

Mind The GAPP Vol. 55

Genuinely Approachable Pencil Puzzles from the CtC Discord
May 1, 2026 - May 31, 2026

We have a very special announcement this month: There is now an official GAPP website!

The website contains the entire backlog of GAPP. It is intended for people who want to solve GAPP but don't want to create a Discord account or join a new server. We've tried to make the experience as close as possible to the Discord server. You can visit the website here:

<https://gapp-puzzles.com>

Cracking the Cryptic's Discord server still remains the main platform of GAPP. It is where puzzles go up first, and where discussions happen. There is a one-week delay from when puzzles are posted in the server to when they go live on the website.

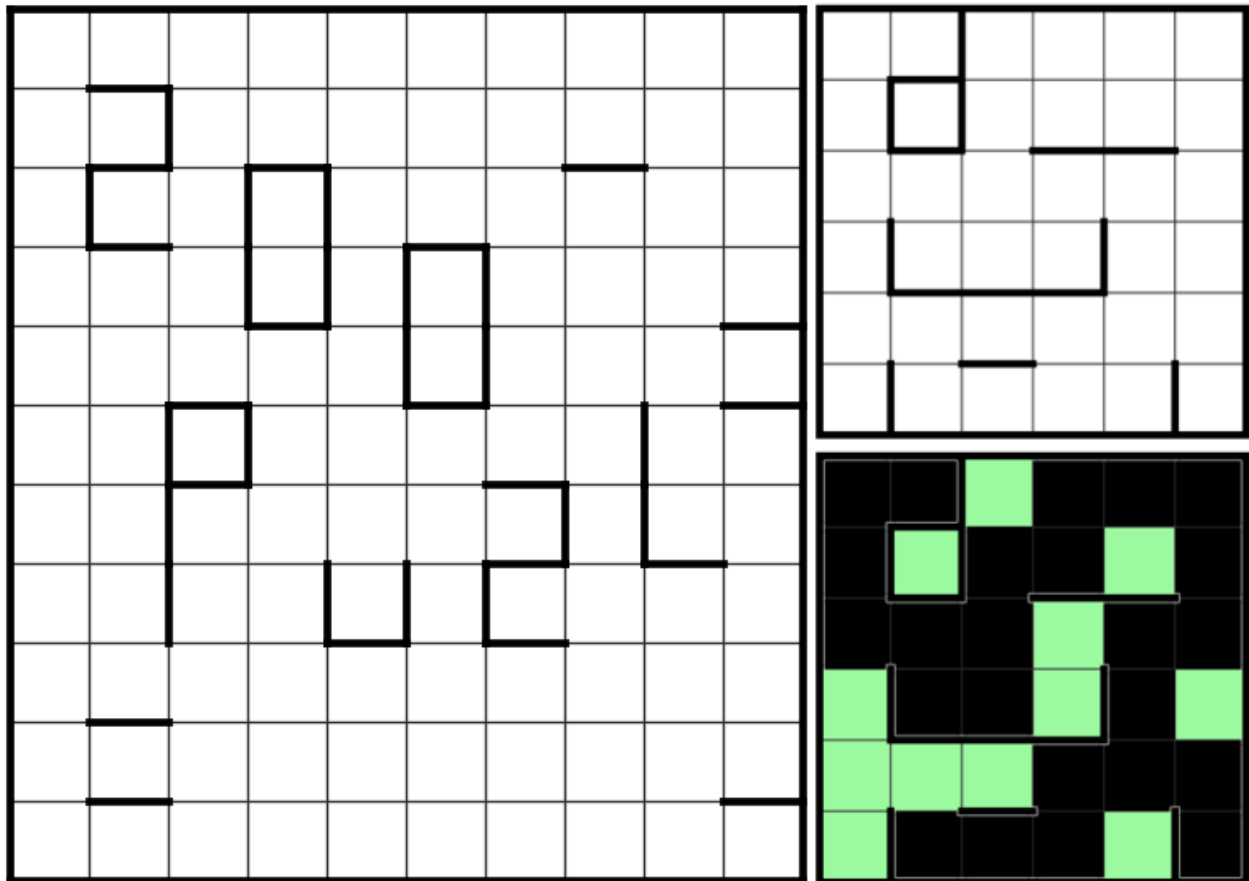
Finally, we have six bonus puzzles this time, and for some reason four of them are Nurimisaki. Enjoy!

