

Mind The GAPP Vol. 42

Genuinely Approachable Pencil Puzzles from the CtC Discord
April 1, 2025 - April 30, 2025

This month in GAPP: We do have some news!

- As usual, in the spirit of April Fools, every April 1st we go a little weird with our puzzles. This year is no exception, where we featured a Yajisan-Sokoban with a twist.
- Menderbug will be stepping down from the team at his two-year anniversary next month.
- Puzzle Ramayan round 5 and Puzzle GP round 4 ran this month.

This time we have six bonus puzzles. Have fun!

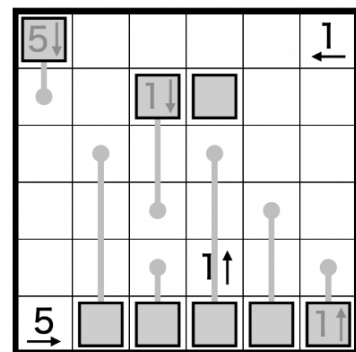
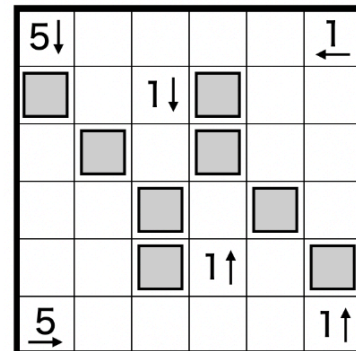
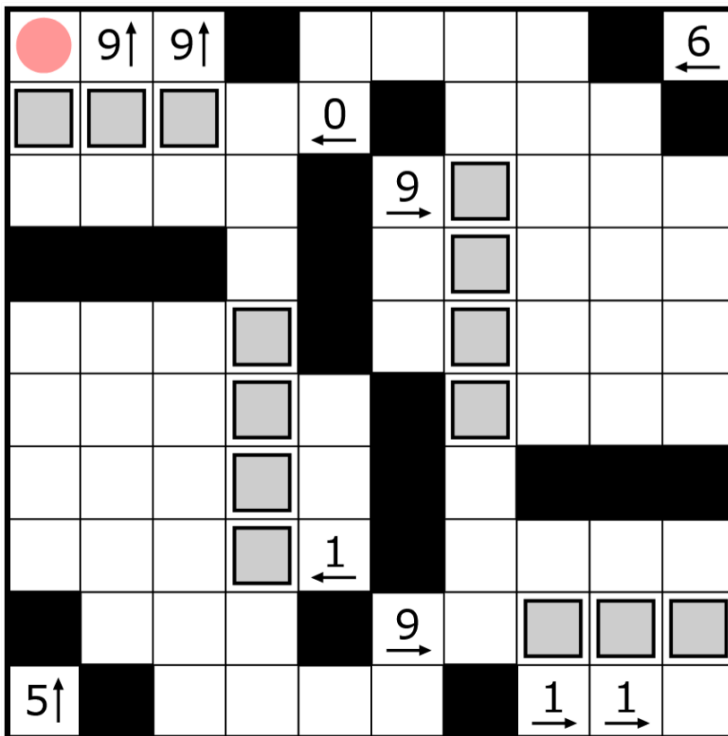
April 1, 2025: Yajisan-Sokoban (?) | Lavaloid

Editor's Note: This was an April Fools puzzle, and the puzzle is not solvable from the image. Please use the provided link, or if tinyurl isn't working, use the following link:
<https://lavaloid.github.io/april-fools-2025/1/>

Nothing too special today, just a **Yajisan-Sokoban**

Rules:

- Move some squares in the grid. Squares cannot pass through black cells. A square may move only in one straight line vertically or horizontally. Squares' paths may not cross each other, other squares, or other squares' starting points.
- If a cell with a number in it is not covered by a square, the number represents how many squares are in a straight line in the indicated direction.
- If a cell with a number in it is covered by a square, the number is meaningless.



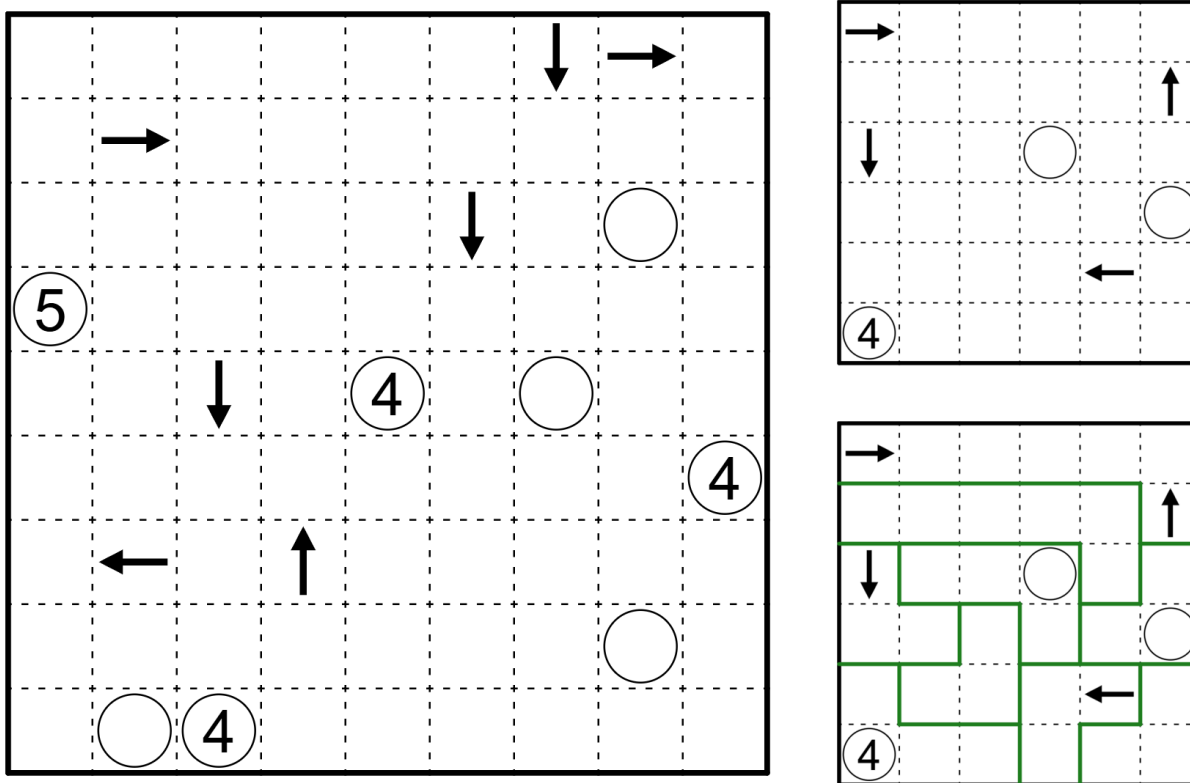
Example (puzz.link) by Freddie: <https://tinyurl.com/yenfjyng>
Puzzle (puzz.link?): <https://tinyurl.com/329m7es3>

April 2, 2025: Sashigane (Tatami) | bakpao

This weekend the qualifiers for the Dutch championships take place! There will be a separate test for sudoku and pencil puzzles, and they take 1 hour each. The puzzles for the pencil puzzle portion are all written by @Frostini and myself. While the official ranking will only be for Dutch nationals, anyone can participate in the tests and there will be a separate unofficial ranking. I'd love to see many of you give the puzzles a try, so do consider taking part! More info can be found [here](#). Good luck to all who participate!

Today's GAPP is a **Sashigane (Tatami)**!

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of orthogonally connected cells. Each region must be an L shape with a width of one cell. Arrows must lie at one end of an L and point toward the bend. Circles must lie at the bend of an L, and if one contains a number, the L it is inside must contain the indicated amount of cells. Region borders may not form any four-way intersections.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2ywt5nbq>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2atpdsz4>

April 3, 2025: Tapa (Twilight) | Menderbug

Turns out we've never had a Twilight variant on GAPP! It's a generic variant for shading genres with unshaded clues. The variant lets you shade them, which inverts the type of cell the clue cares about. (Exception: I've seen some Twilight Caves where the shaded clues just do something completely different.) Anyway, here's a **Tapa (Twilight)**.

Rules:

- Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area and no 2x2 region is entirely shaded.
- *Unshaded* clues represent the lengths of the blocks of consecutive *shaded* cells in the (up to) eight cells surrounding the clue.
- *Shaded* clues represent the lengths of the blocks of consecutive *unshaded* cells in the (up to) eight cells surrounding the clue.

3		4		1_2		1_1		1
	1_1^1		1_2^2		1_4		1_1^1	
3								4
	1_1^1						1_4	
4								1_2
	6						1_2^2	
1_2								5
	3_3		1_2		1_2^1		1_3^1	
2		2		1		4		2

	5	1_2			
			1_2^2	6	
	5	1_2			
			6	1_2	
	1_2	1_3^1			
			5	1_1	

	5	1_2			
			1_2^2	6	
	5	1_2			
			6	1_2	
	1_2	1_3^1			
			5	1_1	

Example (Penpa+) <https://tinyurl.com/2aak8e9o>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/23bnyhhn>

April 4, 2025: U-Bahn | Freddie Hand

The Dutch Championships are now live! You can (unofficially) participate [here](#) once you log in/register. There won't be any online solving links so you'll need to either print out the puzzles or solve on an image editing tool.

U-Bahn is one of the genres that will be appearing, and has a reputation for being quite cursed. Hopefully this one's manageable.

