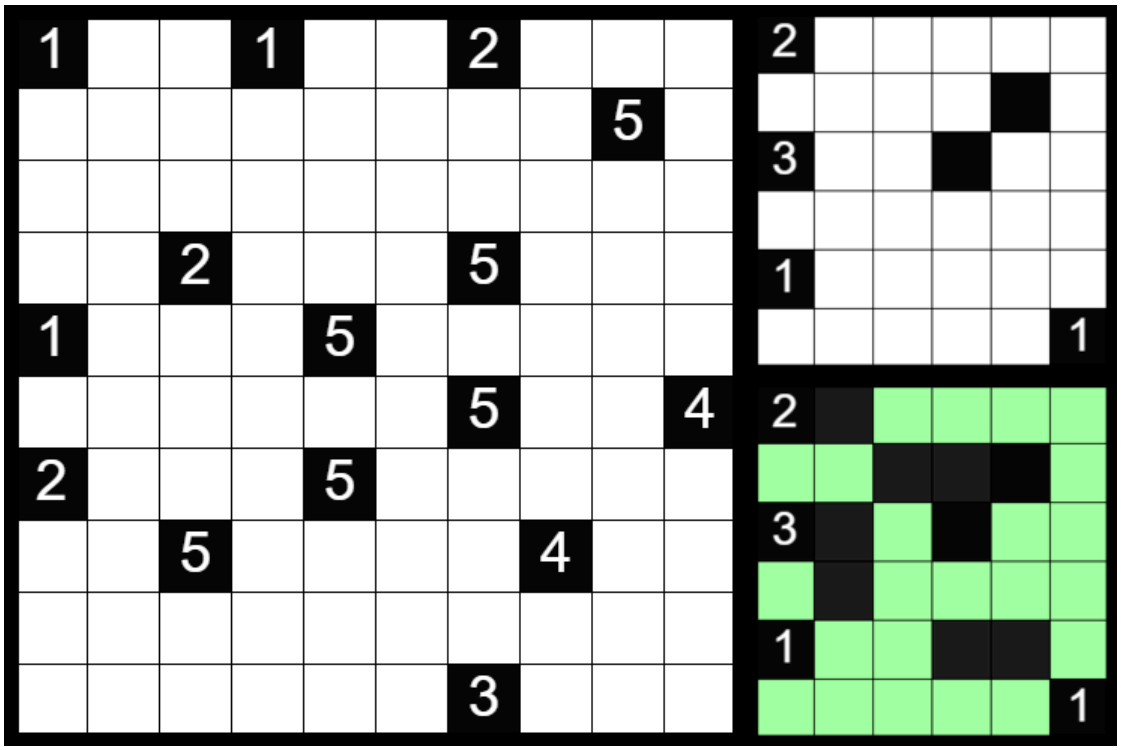


Example (pzprxs) by Menderbug: https://tinyurl.com/bddd34ud
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/yhmjja9k

November 19, 2024: Archipelago | Menderbug

Do you have a favourite word? For most things, I don't do favourites, but in this case I can say that mine is **Archipelago**. Which happens to be the name of a genre that was added to pzprxs yesterday!

Rules: Shade some cells to form groups of orthogonally adjacent shaded cells called islands. Some shaded cells are given and may contain number clues, indicating the number of cells in their island. Islands form diagonally connected networks (archipelagos) of at least two islands. An archipelago consisting of N islands must contain exactly one island of each size from 1 to N.

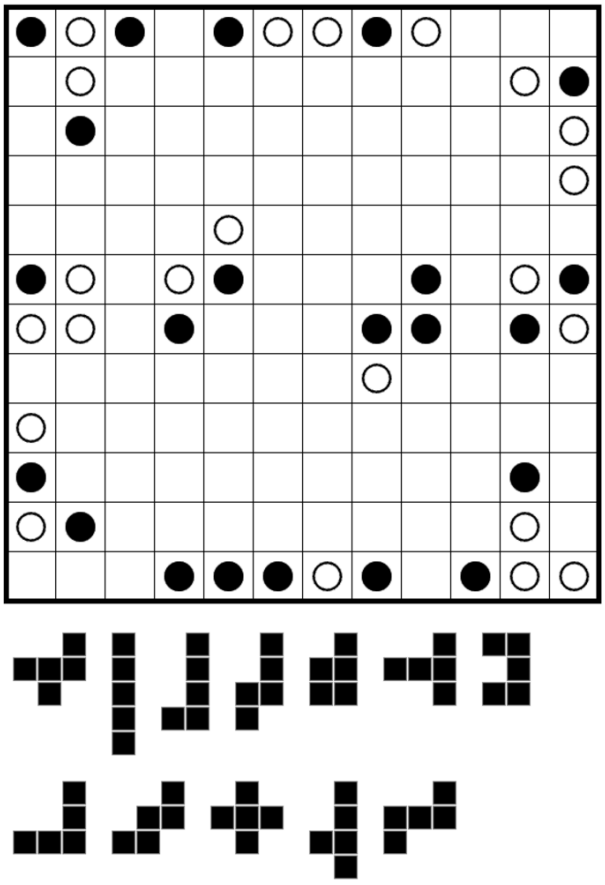


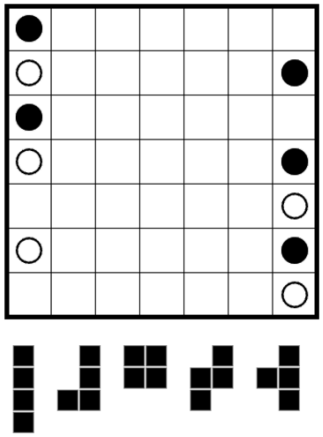
Example (pzprxs) from the pzprpxs Rules page: https://tinyurl.com/2ssnrz5r
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/4aamxznh

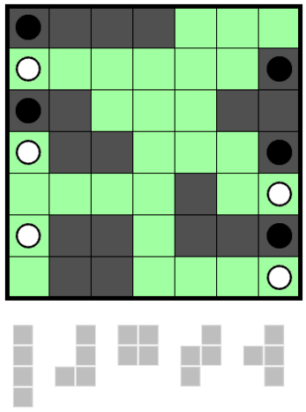
November 20, 2024: Statue Park | Freddie Hand

I think I'm going through another pentomino phase. So here's a **Statue Park** which is bordering on supersized.