May 1, 2026: Aqre (Borders) | Lavaloid

As of today, I have made 200 PuZLs for GAPP (That's a lot)! To celebrate, have an **Aqre (Borders)**.

Rules: Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. There may not exist a run of more than three consecutive shaded or unshaded cells horizontally or vertically anywhere in the grid.

Variant: A pair of cells separated by a bold border must contain one shaded cell and one unshaded cell.



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5as2ar7p>

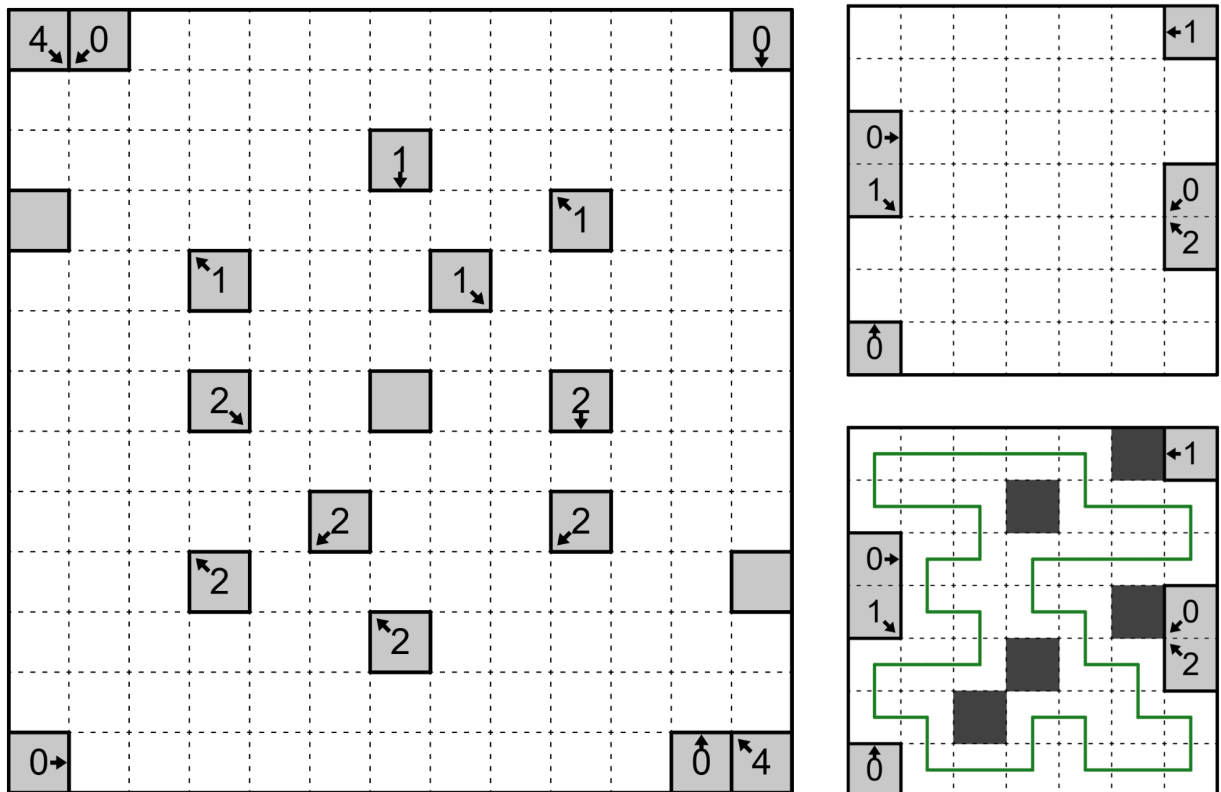
Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5fa4mys3>

May 2, 2026: Yajilin (Diagonal Clues) | bakpao

Last year on May 2nd, I posted a Yajilin belatedly celebrating my birthday. It's now exactly one year later, and it's a Yajilin again! Can you guess how old I turned this year?

Today's GAPP is a SUPERSIZED Yajilin (Diagonal Clues)!

Rules: Shade some cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of all the remaining empty cells. Clues cannot be shaded, and represent the number of shaded cells in a straight line in the indicated direction. Clues can point diagonally.