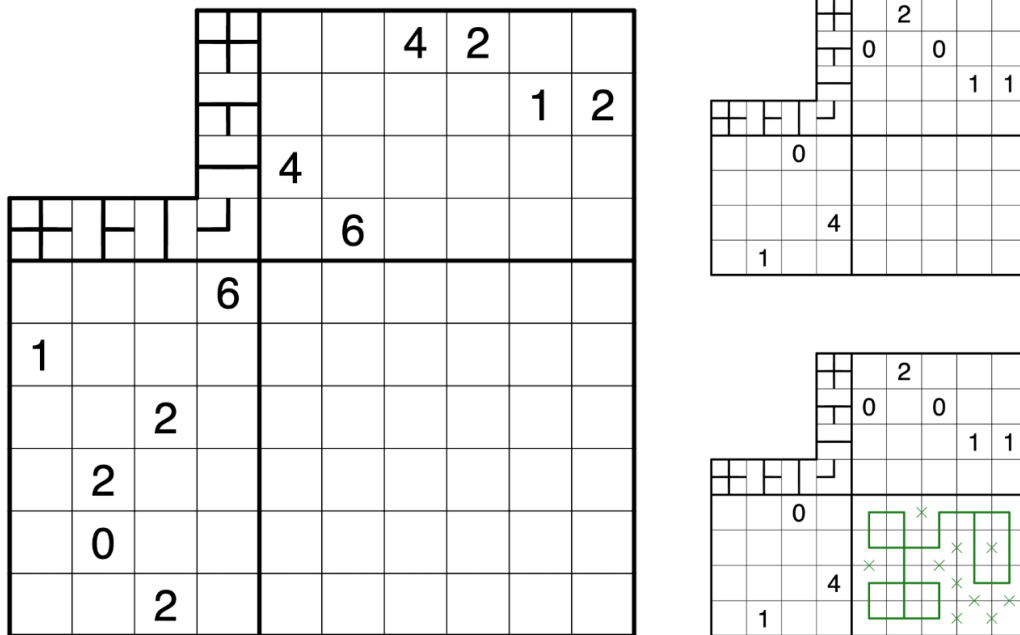
Rules: Draw a totally connected loop network through the centers of some cells, which may branch or turn, but may not have any dead ends. A clue outside the grid indicates how many times the corresponding line shape (i.e. a cross, branch, straight line, or turn) appears in the corresponding row or column, *irrespective of the line shape's rotation*.

Here's a **GAPP 101** to help get started: (ROT13) Pyhrf ntnvafg gur rqtr graq gb or cerggl pbafgenvarq, fb bsgra znxr sbe n tbbq fgnegvat cbvag. Pebffvatf pna nyfb or uneq gb cynpr, fvapr gurl pnaabg bpphe ba gur rqtr.

Solving Note: Notation for this genre is tricky! Two things I would definitely recommend are

- Diligently making x markings for where there cannot be a line.
- Shading number clues once all information from them has been exhausted.

You could also mark cells with letters to indicate what shape they have to contain, if you know the shape but not the orientation (I suggest "I" for a straight line, "L" for a turn, "T" for a branch, "X" for a crossing). But there are plenty more options for notation, and plenty more things to notate, so take your pick.

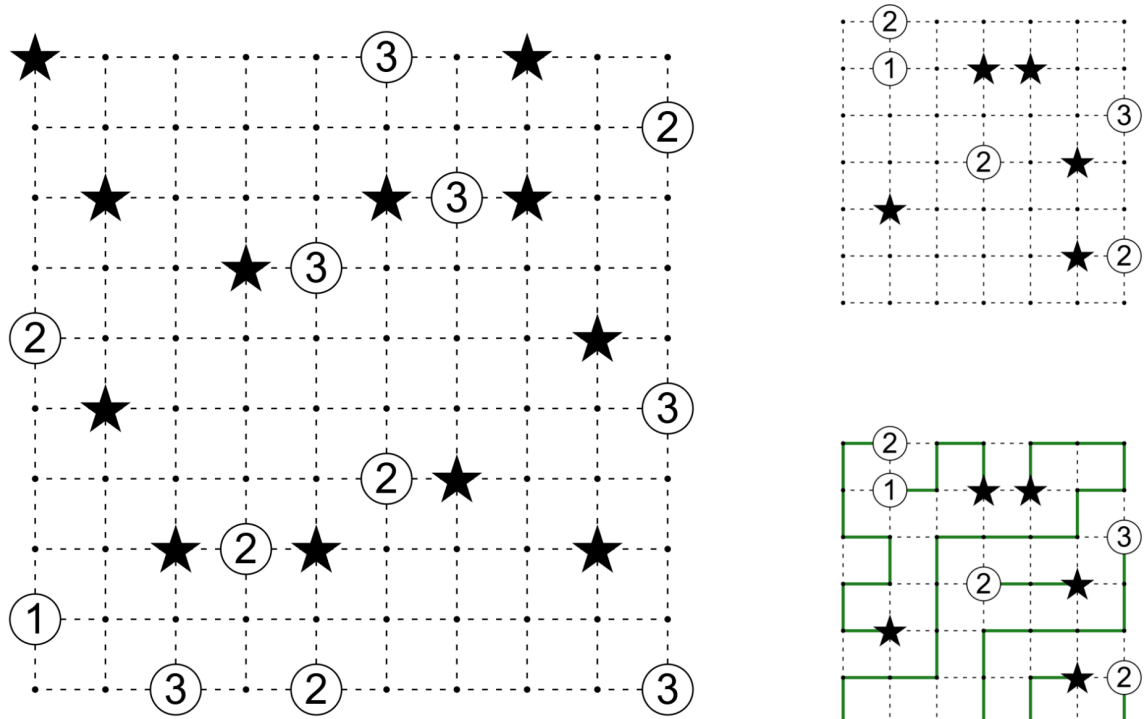


Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2ao8929y> (this is a little trickier than usual)
 Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2bcrb3al>

April 7, 2025: Maximal Lengths | bakpao

Here's another genre where you draw paths to stars! Today's GAPP is a **Maximal Lengths!**

Rules: Connect some pairs of orthogonally adjacent dots to create non-intersecting paths connecting each number to a star. Each dot must be used by a path. A number represents the length of the longest straight line segment along its path.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2bflyonx>
Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/28lsbe58>

April 8, 2025: Cave (Twilight) | Menderbug

Last week's Twilight Tapa seemed to be quite popular, so today I proudly introduce *Twilight Tuesday!* (Not actually.) As I mentioned last time, there are two rulesets called **Twilight Cave**. In one, the shaded clues take on a completely different meaning (they count shaded group size), but I personally prefer the purely antisymmetric interpretation that you've already seen in the Tapa variant, so that's what we're doing today.

Speaking of twilight! My second anniversary on the GAPP team is coming up next month, and I'll be stepping down from the team then. Two years seems like a good amount of time to have spent on this project. It's been a lot of fun, and I think I learned a lot as a puzzle setter, but I'd like to recover that puzzle-writing time for other projects. You've got about eight puzzles left from me before then.

Rules: Shade some cells so that the shaded cells are all connected orthogonally by other shaded cells to the edge of the grid, and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. Clues represent the total number of cells of the same shading that can be seen in a straight, uninterrupted line vertically or horizontally, including itself.

Of course, this wouldn't be a Cave on GAPP without the usual **GAPP 101:** (ROT13) Nal gjb ol gjb nern bs n pnir chmmyr pnaabg or n purpxreobneq bs funqrq naq hafunqrq pryf. Guvf vf orpnhfr gb pbaarpq gur hafunqrq pryf naq unir whfg bar fvatyr pnir, lbh jbyhq unir gb jenc nebhaq bar bs gur funqrq pryf, naq va ghea fgbc vg sebz pbaarpgvat gb gur rqtr bs gur tevq.

	1	2				5	2	
4			4		2			4
2			4		4			4
	4	4				5	5	
	3	5				3	4	
5			5		5			3
7			3		5			6
	3	4				2	2	

3	2				
2	3				
		5	3		
		6	4		
				4	3
				2	4

3	2				
2	3				
		5	3		
		6	4		
				4	3
				2	4

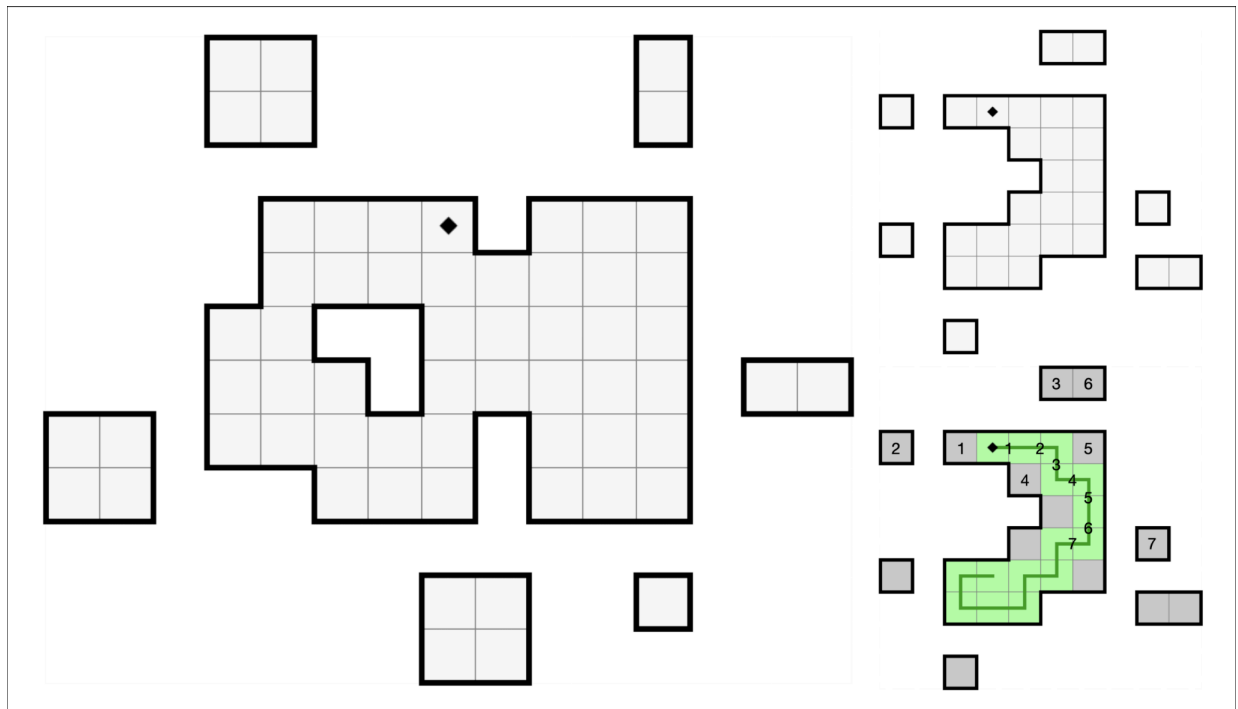
Example (Penpa+) <https://tinyurl.com/275uw2zy> (on the trickier side!)
 Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/28fn4ezd>

April 10, 2025: Recoil | Walker

Warning! The spaceship is heading into a sudden asteroid field! 🚀 🪨 There's not a lot of room to maneuver around... I have an idea. Our ship travels by ejecting high-temperature reaction mass behind us, similar to **Recoil**. If we can destroy all of the asteroids, we'll have a clear path through!