Rules: Place each shape from the shape bank into the grid exactly once such that no two shapes share an edge, and all unused cells form one orthogonally connected area. Rotating and reflecting shapes is allowed. Cells containing a black circle must be used by a shape, and cells containing a white circle must not be used by a shape.







Example (puzz.link) by Eric: https://tinyurl.com/3ywpzf57
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/263j9ty3

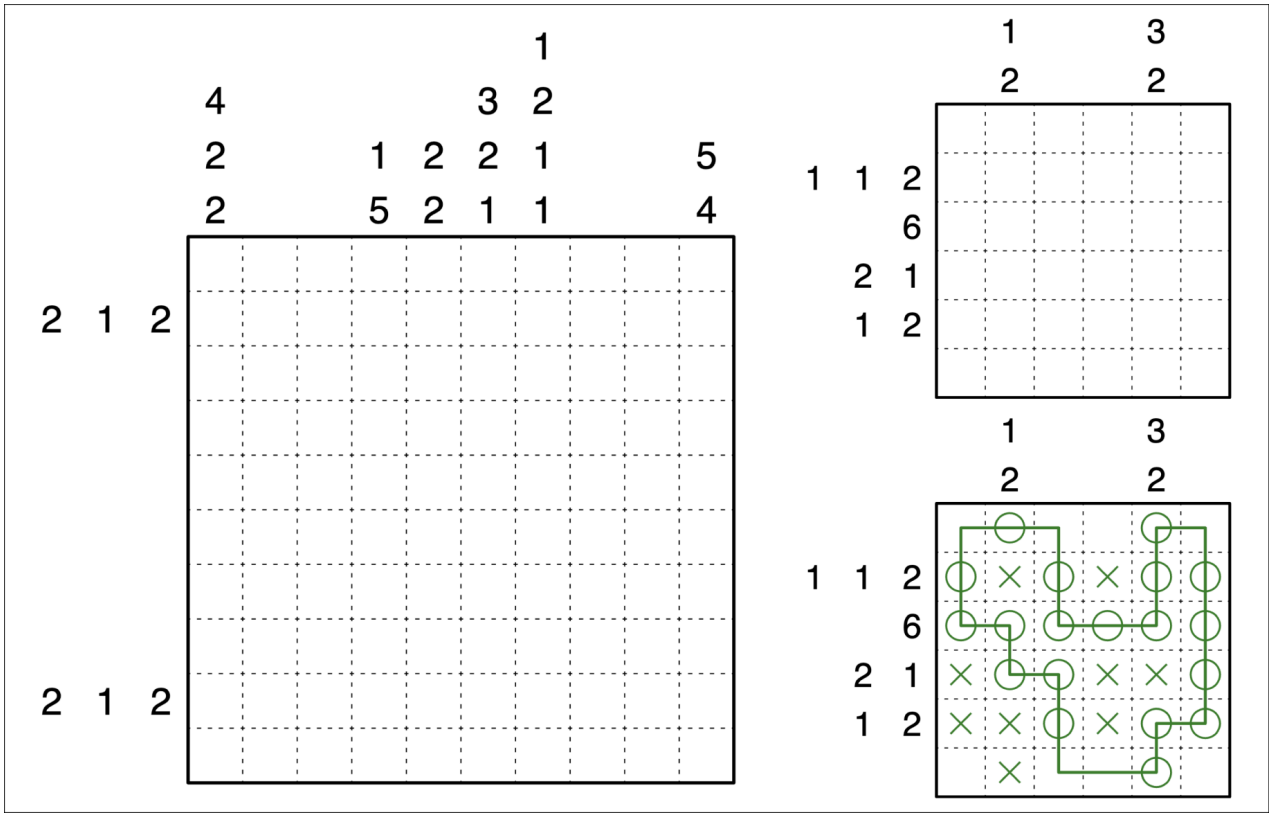
November 21, 2024: Off-Road | Walker

At the **Off-Road** course! 🏎️ The goal is to drive around a winding loop as quickly as you can. If you're quick enough, you can earn a special animal as a prize!

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of some cells. Clues outside the grid represent the lengths of the runs of consecutive cells which are used by the loop in the corresponding row or column, in order.

⚠️ **Important Note** ⚠️**:** A number is not the length of the loop segment! In the example, the 6 clue indicates a group of six cells visited by the loop, but these cells correspond to three different loop visits.

Here's a **GAPP 101** for a tricky step: (ROT13) Va gur ebj pyhrf, gel gb qrgrezvar jurer gur barf tb hfvat gur pbyhza pyhrf.



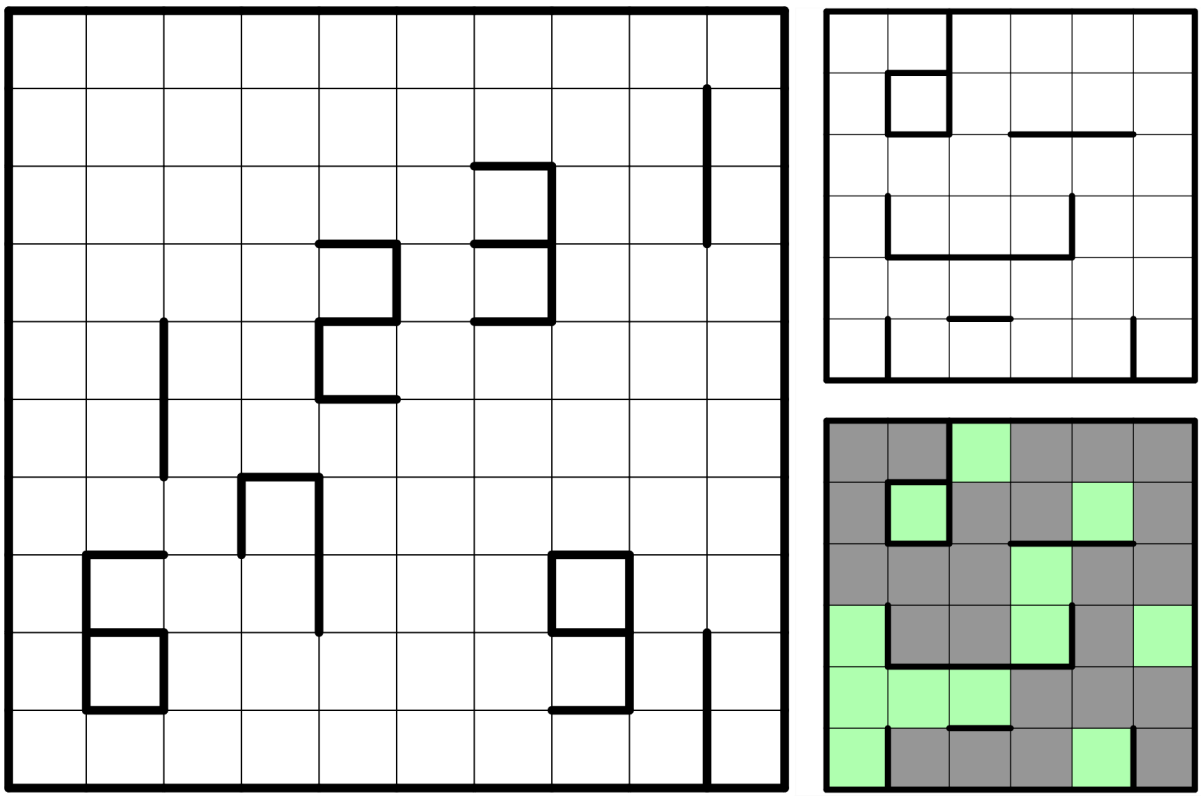
Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/22d22tsw
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/26xxm538