Example (Penpa+, by Walker): <https://tinyurl.com/3ab4h229>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/r6hme386>

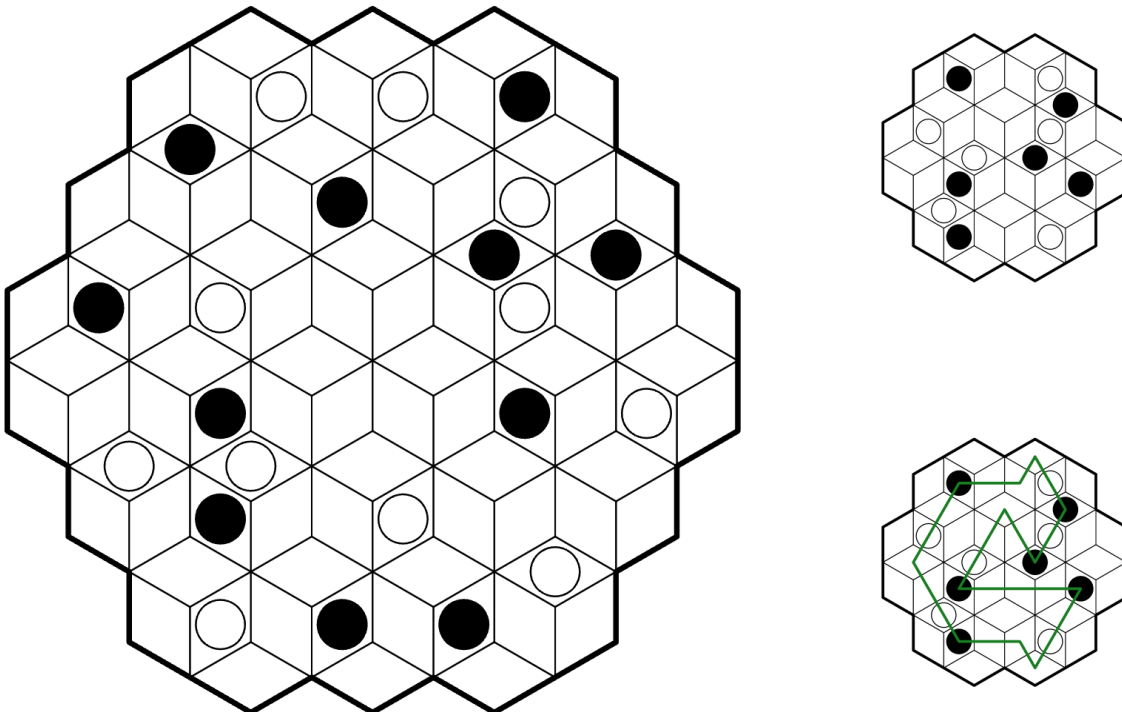
May 3, 2026: Masyu (Penrose) | jovi_al

Supersized Saturday and Strange-Shaped Sunday have been a part of GAPP for several years. We're considering removing or replacing one or both of them, or having them occur less frequently. What do you think? Do you have any other weekly series suggestions? Would you be disappointed not having a supersized or strange-shaped puzzle some weeks? Feel free to sound off in the discussion channel!

Today's Strange-Shaped Sunday puzzle is a **Masyu** on a grid I don't have the mathematical vocabulary to fully describe. Enjoy!

Rules: Draw a single loop by connecting the centers of some edge-adjacent cells such that no cell is visited more than once by the loop and all circles are visited. The loop must not turn on a white circle, but it must turn on at least one of the cells on either side. The loop must turn on a black circle, but it must not turn in either of the cells on either side.