Rules: Draw a path from the diamond cell that visits several cells in the grid. Every time the path enters a cell, an obstacle is placed in the first available cell in the opposite direction. This cell may skip over gaps in the grid, other obstacles, or cells that were previously visited by the path. The path cannot enter a cell if the corresponding obstacle can't be placed inside the grid. All cells must be used by a line or an obstacle.

Note: I highly recommend tracing out the solution to the example / other possible paths to see how the interface automatically places obstacles! ⚠️ Watch out ⚠️ - if the path moves and an obstacle can't be placed, the interface **doesn't place an obstacle but doesn't notify you that the segment you've placed is invalid.**



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/yey7586w>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/2p9bj2y7>

April 11, 2025: Heyawake (Squares) | Lavaloid

Today's GAPP is a **Heyawake (Squares)** because I was craving some pancakes.

Rules:

- Shade some cells so that all shaded areas are in the shape of a square, shaded squares are not orthogonally adjacent, and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area.
- Numbered regions must contain the indicated amount of shaded cells.
- A line of consecutive unshaded cells may not cross more than one bold border.

The image shows a 10x10 grid puzzle. The grid is divided into several regions by bold borders. Each region contains a number indicating how many cells in that region must be shaded. The regions and their numbers are:

- Top-left: 2x2 square, number 2.
- Top-middle: 1x2 horizontal, number 1.
- Top-right: 1x2 horizontal, number 1.
- Second row: 2x2 square, number 2; 1x2 horizontal, number 1; 1x2 horizontal, number 1.
- Third row: 1x2 horizontal, number 5.
- Fourth row: 1x2 horizontal, number 1; 2x2 square, number 5.
- Fifth row: 1x2 horizontal, number 3; 1x2 horizontal, number 2.
- Sixth row: 2x2 square, number 2; 2x2 square, number 2; 1x2 horizontal, number 0.
- Seventh row: 1x2 horizontal, number 0.
- Eighth row: 1x2 horizontal, number 2.

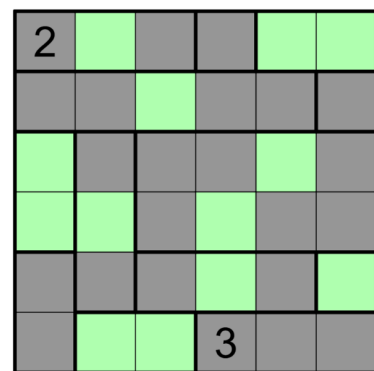
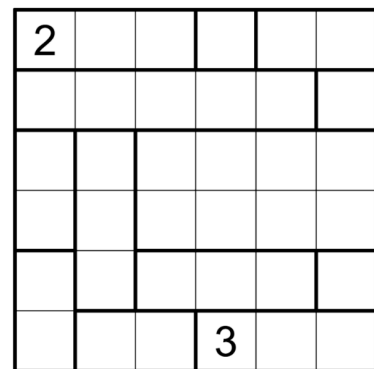
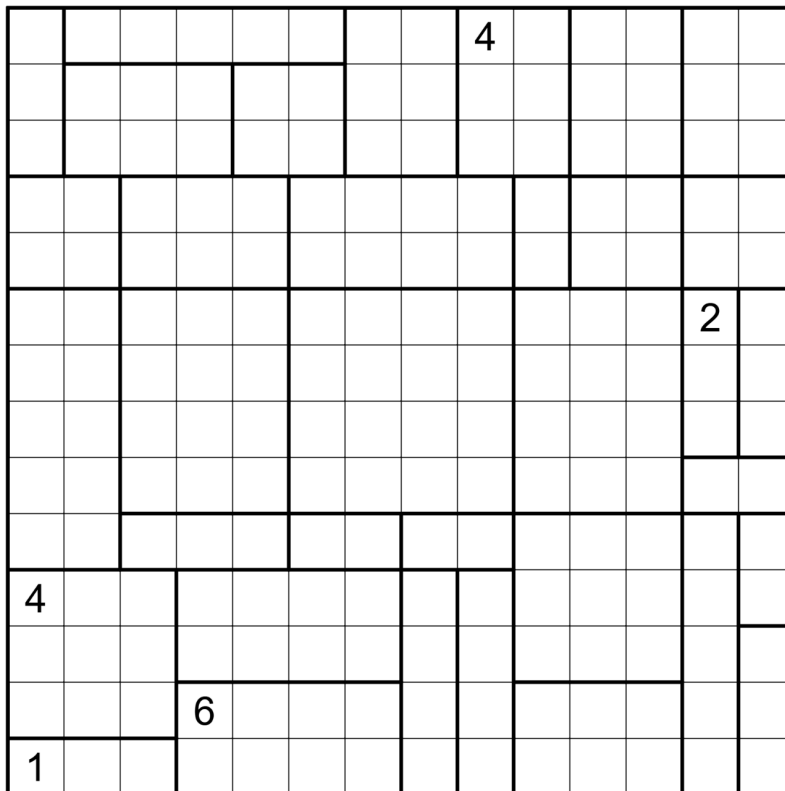
To the right of the main grid are two smaller 5x5 grids. The top one is a simplified version of the grid with only the numbers in the regions. The bottom one is the solution key, where shaded cells are light green and unshaded cells are grey.

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2yjr3hsw>
 Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/248w7okx>

April 12, 2025: Erqaqre | bakpao

Today's GAPP is a SUPERSIZEDEZISREPUS **Erqaqre!**

Rules: Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. Regions with numbers must contain the indicated amount of shaded cells. The shaded cells within a region must have 180° rotational symmetry around the region's center. There may not exist a run of more than three consecutive shaded or unshaded cells horizontally or vertically anywhere in the grid.



Example (Penpa+, by Freddie): <https://tinyurl.com/2j264jt9>

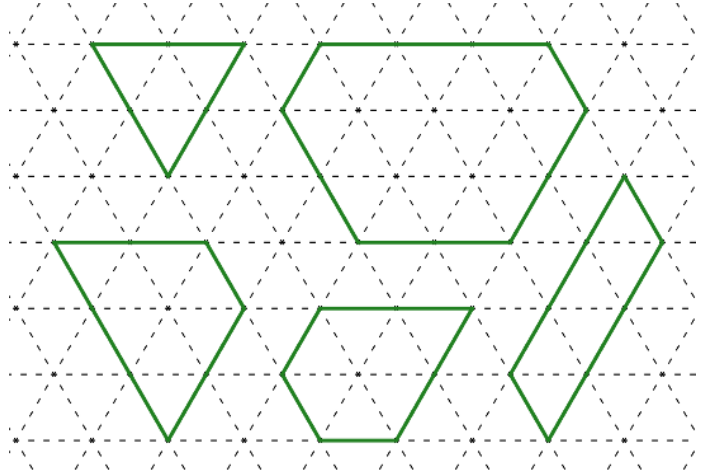
Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/22venzw7>

April 13, 2025: Shikaku (Triangular) | Menderbug

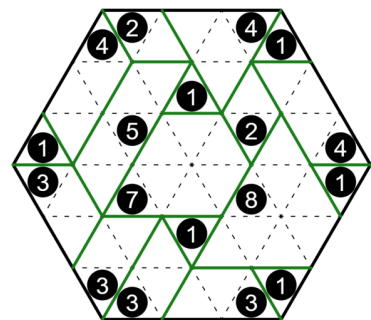
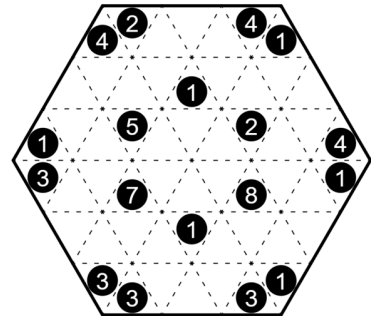
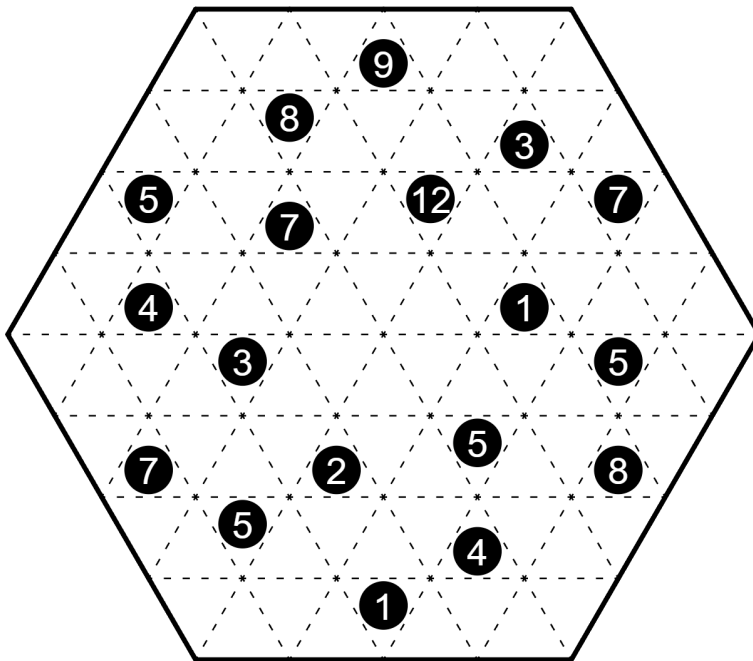
Happy Strange-Shaped Sunday! Here's a **Triangular Shikaku**. Much like for [my previous triangular Choco Banana](#), I've generalised the rectangles in the Shikaku rules to convex regions.

Rules: Divide the grid into convex regions. Each region must contain exactly one circle. A number in a circle represents how many cells are in the region the circle belongs to. (A shape is convex if all of its internal angles are less than 180°, and concave otherwise.)

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



GAPP 101: (ROT13) Fvapr ertvabaf unir n ybg zber syrkvovyvgl va juvpu funcrf gurl pna gnxr ba guvf tevq, sbphf ba svaqvaf pryvf gung pna bayl or ernpurq ol n fvatyr pyhr.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/235zthsr>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2dy4lh6y>

April 14, 2025: Flohzirkus | Freddie Hand

Today's puzzle is a **Flohzirkus** (Flea Circus), a newly invented genre that will be appearing on the Logic Masters 2025 qualifier. The fleas may not be doomed to exhaustion in an ant mill, but being at the mercy of puzzlers who toss them onto square grids is not much better a fate.