November 22, 2024: Aqre (Borders) | Lavaloid

I just bought these new numbers from the number store, but I accidentally dropped them in water and they became too big to fit in a regular Aqre. So, today's GAPP is an **Aqre (Borders)**!

Rules: Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. A pair of cells separated by a bold border must contain one shaded cell and one unshaded cell. There may not exist a run of more than three consecutive shaded or unshaded cells horizontally or vertically anywhere in the grid.

GAPP 101: (ROT13) Obeqref oybpx gur pbaarpgvivgl bs funqrq pryyf.



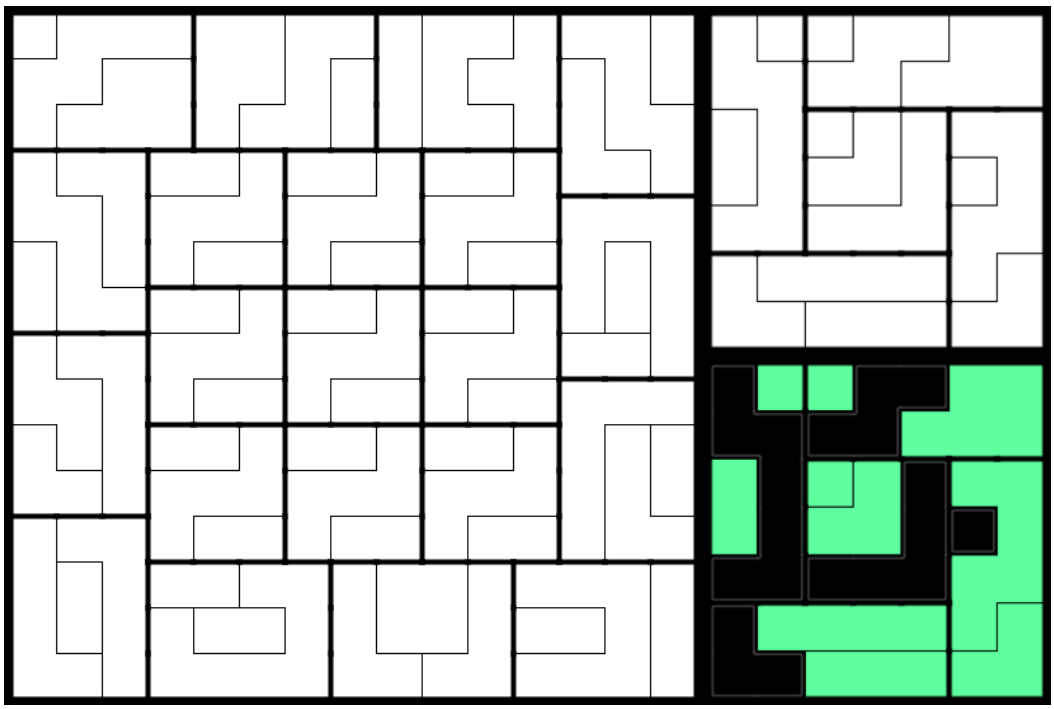
Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2ypqmqx8
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/26h6mps4

November 23, 2024: Parquet | bakpao

I was going to do the long awaited supersized Kropki for today, but I figured it'd probably be best to leave it for a little while longer after last week's TomTom. If there are no rotation changes, my next supersized should be on the 28th of December... 👀
Instead, today we celebrate the Z pentomino! Not for any particular reason other than that it worked well in this puzzle. So well in fact that I used it 9 10 times.

Today's puzzle is a **ZUPERZIZED Parquet**!

Rules: In each bold region, entirely shade one subregion and leave all others unshaded such that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area with no loops. No 2x2 area may be entirely shaded. *Note that this puzzle is slightly different from previous instances of this genre in GAPP, in that it uses more than 2 subregions per bold outlined region.*

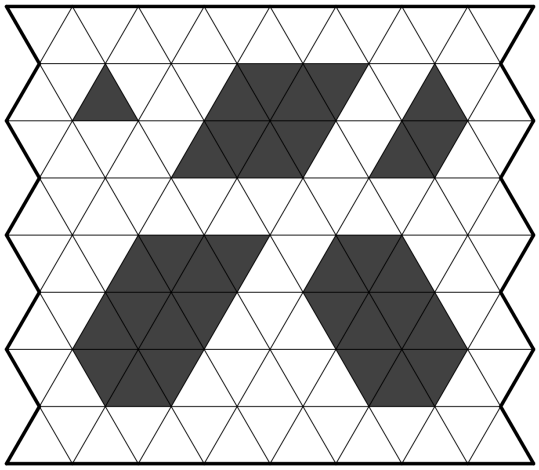


Example (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/5ypdmw4u
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/3t5xpyy4