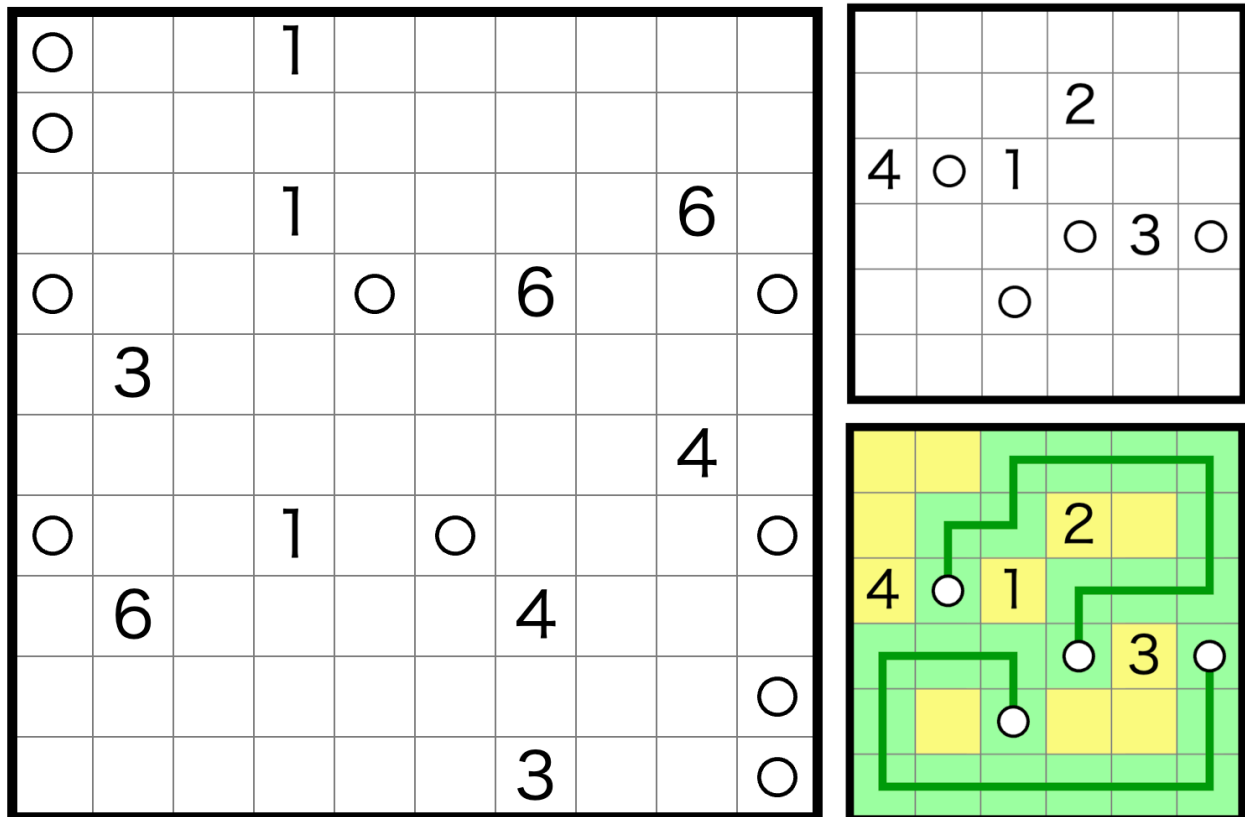
Tip: (ROT13) Va inavyyn Znflh, vs n oynpx pvepyr unf na K ba bar fvqr, lbh pna qenj n frtzzag yrnivat gur bccbfvgr fvqr bs gung pryy. Gung'f n ovq uneqre gb frr urer, ohg vg erznavf gehr!



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2xraqb27>

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/27d7w54f>

Happy Star Wars Day! Did you know that **Golem Grad** is an island in North Macedonia? Totally the reason why I made this puzzle (and not because it just got a glittering new implementation in pzprxs).