Meanwhile, over in the GAPP aquarium the cuttlefish are learning to produce puzzles on their backs. It's slow going, but a promising few can now camouflage among a 3x3 Masyu after about a month of attempts. Number clues still need work.

Rules: Shade some 1x2 dominoes of cells such that no two shaded dominoes are orthogonally adjacent. A number clue, if unshaded, indicates the number of diagonally adjacent cells are shaded. A shaded number clue conveys no information (may or may not be true).

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

			9		
			1	0	
		3			
		1			
		1			
			1	0	1

			9		
			1	0	
		3			
		1			
		1			
			1	0	1

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2cfmvzsy>
 Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2xsuydk3>

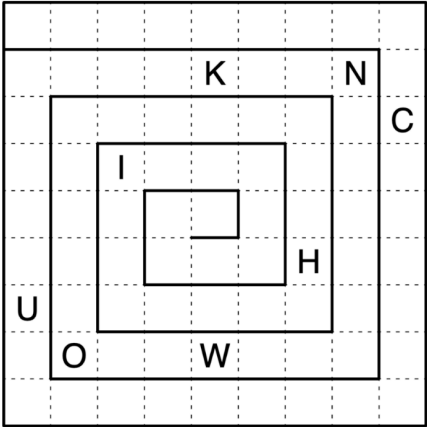
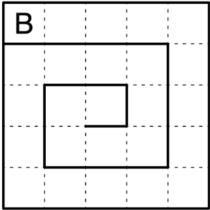
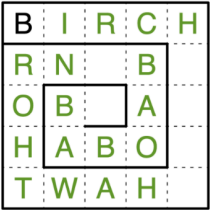
April 15, 2025: Word Labyrinth | Walker

Word Labyrinth is featured in the Puzzle Ramayan round this weekend! (There sure are a lot of puzzle contests this weekend 😊) If you participate in Puzzle Ramayan this weekend, you can earn a **bonus otter!** 🦦

For an additional **bonus otter** 🦦, can you determine why my first idea for an example puzzle has no solutions? <https://tinyurl.com/2xl5g33f> (You don't need to write out a full formal justification, just a rough idea is enough! This otter is trickier than GAPP level.)

Rules: Place all given words in the grid. Words must be written in consecutive cells along the spiral from outside to inside. There must be at least one empty cell between words. Letters must not repeat in a row or column.

Note: For answer check, write the words in **all caps!**

	<p>BOUND EKMAN GALAXY GOLDEN HYPERBOLIC NAUTILUS SCREW STAIRCASE</p>		
		<p>BAOBAB BIRCH HAWTHORN</p>	

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2cy37ubv>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/24e8uewp>

April 16, 2025: Scrabble | Lavaloid

Oh no! I've already set a **Scrabble** for today's GAPP, but I tripped in a hurry and all of the vowels fell off! I rearranged the remaining letters, and it seems I now have a working puzzle. Good thing W and Y are not vowels 😊

There is an upcoming Puzzle GP round this weekend, and you can get an otter 🦦 for participating! Both Puzzle GP and Puzzle Ramayan feature Scrabble in their rounds, but their rules are slightly different from the one featured here. In the contests, all instances of a letter are given, where as in this puzzle, they are not.

Rules: Place a letter into some cells of the grid so that all letters form one orthogonally connected area. Every run of two or more letters in consecutive cells in a row or column forms a word read from left to right or from the top down. All words are given outside the grid, and must each appear exactly once.

Interface note: Letters must be CAPITALIZED for the answer check to work. To mark unused cells, you can use any character that is not A-Z or 0-9. (A dash - would work, for example)

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Example (Penpa+) by Eric: <https://tinyurl.com/2kbcdbc3>
 Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2c39mcy4>

April 17, 2025: Hidden Words | bakpao

What's that? Another word puzzle?! Why yes, three in a row!

To put that into perspective (~~read: stats time with spreadsheet nerd bakpao~~), this is only our 9th ever word puzzle. Loop puzzles on the other hand have featured over 300 times, but we've never done more than 4 in a row. Our second most common category, Region Division, has featured 180 times but never more than twice in a row! Maybe it's finally time for that #daily-word-puzzles channel that's been pitched to us a couple of times...

Today's GAPP is a **Hidden Words!** This is another genre from the upcoming Puzzle Ramayan round, [Casual and Word](#), starting later today. Why not give it a try?

Rules: Place the given words into the grid in straight lines of consecutive cells going from left to right or top to bottom. Words may not touch each other, not even diagonally. A letter outside the grid must appear somewhere in the corresponding row or column.

Yesterday's **interface note** applies today as well: Letters must be CAPITALIZED for the answer check to work. To mark unused cells, you can use any character that is not A-Z or 0-9. (A dash - would work, for example)

	Z	H	P	L	G	G	T	D
G								
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Z								
P								
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THEN
SOLVE
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LEARN
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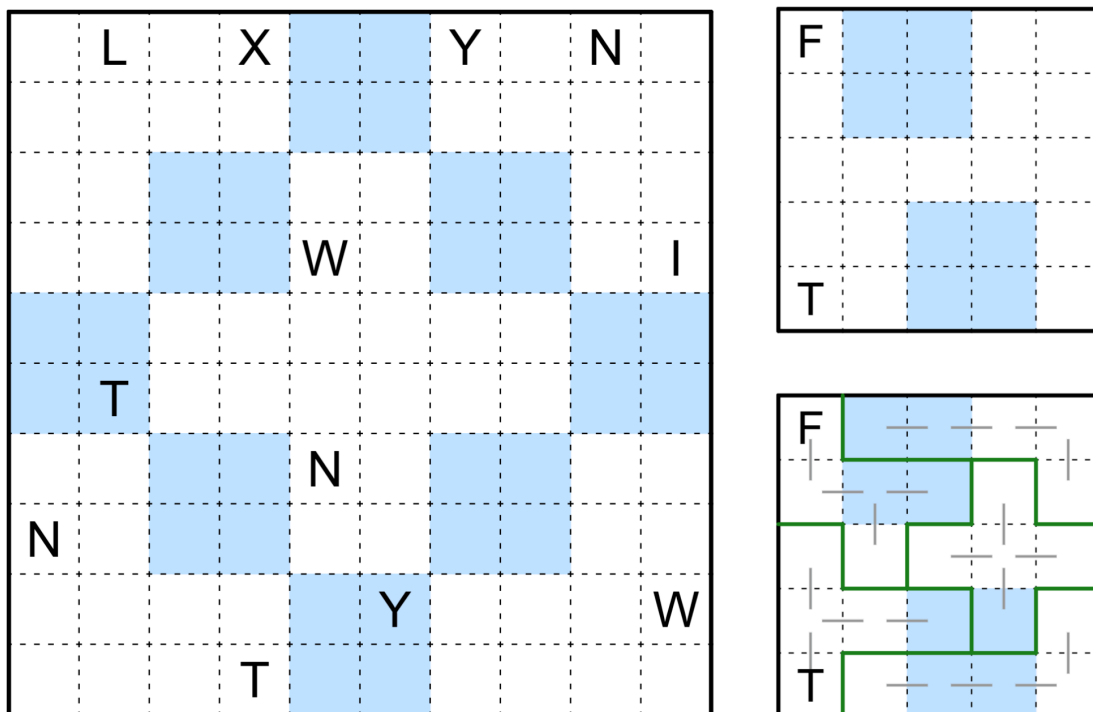
Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/27ff9usn>
Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/22b93bvs>

April 18, 2025: Pentominous (Flooded) | Menderbug

Puzzle Ramayan is not the only contest happening this weekend. There's also round 4 of the Puzzle Grand Prix, authored by a team from Thailand. They've got a really fun looking [water theme](#) going on and I wanted to try out the **Pentominous (Flooded)** variant for today's GAPP.

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of five orthogonally connected cells so that no two 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.

Variant: A region cannot contain more than two water cells.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2d7wqlj9>

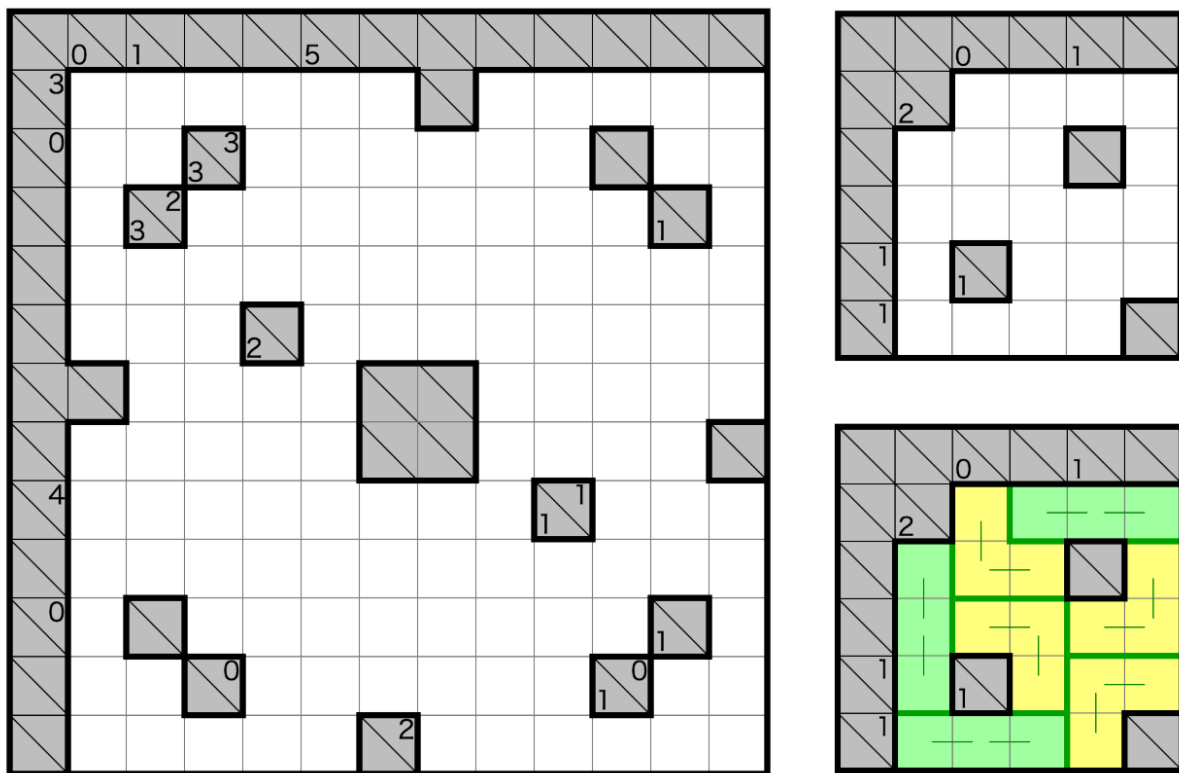
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2y5bsqae>

April 19, 2025: Tri-Place | Freddie Hand

Don't worry, this is not a Kakuro. It's a supersized **Tri-Place**, though you could be forgiven for not remembering its last appearance over 3 years ago.