November 24, 2024: Choco Banana (Triangular) | Menderbug

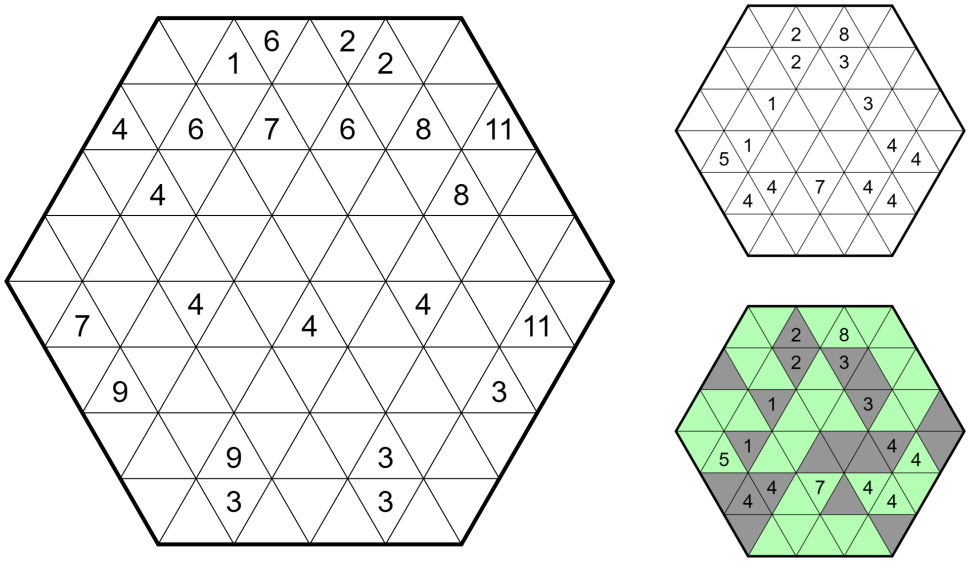
Earlier this week, punchingcatto hosted a *Slow Setting Contest* with the prompt to make puzzles on grids with a triangular outline. People made lots of great puzzles, go check them out! (fair warning though, most of them are not GAPP difficulty). My entry was a **Triangular Choco Banana**, and this Strange-Shaped Sunday seemed like a good opportunity to make a more approachable puzzle with this variant.

When putting genres involving rectangles on a triangular grid, there's a question of how to generalise the rectangle definition. The obvious options are hexagons with opposite sides of equal length and/or triangles. But I quite like this version, where the shaded groups must be convex, which is also a valid way to define the regular Choco Banana rules (which I believe was originally `@blotwell`'s idea).



Rules: Shade some cells so that all areas of edge-connected shaded cells are convex and all areas of orthogonally connected unshaded cells are concave. A clue represents the size of its group of shaded/unshaded cells. (*A shape is convex if all of its internal angles are less than 180°, and concave otherwise.*)

GAPP 101: Since it might be a little tricky to imagine what convex shapes are possible, I'm including a diagram to the side that shows some typical possibilities.

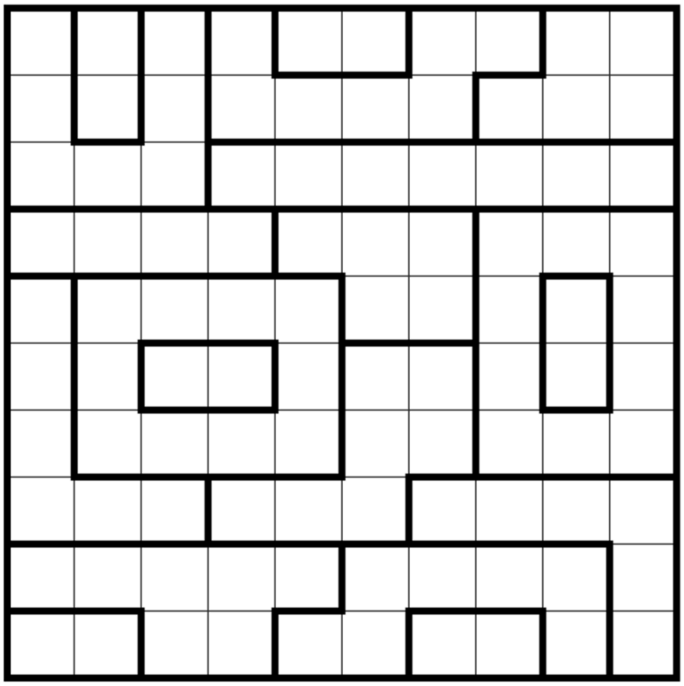


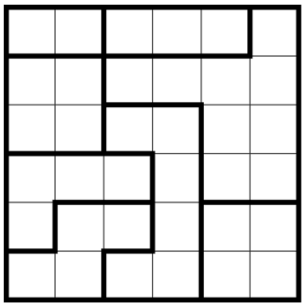
Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/26hoexmp
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/22rtdgba

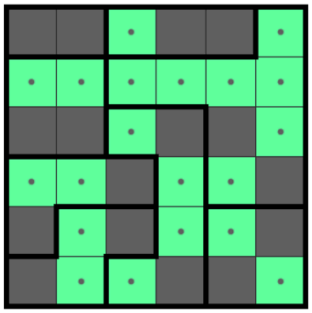
November 25, 2024: Norinori | Freddie Hand

Here's a return to the classics with a **Norinori** for today's GAPPGAPP puzzpuzz. If you squint hard enough, you might see a slightly frowny face. Or maybe I'm just seeing double...

Rules: Shade some 1x2 dominoes of cells so that every region contains exactly two shaded cells. Shaded dominoes may not touch orthogonally.