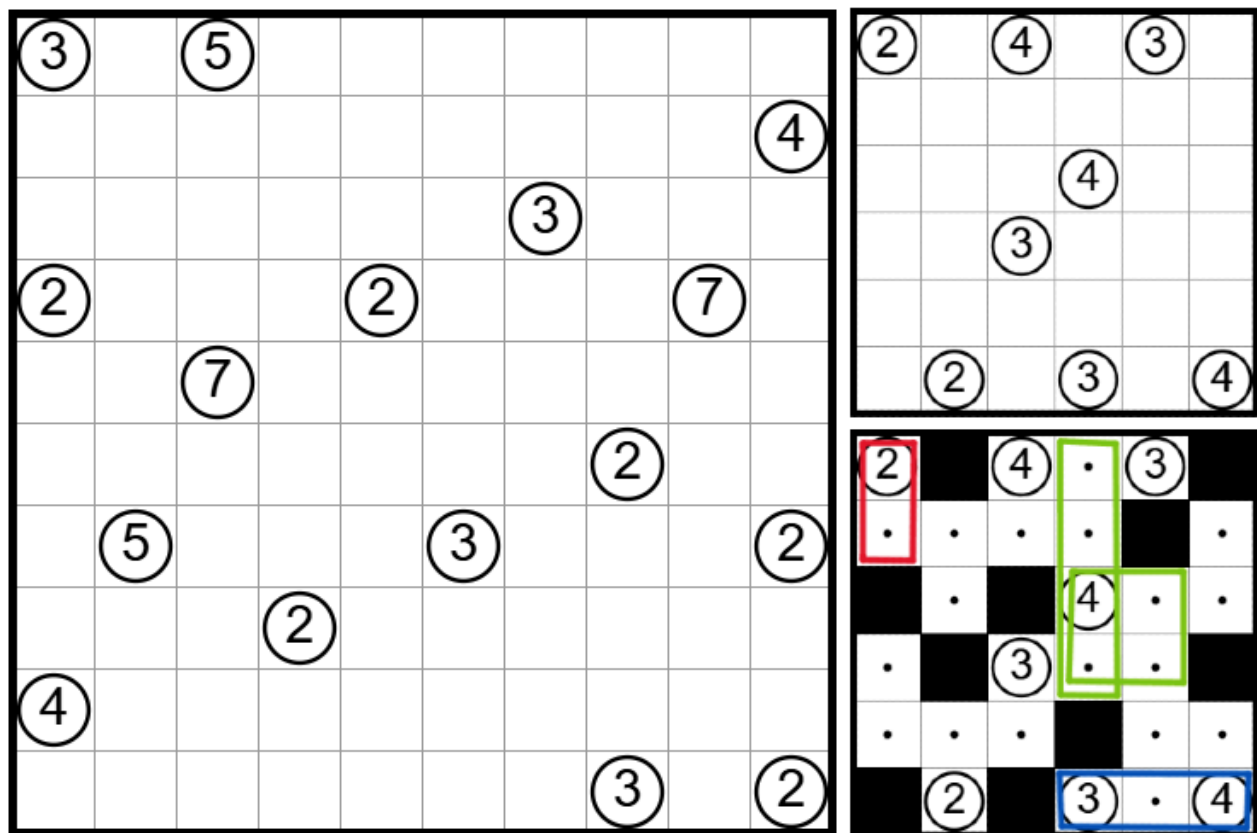


May 5, 2026: Territory | Rook

Like many of my favorite genres, **Territory** is one that I was very confused by when I first stumbled across it. But, the more time I put into solving them, the more fun I found them! Enjoy!

If you're confused by the rules, hopefully the example solution will help!

Rules: Shade some cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. Clues cannot be shaded, and represent the area of the largest rectangle of unshaded cells containing the clue.



Example (pzprxs) by Menderbug: <https://tinyurl.com/hhbfjwbc>

Main (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/3htxr82e>

May 6, 2026: Yin-Yang (Matryoshka) | Lavaloid

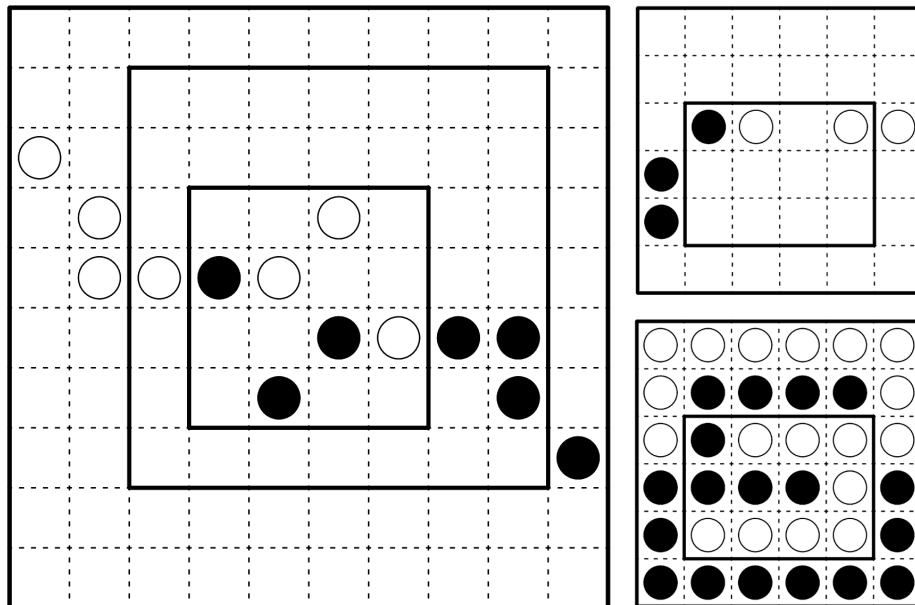
Today's **Yin-Yang (Matryoshka)** was originally meant to be perfectly anti-symmetric, but I bumped into the puzzle while setting it and now one of the rectangles is off-center.