That is unless you've been going through the archives recently, as Jonathan Chaffer has been at https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhvlqHcMTqYWqkngNh8_N2gkzkGSPBtLi. Do check out the videos if you need some pointers for any puzzles, they're clear and well-made!

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of three orthogonally connected cells. A clue on the bottom of a blocked cell represents the number of rectangular regions in the vertical line below it. A clue on the right side of a blocked cell represents the number of rectangular regions in the horizontal line to its right. (This is analogous to how the clue directions work in Kakuro). Clues cannot see regions through other blocked cells. (In particular, note column 2 of the example puzzle: the 0 clue does not see through the block containing a 1 clue, hence the example solution is valid).



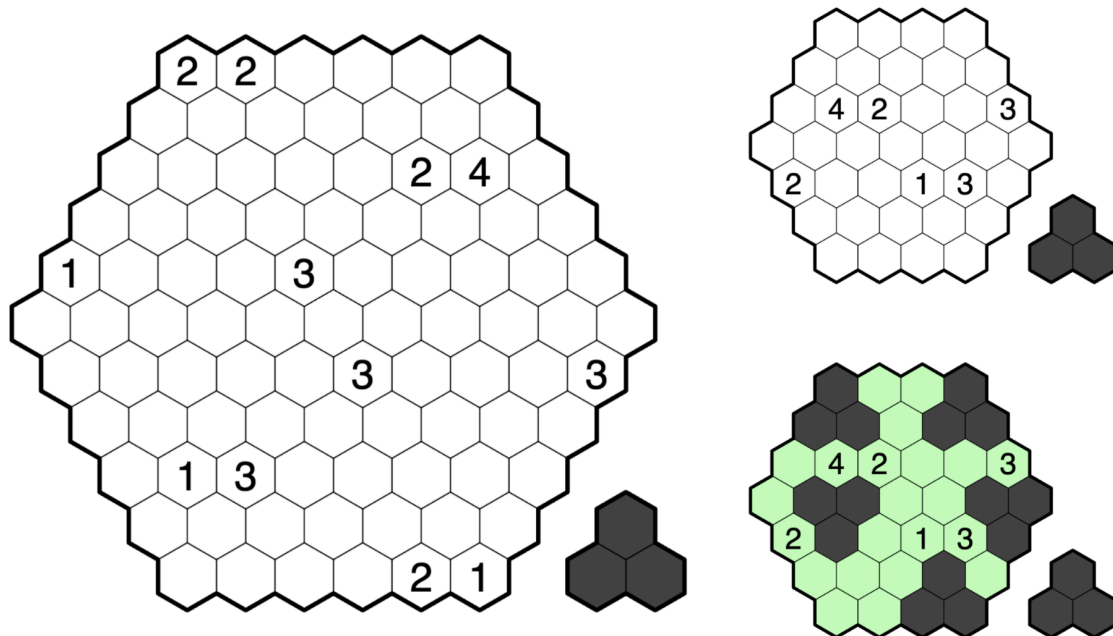
Example (pzprxs), from pzprxs rules page: <https://tinyurl.com/mtp2asae>
Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/bdemcz3n>

April 20, 2025: Minesweeper (Shape) | Walker

Here's a **Minesweeper (Shape)**! I was tempted to write another word puzzle today (there's a neat genre, Fill-In (Disguised Giants) on this weekend's GP round, and many irregular grids in Riad's April Contest on LMI). But instead, I went with a shading genre, which should be easier to input on mobile! 📱

Rules: Place mines into some empty cells so that each clue has the indicated number of mines in the (up to) six surrounding cells. All groups of mines must form the given shape. No two shapes touch.

Note: Use shading to mark the mines!



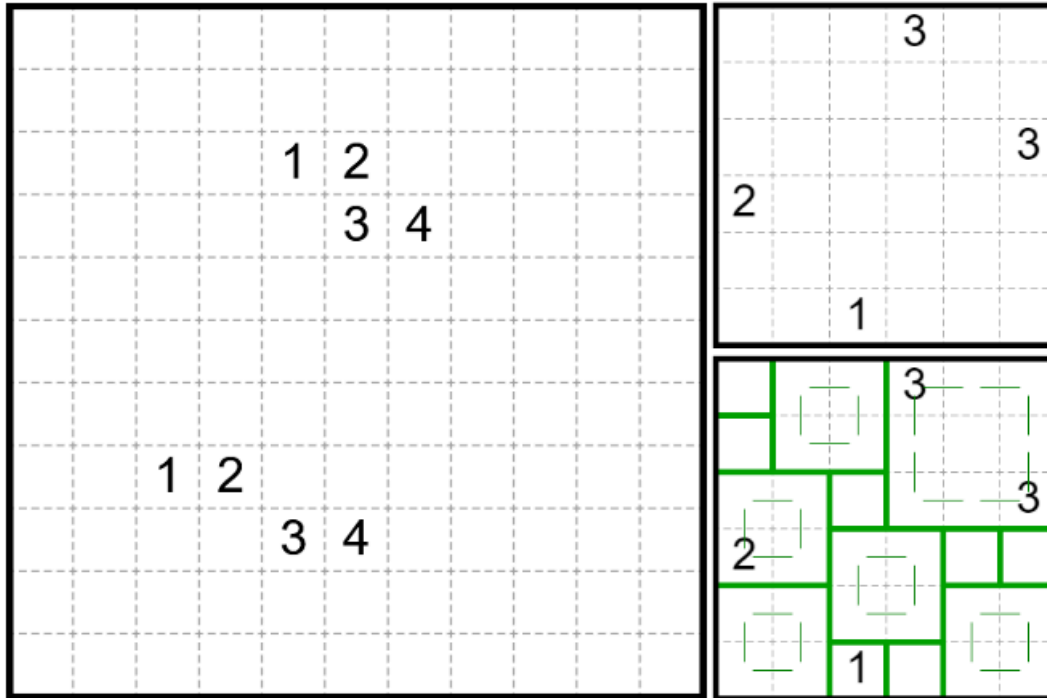
Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2ylmlomg>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2295d5qd>

April 21, 2025: Square Jam | Lavaloid

I already made a different puzzle for today, but couldn't make an example in time, so here's a backup **Square Jam** instead.

Rules: Divide the grid into square regions of orthogonally connected cells. A number indicates the side length of the square it's in. Region borders may not form any four-way intersections.



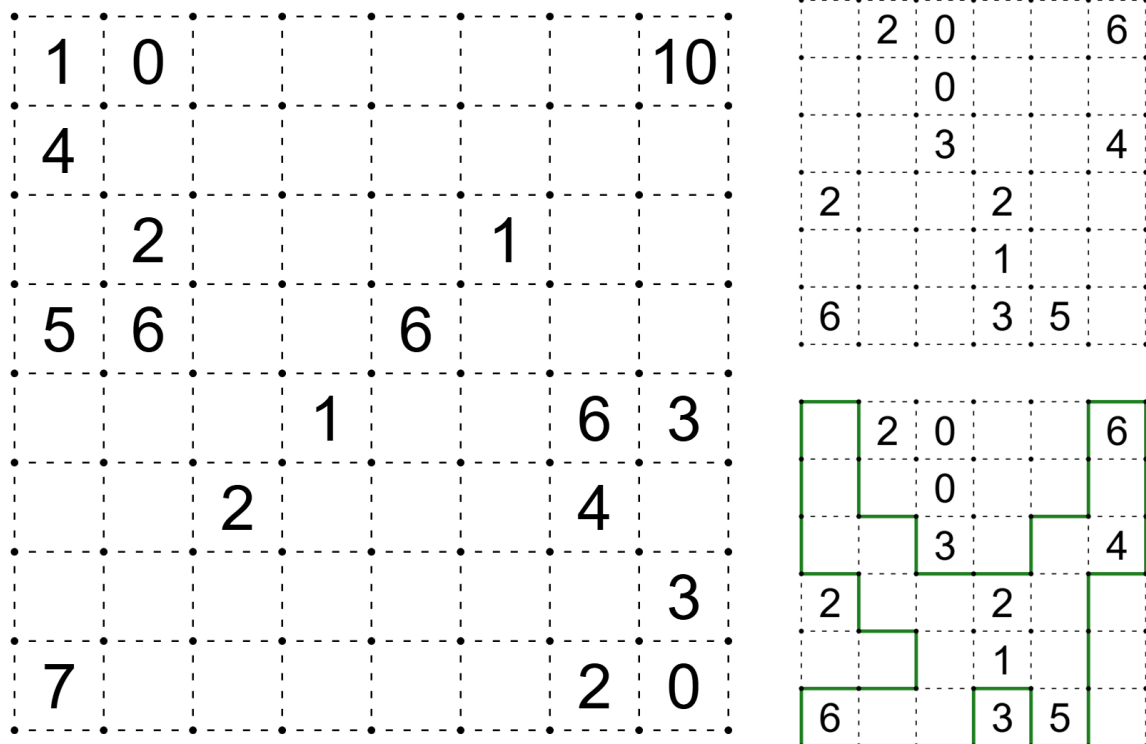
Example (puzz.link), by Eric: <https://tinyurl.com/y284zd7b>
Puzzle (puzz.link): <https://tinyurl.com/5548fwmk>

April 22, 2025: Contact Edge | bakpao

Sorry for the late post, very busy day today!

Today's GAPP is a **Contact Edge**!

Rules: Connect some pairs of orthogonally adjacent dots to form a single non-intersecting loop. A clue indicates the total length of all loop segments that touch its edges.