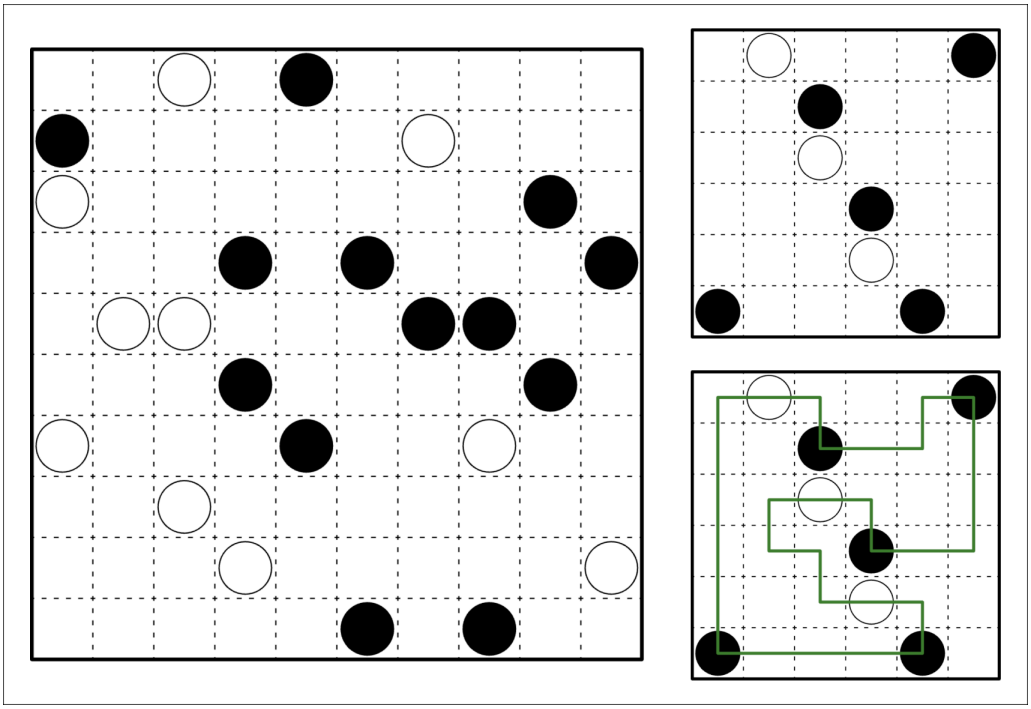
Example (puzz.link) by Tyrg: https://tinyurl.com/2p8k4xkn
Puzzle (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/467kkz42

November 26, 2024: Syuma | Walker

When revisiting the GAPP Portal Loop puzzles, I found this mysterious note… 📜 It appears to have been sent here from a parallel universe. There, the Simple Puzzles and Clarifying Examples team (SPACE) publishes a logic puzzle each day. You can earn a Fast Frog 🐸 if you solve within the fastest time limit! Today's puzzle, posted by a user whose profile picture is a rotated flushed_bread emoji, is a Syuma, the most popular genre from Japanese puzzle company Cairn Rouge. After a retired judge convinced the London Times to print **Syuma** puzzles made using his generator, the genre took off, and is now printed in newspapers around the world!

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of some cells that passes through every circle. The loop must turn on black circles and travel straight through at least one of the cells on either side. The loop must go straight through white circles, and turn in both of the cells on either side.

Here's a **GAPP 101**: (ROT13) Whfg yvxr Znflh, guvf traer unf n ybg bs cnggreaf. Juvgr pvepyrf ner zber cbjreshy orpnhfr gurl pbafgenva obgu nqwnprag pryyf; va cnegvphyne, ybbx sbe juvgr pvepyrf nybat na rqtr be jvgu n frtzrag cbvagrq gbjneqf gurz.



Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/23hst8bc
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/284bbxph

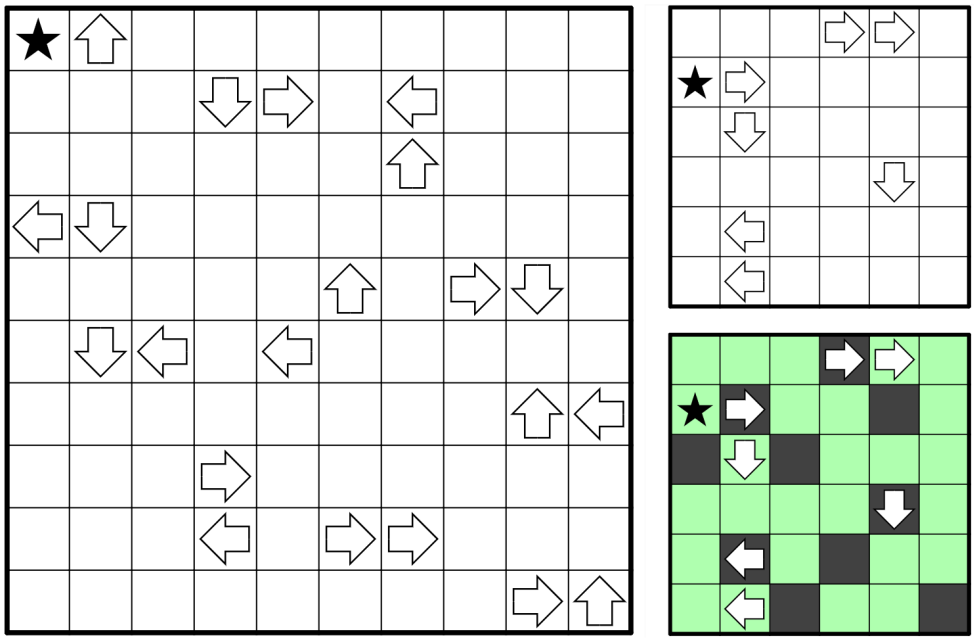
November 27, 2024: Guide Arrow (Yajisan-Kazusan) | Lavaloid

Today's GAPP will depend on what theme you're using on Discord right now. If you're using light mode, then it is a **Guide Arrow (Yajisan-Kazusan)**. If you're using dark mode, then it is meaningless.

Rules:

- Shade some cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area.
- No complete loop of cells may be unshaded (including 2x2s).
- If an arrow is unshaded, it indicates the only direction in which one could begin a path to the star without going through a shaded cell or backtracking. If an arrow is shaded, it's meaningless.

GAPP 101: (ROT13) Gurer vf n pbzzbanyvgl funerq ol obgu funqrq naq hafunqrq neebjf! Pryyf qverpgyl cbvagrq gb ol na neebj zhfg or hafunqrq, ertneqyrff bs jurgure gur neebj vgfrys vf funqrq be hafunqrq



Example (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/23krho4d
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/28rk3mdf

November 28, 2024: Gemini Loop | bakpao

Swamped at work today, gotta run! Enjoy the puzzle!

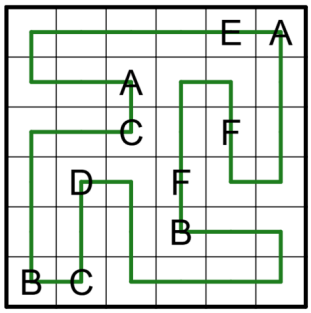
Today's puzzle is a **Gemini Loop**!