Matryoshka also has a different meaning in logic puzzles: It also refers to a puzzle many layers, such that when its outer layer is removed, it's still a valid puzzle. It differs with today's puzzle as it is actually several unique puzzles, while today's GAPP is only a single puzzle where the inner layers don't necessarily have a unique solution by themselves. Here's an example by Nikolai Beluhov: <https://www.gmpuzzles.com/blog/2013/11/sunday-surprise-9-matryoshka-fillomino/>

Rules:

- Place a circle into each cell of the grid - some white and some black - such that all circles of the same type must lie in cells forming one orthogonally connected area. No 2x2 region may contain all one type of circle.
- Some rectangles (or squares) are highlighted in the grid. Each rectangle must also be a valid Yin-Yang puzzle, and so must obey the same rules.

GAPP 101: (ROT13) Gurur zhfg or ng zbfq bar begubtbanyyl pbaarpgrq tebhc bs rnpu pvepyr glcr nybat gur obeqre. Vs gurur jnf zber guna bar tebhc bs oynpx pvepyrf, sbe vafgnapr, gur tebhc bs juvgr pvepyrf orgjrra gurz jbhyq or phg bss sebz gur erfg bs gur juvgr pvepyrf qhr gb gur oynpx pvepyrf pbaarpgvat npebff gurz.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/54a2wtde>

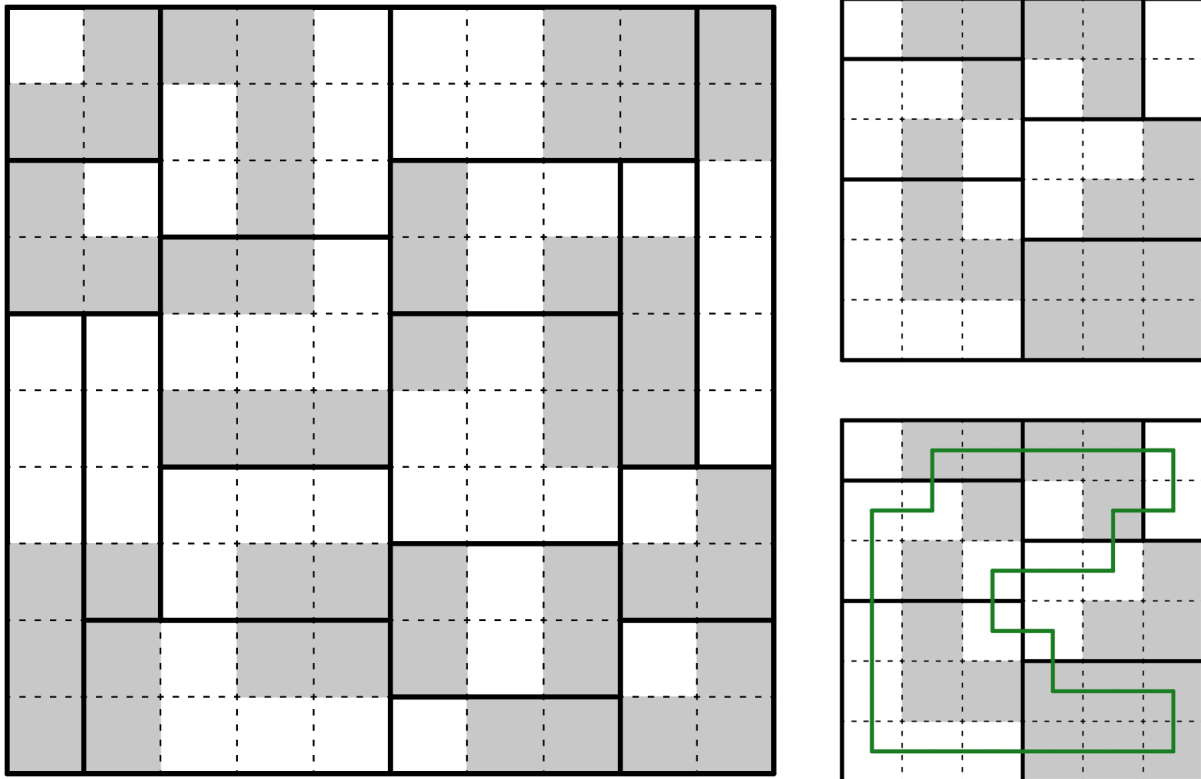
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/44kmexyc>

May 7, 2026: Expressway | bakpao

Early post today! I'm in Bratislava for the first edition of the European Sudoku Championship, starting tomorrow. Wish me luck!