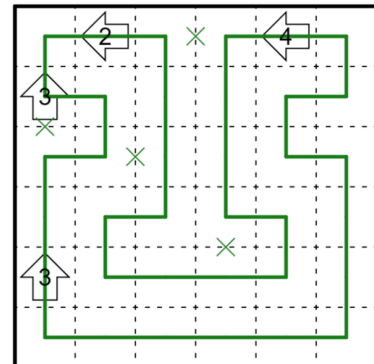
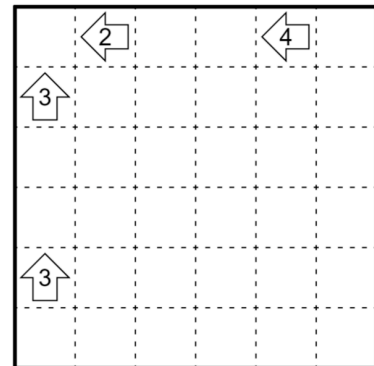
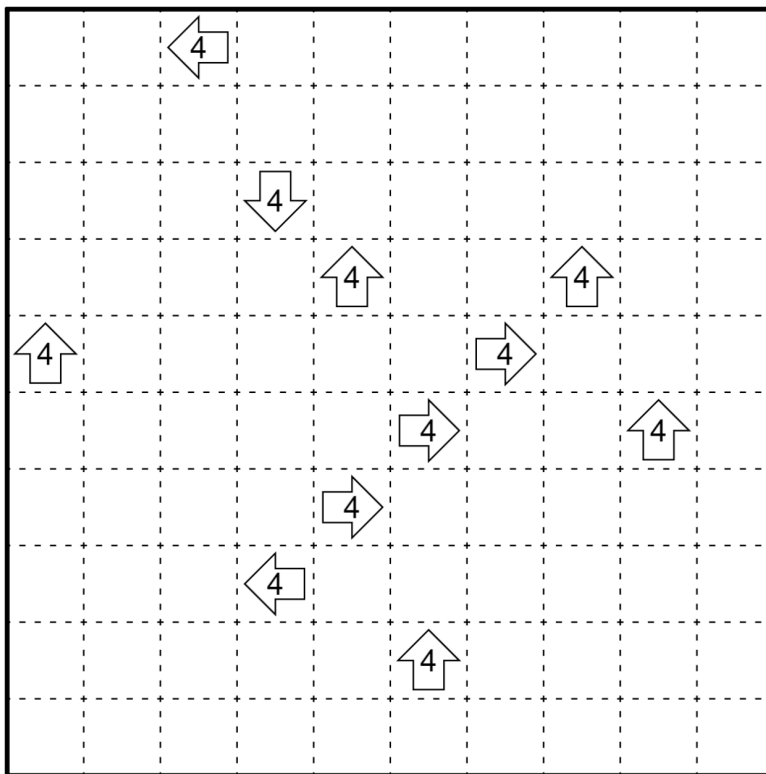
Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/26e8x2gh>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/284ubpe3>

April 23, 2025: Second Corner | Menderbug

Next weekend [Logic Puzzle Open 2025](#) will be held at MIT! One of the rounds features various genres involving arrows, and I thought **Second Corner** looked interesting.

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centres of all cells. Arrow clues point along the loop and indicate the number of steps to the second turn after the clue. (*The loop is not oriented, clues can point in either direction.*)



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2yomhcf4>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/22rr9o6x>

April 24, 2025: Masyu (Deformable) | Freddie Hand

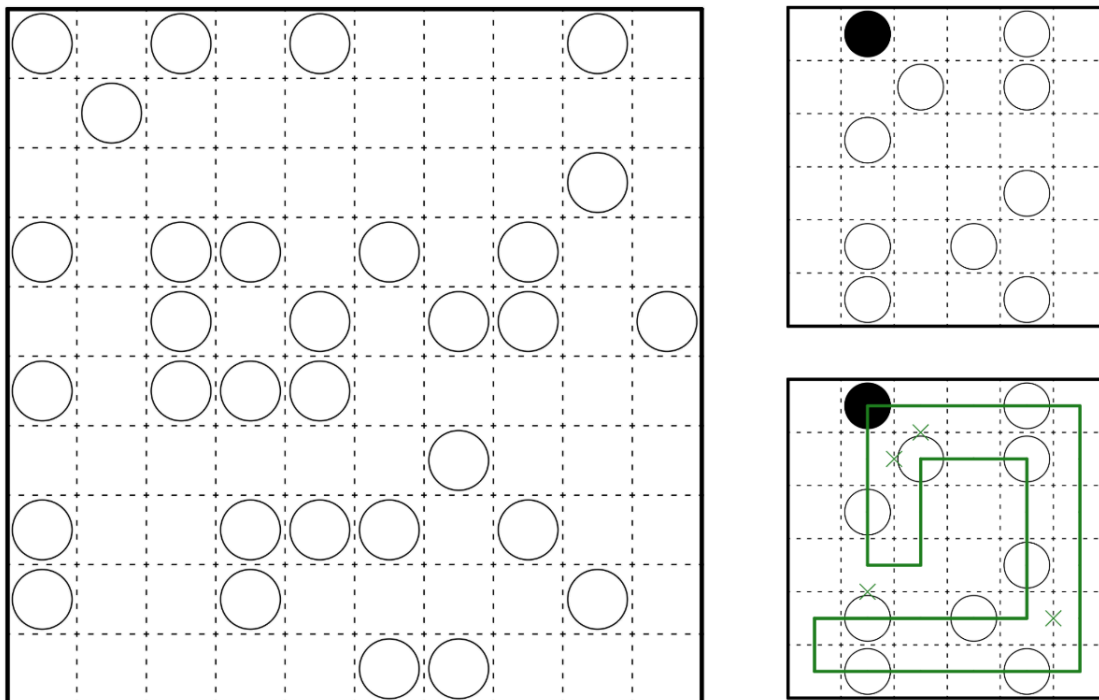
I hope you're feeling all white today, because today's puzzle is a **Masyu (Deformable)**. No idea how that black sheep snuck its way into the example, but I've let it stay because of the symmetry.

Now imagine a Rorschach test where all of the circles in the puzzle are black. What do you see? I notice absolutely no pattern, but maybe I'm not creative enough.

(Yes the pun is recycled, I don't have the wit to white out a new one...)

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 the cells on either side. The loop must go straight through white circles, and turn in at least one of the cells on either side.

Variant: White circles may be shaded to change them into black circles.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/26svjzm3>

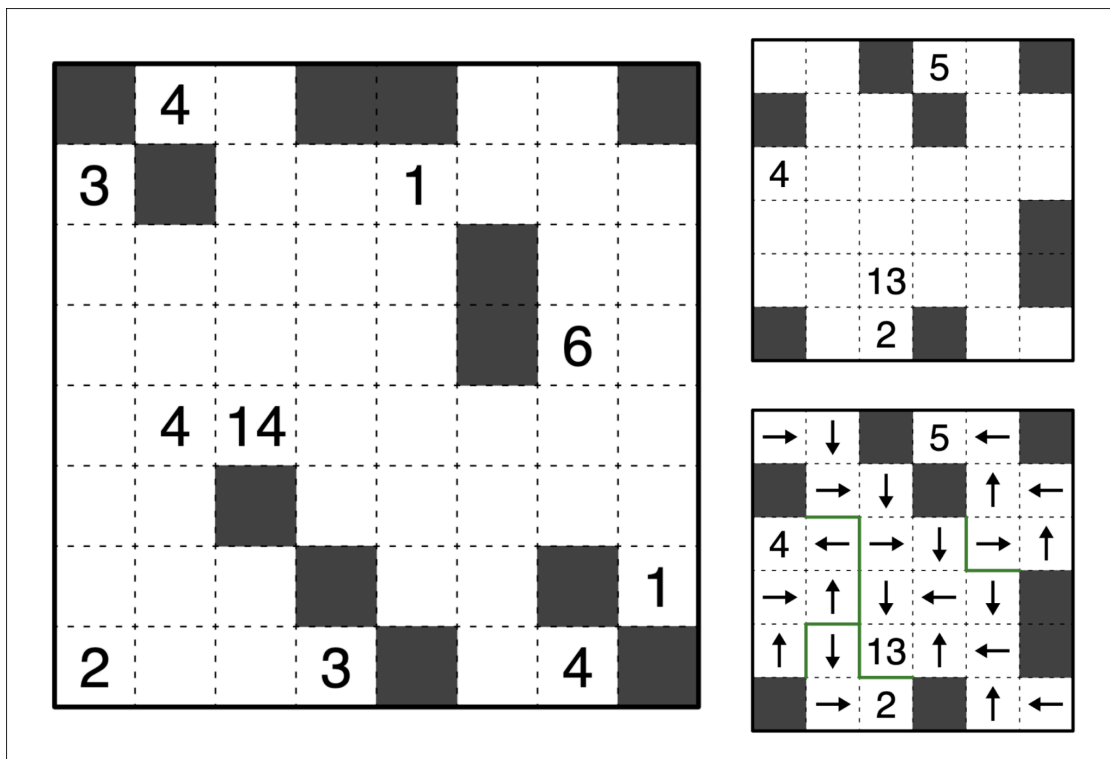
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/27u4jcup>

April 25, 2025: Arrow Flow | Walker

Arrow Flow is another genre appearing in the arrows round of the Logic Puzzle Open 2025! It's a Naoki Inaba invention, and like the name suggests, it has a very fun solving flow.

Rules: Place arrows pointing in four directions in each empty cell. The same arrows cannot be placed in adjacent cells. Starting with any cell with an arrow, following the arrows from cell to cell, a cell with a number can be reached. A cell with a number indicates a total number of arrows that leads to this cell.

Interface Note: While not necessary for answer check, drawing borders between completed arrow regions (like in the example image) is very useful!