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of all cells. Cells containing the same letter must be entered by the loop from the same directions. Cells containing different letters must not. (*In other words, each letter corresponds to a unique shape*).

Interface note 💻: A table is provided below the grid to allow you to keep track of which letter corresponds to which loop segment. It does not need to be filled, and in fact must be empty for answer check to work! Feel free to subtract a few seconds from your time based on how long it took to erase those segments. It is, of course, also fine to ignore the table altogether and solve without it.

			B			C			
A			A			A			
B									
		E		E				B	
	F				F		D		
									D
			C			E			C
			D			D			

				E	A
		A			
		C		F	
	D		F		
			B		
B	C				

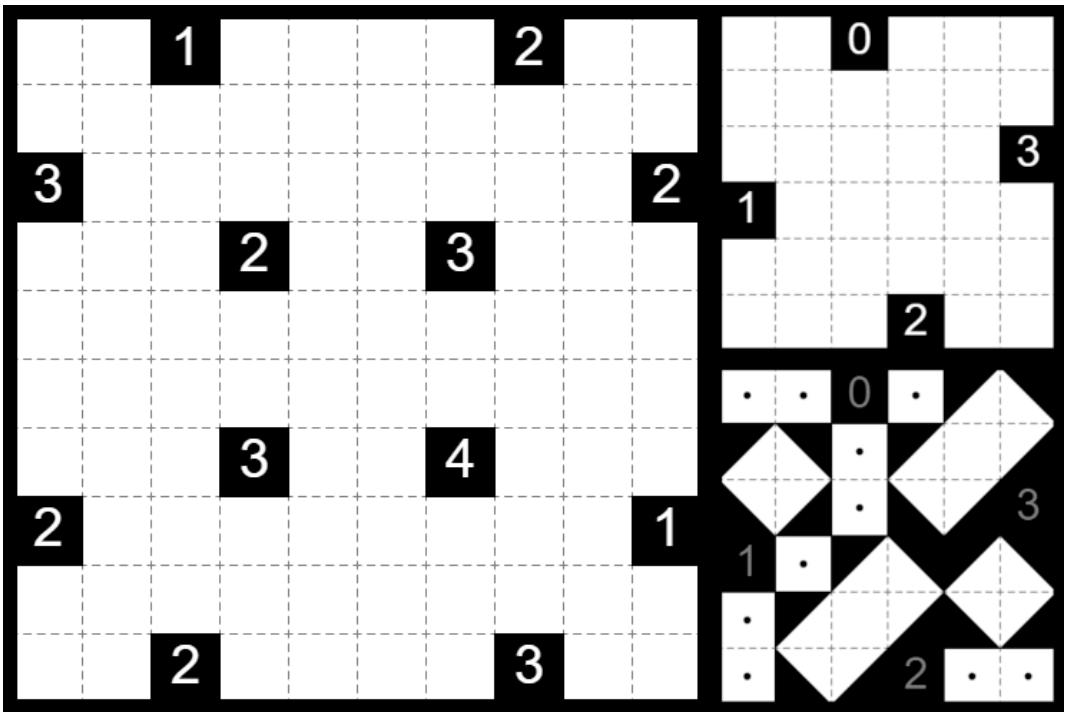


Example (Penpa+) by Freddie: https://tinyurl.com/4vjncn28
Puzzle (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/27qfh8ap

November 29, 2024: Shakashaka | Menderbug

My latest genre to obsess over is **Shakashaka**. I solved a few hundred on Puzzle Square over the last couple of weeks or so, but I had never tried constructing one myself. Until now!

Rules: Shade a right triangle in some empty cells, each of which occupies exactly half the cell it's in. Each unshaded area must be rectangular in shape. A number in a cell represents how many of the (up to) four cells orthogonally adjacent to the clue contain triangles

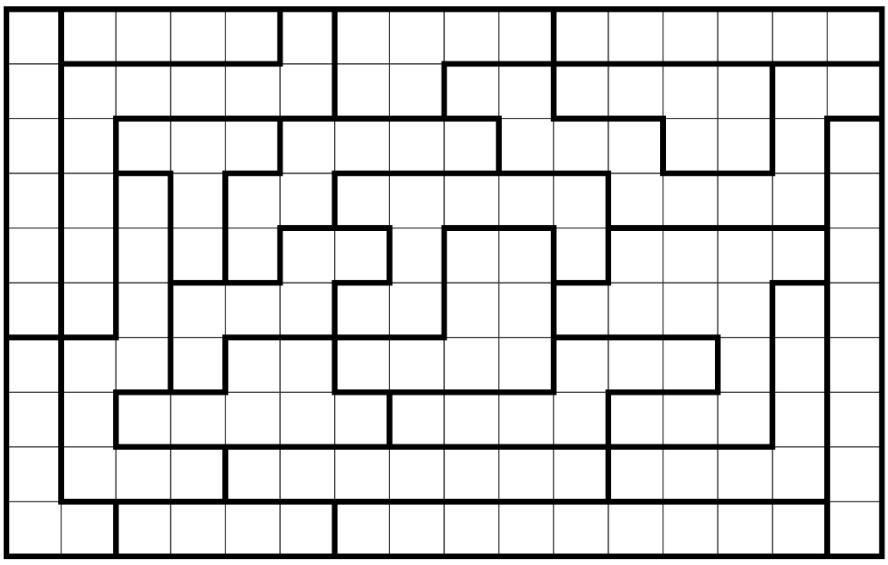


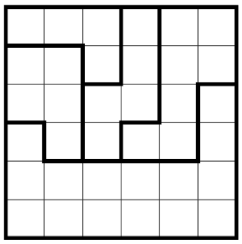
Example (pzprxs) by Jovi: https://tinyurl.com/etyn2yx5
Puzzle (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/5nscm44v

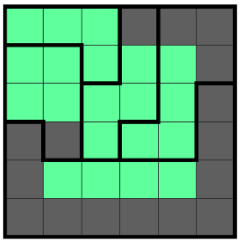
November 30, 2024: Inverse LITSO | Freddie Hand

No time today, here's an **Inverse LITSO**!

Rules: Place an unshaded tetromino in every region, and shade the remaining cells. Two tetrominoes of the same shape may not share a bold border, counting rotations and reflections as the same. No 2x2 region may be entirely shaded, and all shaded cells must form one orthogonally connected area.