Today's GAPP is an **Expressway**!

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of some cells which passes through each region at least once. Within each region, the loop visits all cells of one color and does not visit any cells of the other color.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/r4kevrty>

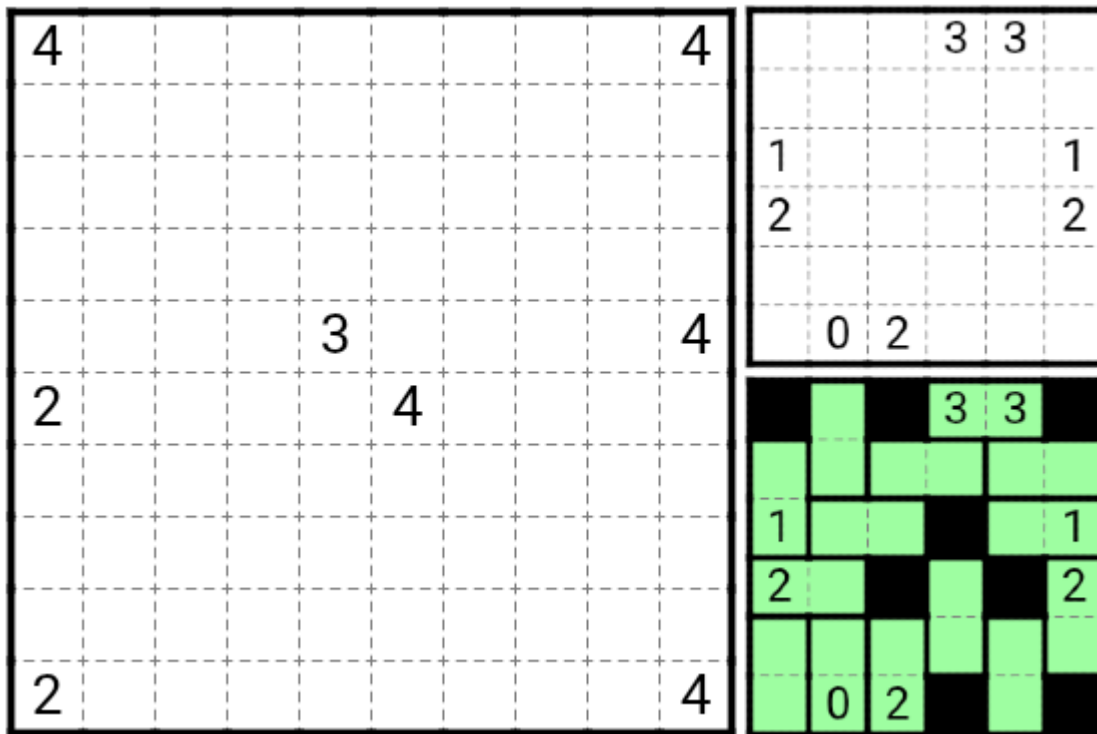
Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/yr537p64>

May 8, 2026: La Paz | jovi_al

Today's standard-shaped, normal-sized puzzle is a **La Paz**, a frankly underrated genre (despite already being quite highly rated)! Today's puzzle also comes with a GAPP 101.

Rules: Shade some cells such that no two shaded cells share an edge, and divide all unshaded cells into dominoes (pairs of edge-adjacent cells). Clues cannot be shaded. If a clue is in a vertical domino, it indicates how many shaded cells are in its column. If a clue is in a horizontal domino, it indicates how many shaded cells are in its row.

GAPP 101: (ROT13) Fvapr funqrq pryyf pnaabg or nqwnprag, gurer pna or ng zbfg bar funqrq pryy cre cnve bs rqtr-nqwnprag pryyf. Vg vf bsgra urycshy gb frr vs guvf yvzvvgf nal ynetre pyhrf. Guvf fgrc vf hfrq (gb n yrffre qrterr) va gur rknzcyr!