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2a33tulv>

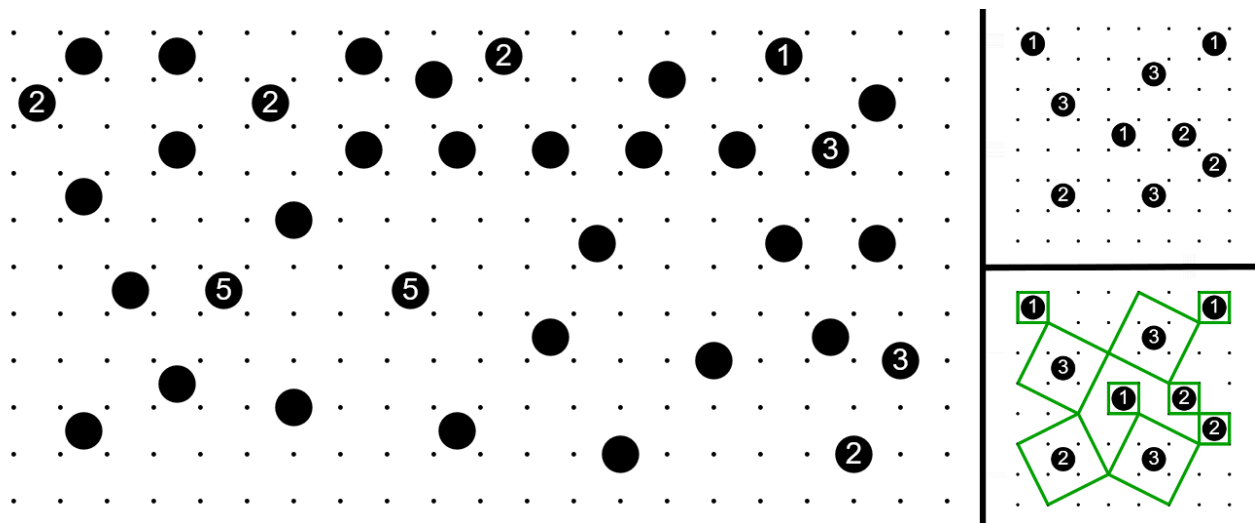
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/29n4rbvm>

April 26, 2025: Taj Mahal | Lavaloid

Today's GAPP is a **Taj Mahal**, and curiously, the third square-themed ruleset I've featured this month. You could probably make a joke about three square meals out of this.

Rules: Draw straight lines connecting pairs of grid points to form squares (allowing non-orthogonal lines). Squares may only touch at the corners, and all squares must form one connected network. Circles mark the centers of all squares drawn in the grid. A number in a circle represents how many other squares its square shares a corner with.

Note: In order to draw lines in the software, click on a circle and drag to a grid point - the software will draw the entire square at once. (To change a square after it is drawn, just click the circle and drag again.)



Example (puzz.link) by Philip: <https://tinyurl.com/4yss25n8>

Puzzle (puzz.link, horizontal): <https://tinyurl.com/43nhnf7w>

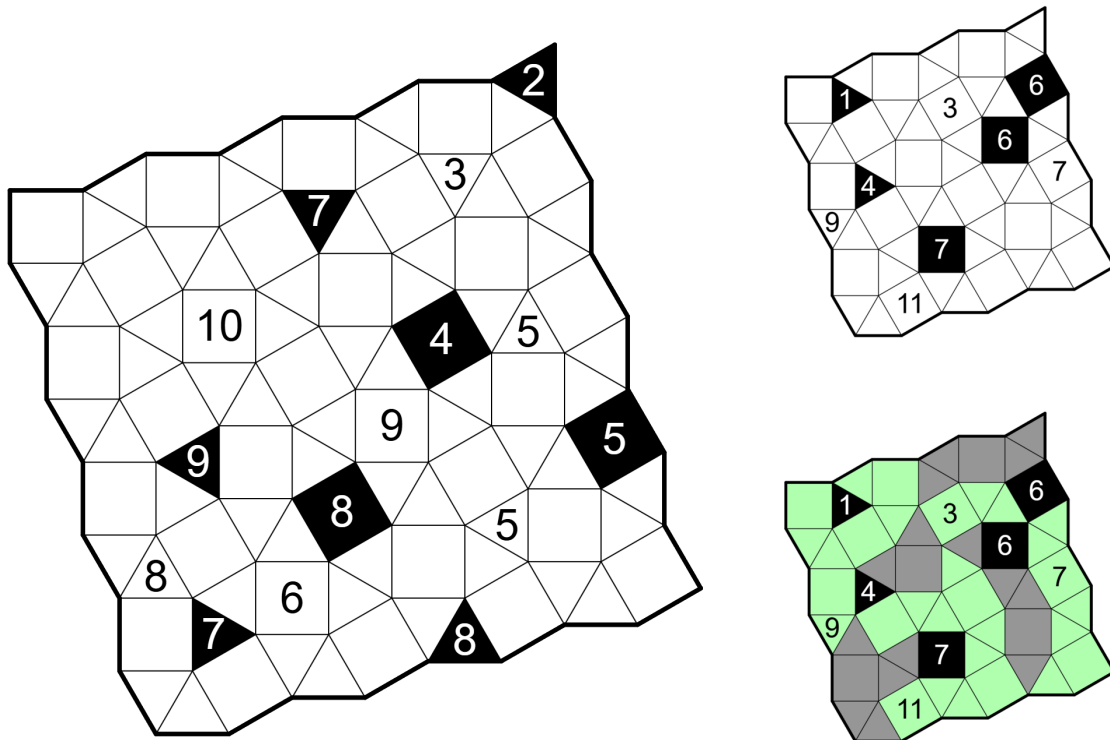
Puzzle (puzz.link, vertical): <https://tinyurl.com/3wrz9swb>

April 27, 2025: Light & Shadow | bakpao

Picking an interesting genre and grid combination for Strange Shape Sunday is always one of the most challenging things for me when writing for GAPP. I once again spent more time looking at blank penpa grids and genre lists than actually writing a puzzle yesterday. I landed on a fairly simple combination this time - hopefully you enjoy! Enjoy your Sunday!

Today's GAPP is a **Light & Shadow** on a snub square grid!

Rules: Shade some cells so that each orthogonally connected area of only shaded or only unshaded cells contains exactly one clue. Some clued cells are given as shaded, and unshaded clues may not be shaded. A clue represents the size of the area of shaded or unshaded cells that the clue belongs to.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2cmz6bz8>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/263jygms>

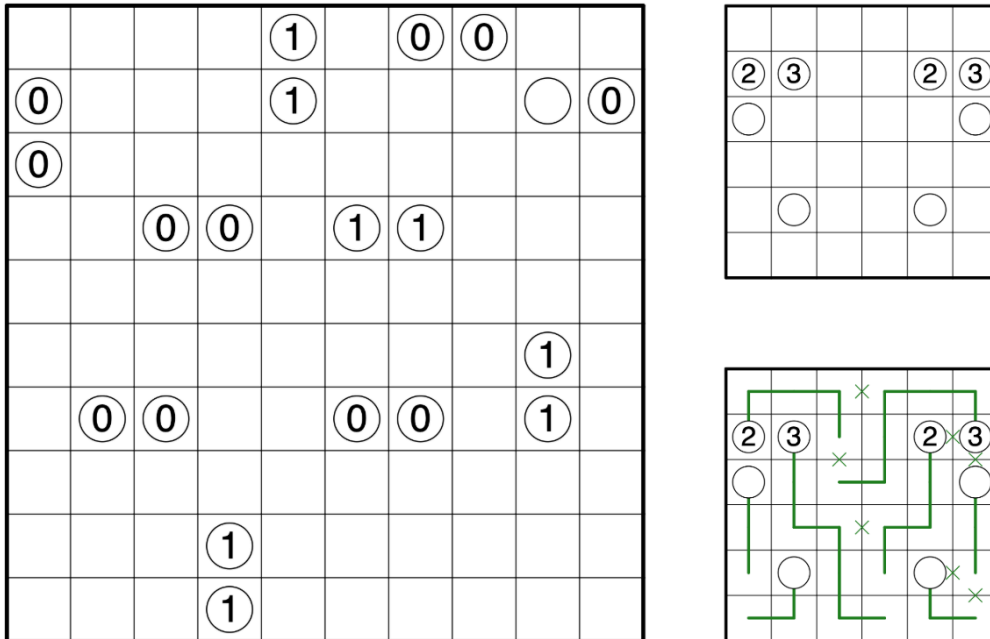
April 29, 2025: Turnkey | Freddie Hand

After the 1 million puzzle contests that concluded recently, it looks like we're in for a bit of a drought next weekend. I haven't had an original thought since February, so it was panic stations when it came to picking a genre for today, without any instructions booklet to steal from.

So of course I turn to my good friend, ol' reliable alliteration. I quickly scrolled to the "Tu" section in Eric's puzzle rules document. There I was greeted by *Turf*, a genre which seemed virtually impossible to GAPP-ify, and *Tug of War*, which is... (sorry bakpao). Oh there's **Turnkey**, a genre we haven't revisited since the days of yore. So here we are! A Tuesday Turnkey. *Definitely* not a series. Seriously.

I supposed I could have picked a "Ch" genre as well, but I don't want to amplify British stereotypes.

Rules: From each clue, draw a path through the centers of cells. A number indicates how many times its path turns. Each path must be at least two cells long (not including the cell with the clue) and every cell must be visited by exactly one path.



Example (Penpa+), by shye: <https://tinyurl.com/6s6hxuxc>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/24btp22m>

April 30, 2025: Battleships (Loop) | Walker

Here's a **Battleships (Loop)**! I found that the Wikipedia page "Museum ship" draws a distinction between a "real" museum ship' and a 'ship replica', based on a lack of original materials, parts, or work tools. It's a real-life Ship of Theseus scenario 🚢

Rules: Place the given fleet of ships into the grid so that no two ships are touching, not even diagonally. Rotating ships is permitted. A clue outside the grid indicates the number of cells in the corresponding row or column that are occupied by ships. Cells with waves cannot be occupied by a ship. A given ship segment must be used as the part of a ship that its shape represents.

Additionally, **draw a non-intersecting loop** through the centers of all remaining cells.

The puzzle consists of a 6x6 grid with clues and ship pieces. The clues are: Row 1: 5, 6; Row 0: 0, 0; Row 1: 1. The ship pieces are: a 2x1 vertical ship at (1,1)-(2,1), a 1x1 square at (2,3), a 1x2 horizontal ship at (2,4)-(3,4), a 1x1 square at (3,3), a 1x1 circle at (3,6), a 1x1 circle at (4,4), and a 1x1 circle at (4,6). There are also wave symbols at (1,4), (2,4), (4,4), and (4,6).

Below the grid are the ship pieces: a 4x1 horizontal ship, a 3x1 horizontal ship, a 2x1 horizontal ship, a 2x1 vertical ship, a 2x1 horizontal ship, a 2x1 vertical ship, a 2x1 horizontal ship, a 3x1 horizontal ship, a 3x1 vertical ship, a 1x1 circle, a 1x1 circle, a 1x1 circle, and a 1x1 circle.