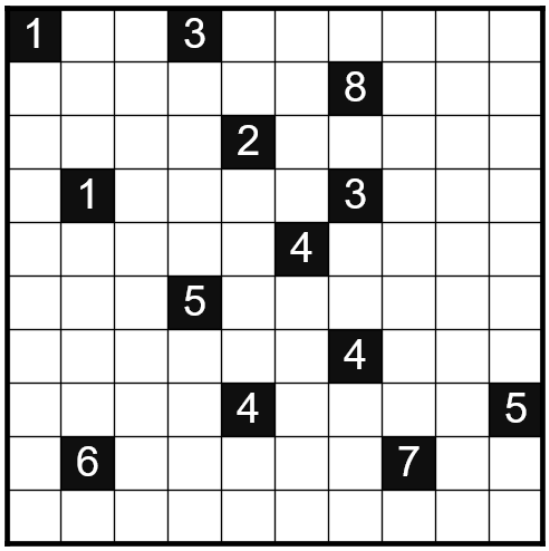






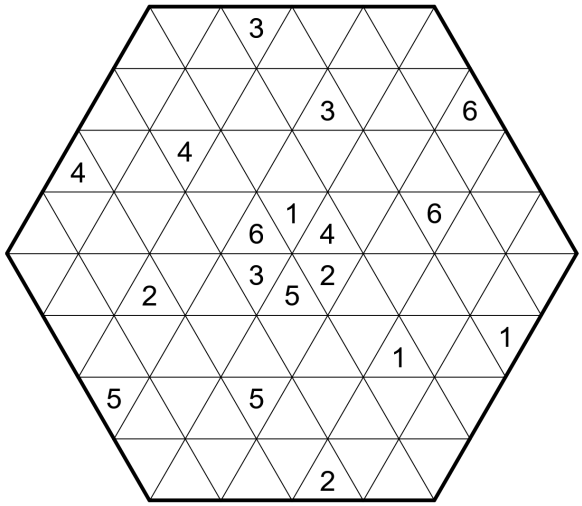
Example (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/5cup674a
Puzzle (puzz.link, Landscape): https://tinyurl.com/y8rsme9p
Puzzle (puzz.link, Portrait): https://tinyurl.com/4nxed5bj

Bonus 1: Archipelago | Menderbug



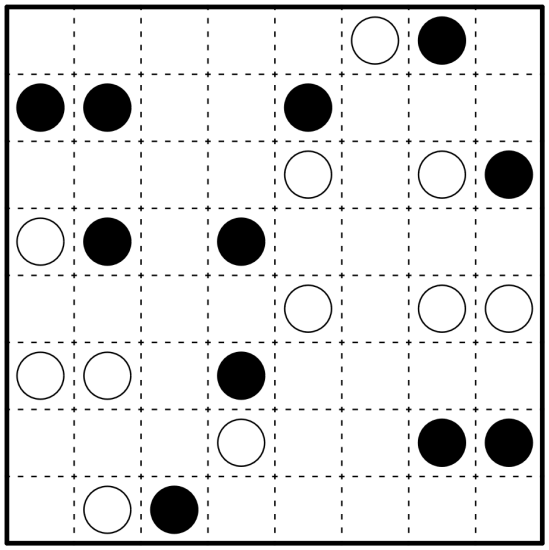
Example (pzprxs) from the pzprpxs Rules page: https://tinyurl.com/2ssnrz5r
Bonus (pzprxs): https://tinyurl.com/7bwnpf24

Bonus 2: Choco Banana (Triangular) | Menderbug



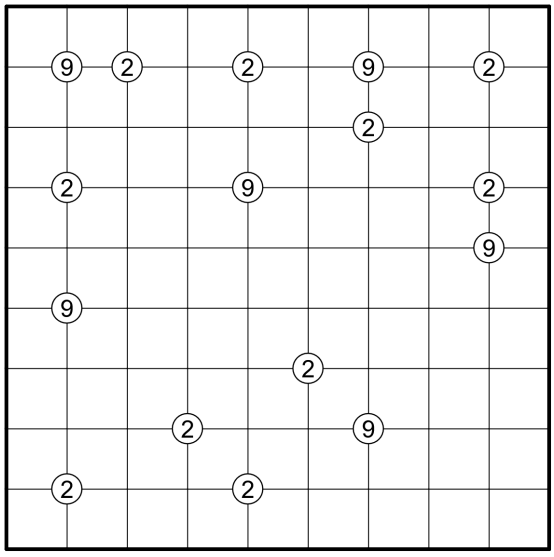
Example (Penpa+):
https://tinyurl.com/26hoexmp
Bonus (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/27zdfwk3

Bonus 3: Double Marble | bakpao

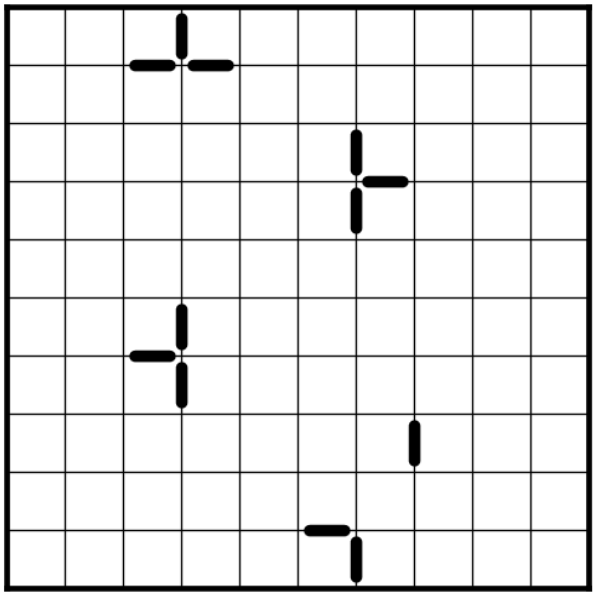


Example (Penpa+):
https://tinyurl.com/2bkgucb8
Bonus (Penpa+):
https://tinyurl.com/23zbl5zw

Bonus 4: Landvermessung | Menderbug

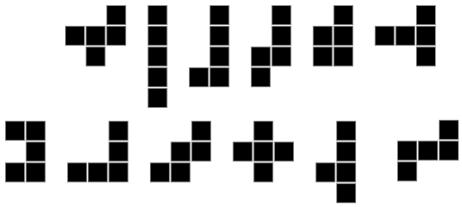


Example (Kudamono) by Tyrg:
https://tinyurl.com/bdcpb26j
Example (Penpa+) by Tyrg:
https://tinyurl.com/4mv8224s
Bonus (Kudamono):
https://tinyurl.com/4shybd5z
Bonus (Penpa+):
https://tinyurl.com/2adnwt9o



Bonus 5: Kissing Polyominoes | Freddie Hand

Rules: Place each shape from the bank given outside the grid into the grid without overlap. Rotating and reflecting shapes is allowed. **All** edges along which two shapes touch are marked with thick bars.