To the right is a 4x4 grid with clues 3 and 4. It contains a 1x1 circle at (2,3), a 1x1 circle at (3,2), and a 1x1 circle at (3,4). There are wave symbols at (2,2), (3,4), and (4,4).

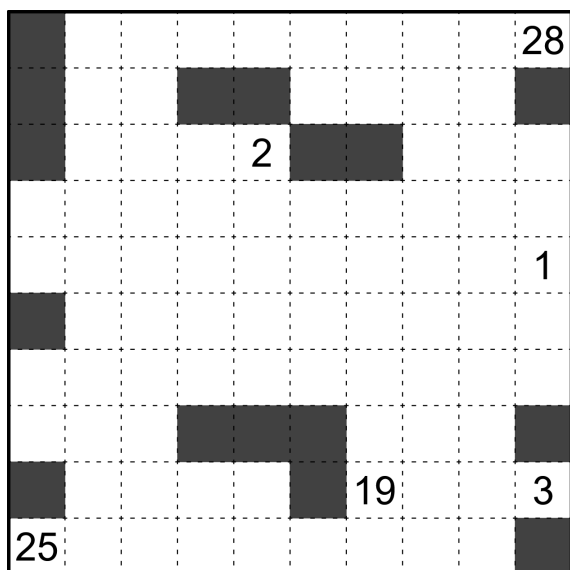
Below this grid are the ship pieces: a 3x1 horizontal ship, a 1x1 circle, a 1x1 circle, a 1x1 circle, a 2x1 horizontal ship, and a 2x1 horizontal ship.

At the bottom right is a 4x4 grid with a green loop drawn through the centers of the remaining cells. The loop starts at (1,1), goes right to (1,4), down to (2,4), left to (2,2), down to (3,2), left to (3,1), down to (4,1), right to (4,3), up to (3,3), right to (3,4), up to (2,4), left to (2,3), down to (1,3), and back to (1,1).

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2bth4pzn>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2c3qdjrr>

Bonus 1: Arrow Flow | Walker



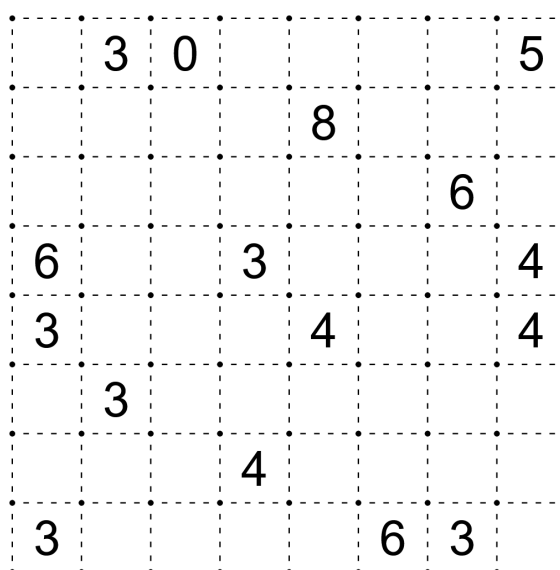
Example (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2a33tulv>

Bonus (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2dqf2zab>

Bonus 2: Contact Edge | bakpao



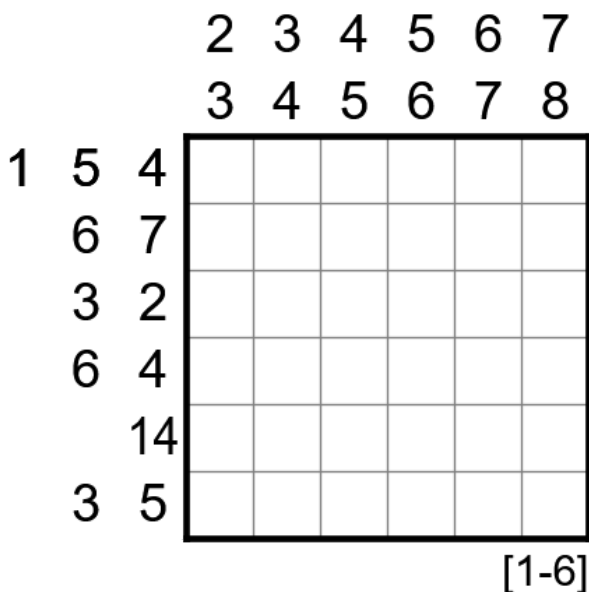
Example (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/26e8x2gh>

Bonus (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2mjrj5k2>

Bonus 3: Japanese Sums | Menderbug



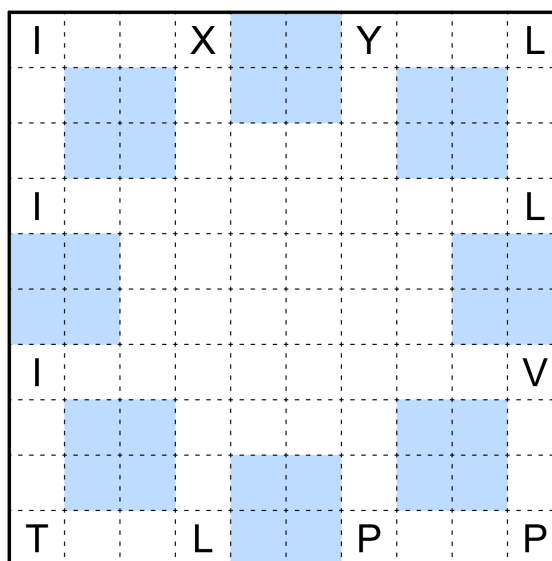
Example (pzprxs):

<https://tinyurl.com/5xzhxz9k>

Bonus (pzprxs):

<https://tinyurl.com/mr37vmm8>

Bonus 4: Pentomino (Flooded) | Menderbug



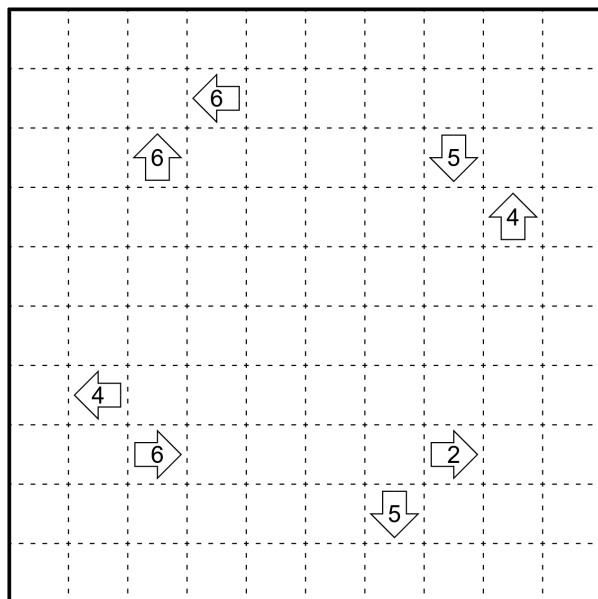
Example (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2d7wqlj9>

Bonus (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/229oddbn>

Bonus 5: Second Corner | Menderbug



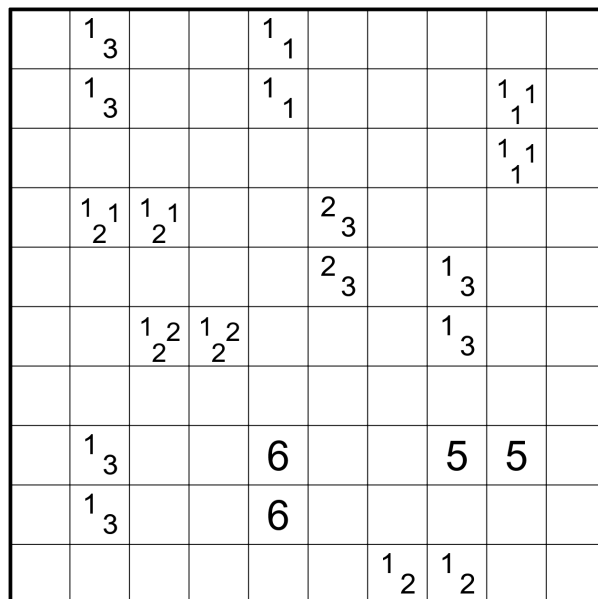
Example (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2yomhcf4>

Bonus (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2dkkdmqd>

Bonus 6: Tapa (Twilight) | Menderbug



Example (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2aak8e9o>

Bonus (Penpa+):

<https://tinyurl.com/2b6445mb>

Date	Sloth Time	Crab Time	
01 Apr 2025	0:04:30	0:09:00	Ordinary Ostrich
02 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Ordinary Oriole
03 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Twilight Twistwing
04 Apr 2025	0:03:45	0:07:30	Wind Millerbird
05 Apr 2025	0:06:00	0:12:00	April Atiu Swiftlet
06 Apr 2025	0:02:34	0:04:56	Kiki Kikau
07 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Celestial Parrotlet
08 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Twilight Twinspot
09 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Banded Banda Myzomela
10 Apr 2025	0:02:15	0:04:30	Space Harrier
11 Apr 2025	0:02:10	0:04:20	Square Grassquit
12 Apr 2025	0:06:30	0:13:00	Rosy Sora
13 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Nacho Nightjar
14 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Siphonaptera Mississippi Kite
15 Apr 2025	0:04:00	0:06:30	Whom Woodlark
16 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Shy Sylph
17 Apr 2025	0:03:30	0:07:00	Earned Winner's Whimbrel
18 Apr 2025	0:02:00	0:04:00	Cotton Teal
19 Apr 2025	0:06:00	0:12:00	Lilian's Lovebird
20 Apr 2025	0:01:45	0:03:15	Triangle Tepui Tinamou
21 Apr 2025	0:01:23	0:02:34	Backup Black-backed Puffback
22 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Occupied Ouzel
23 Apr 2025	0:02:00	0:04:00	Competitive Scimitarbill
24 Apr 2025	0:02:45	0:05:30	Anomalous Anjouan Sunbird
25 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Flow Henslow's Sparrow
26 Apr 2025	0:04:00	0:08:00	Three Square Teals
27 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Monopolistic Meadowlark
28 Apr 2025	0:03:00	0:06:00	Dutch Sumbird
29 Apr 2025	0:02:30	0:05:00	Readymade Red Avadavat The Return of the Turnkey Turkey 
30 Apr 2025	0:02:00	0:04:00	Facsimile Flamecrest