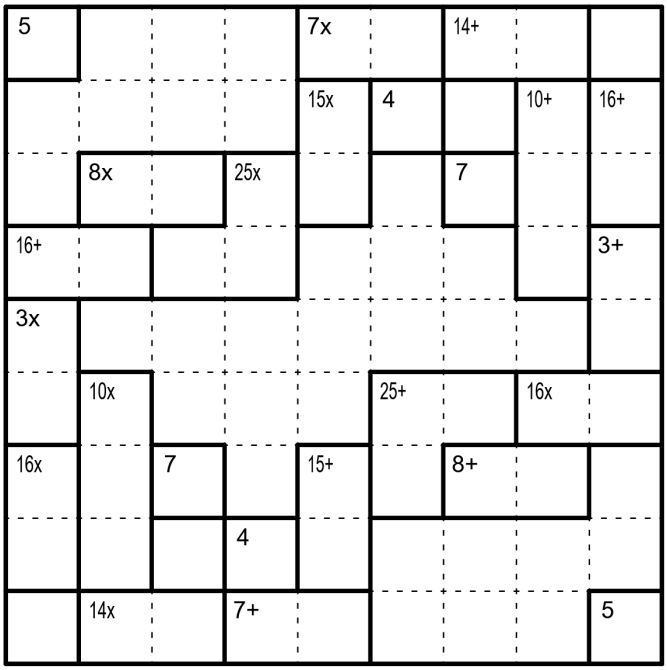


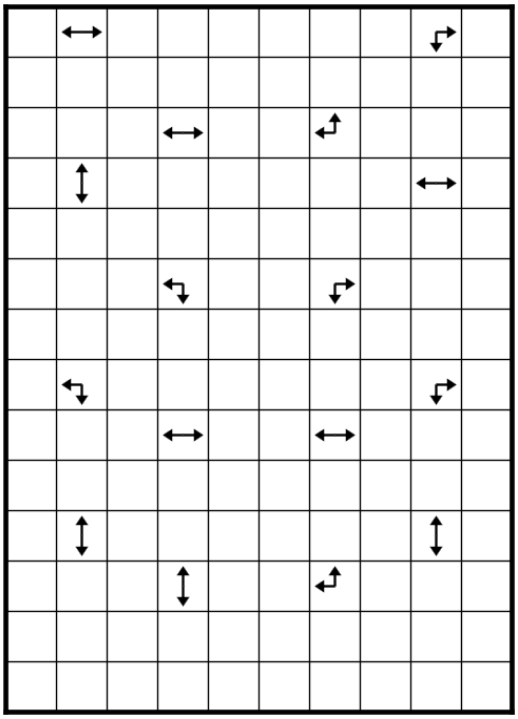
Example (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/bdec2kby
Bonus (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/399y4xbp

Bonus 6: Pentopia | shye

Rules: Shade some pentominoes (tetrominoes in the example) so that no pentominoes touch one another, not even diagonally. No two pentominoes may be the same shape, counting rotations and reflections as the same. Clued cells cannot be shaded, and contain arrows indicating all of the orthogonal directions in which a shaded cell appears closest to the clued cell. At least one shaded cell must appear in the direction of an arrow

Example (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/mr2crm23
Bonus (puzz.link): https://tinyurl.com/y6kdv32n





Bonus 7: TomTom | Walker

Example (Penpa+) by clover: https://tinyurl.com/2gt5ov5w
Bonus (Penpa+): https://tinyurl.com/2yh8gowa

Date	Sloth Time	Crab Time	🐦
01 Nov 2024	0:02:15	0:04:30	Jack-O'-Lantern Snipe
02 Nov 2024	0:10:00	0:20:00	Symmetric Somali Sparrow
03 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Storyteller Stonechat
04 Nov 2024	0:01:45	0:03:30	Five-Striped Sparrow
05 Nov 2024	0:02:45	0:05:30	Enclosure Enggano Thrush
06 Nov 2024	0:02:15	0:04:30	Autumn Forest Robin
07 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Bunnyhopper Buzzard
08 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Top Tūī
09 Nov 2024	0:03:03	0:06:06	Overdue, the Albatross
10 Nov 2024	0:02:15	0:04:30	Monodigital Montezuma Oropendola
11 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:04:30	Two-Wing Tundra Swan
12 Nov 2024	0:01:45	0:03:30	Missing Middle Millerbird
13 Nov 2024	0:04:00	0:08:00	Duplicative Dunnock
14 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:05:00	Surveying Surfbird
15 Nov 2024	0:02:00	0:04:00	Conway Congo Peafowl
16 Nov 2024	0:12:30	0:21:00	Cheerful Cameroon Mountain Greenbul
17 Nov 2024	0:03:30	0:08:00	Cursed Crane
18 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Witty Waxbill
19 Nov 2024	0:02:00	0:04:00	Tjaldur
20 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:05:00	Quintuple Qilian Bluetail
21 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:04:30	Speedy Spruce Grouse
22 Nov 2024	0:01:45	0:03:30	Magic Growing Magpie Goose
23 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Zoomy Zapata Zparrow
24 Nov 2024	0:03:00	0:06:00	Toblerone Tody-Tyrant
25 Nov 2024	0:01:30	0:03:00	40% Pentominous Penan Bulbul
26 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:04:30	Otherworldly Opaleye? 🐟
27 Nov 2024	0:02:10	0:04:20	Meaningless Mountaingem
28 Nov 2024	0:02:30	0:04:00	Two Twinning Twites
29 Nov 2024	0:01:30	0:03:00	Shaka Shama
30 Nov 2024	0:04:30	0:09:00	Dark Mode Dusky Myzomela