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5dy2chhu>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/3r3d2ptm>

May 9, 2026: Fillomino (Cube) | Freddie Hand

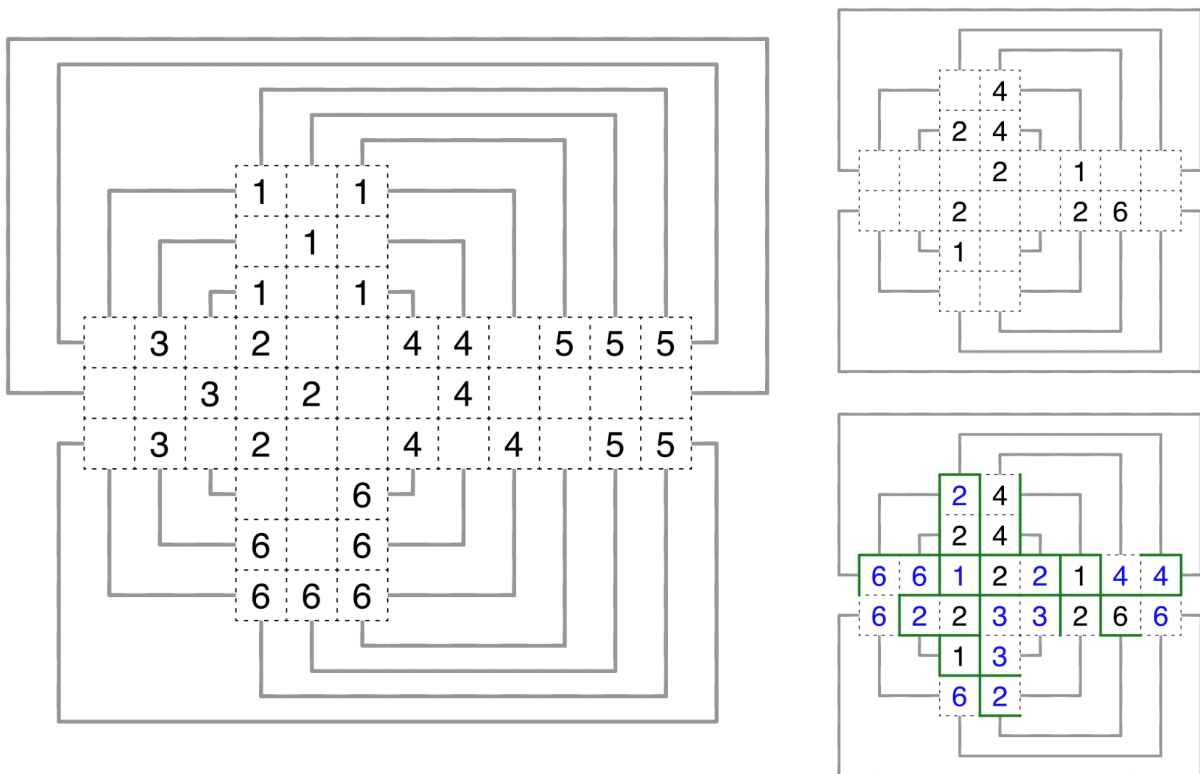
Thanks for your thoughts on Supersized Saturday/Strange-Shaped Sunday. We have hereby decided to terminate these series, replacing them with Strange-Shaped Saturday and Supersized Sunday.

That's a joke, but this **Fillomino (Cube)** certainly does have an unusual shape.

Rules: Divide the grid into regions of orthogonally connected cells. Two regions of the same size may not share an edge. Clued cells must belong to a region containing the indicated number of cells. (A region may contain any number of clues, including none at all.)

Variant: The puzzle is on the surface of a cube, which has been unfolded into a cube net.

Alternatively, two cells are orthogonally adjacent either if they are adjacent in a sub-grid or if they are connected with a grey line.



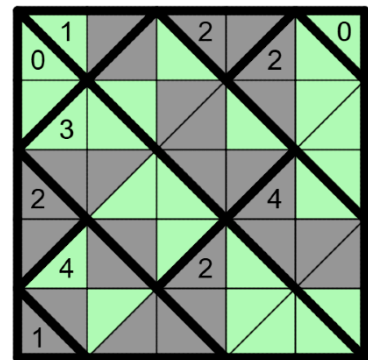
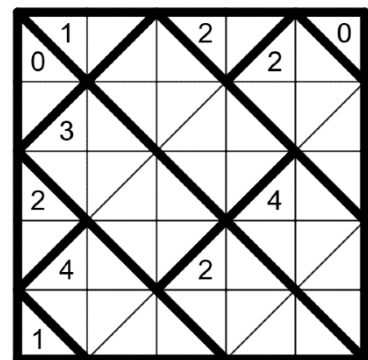
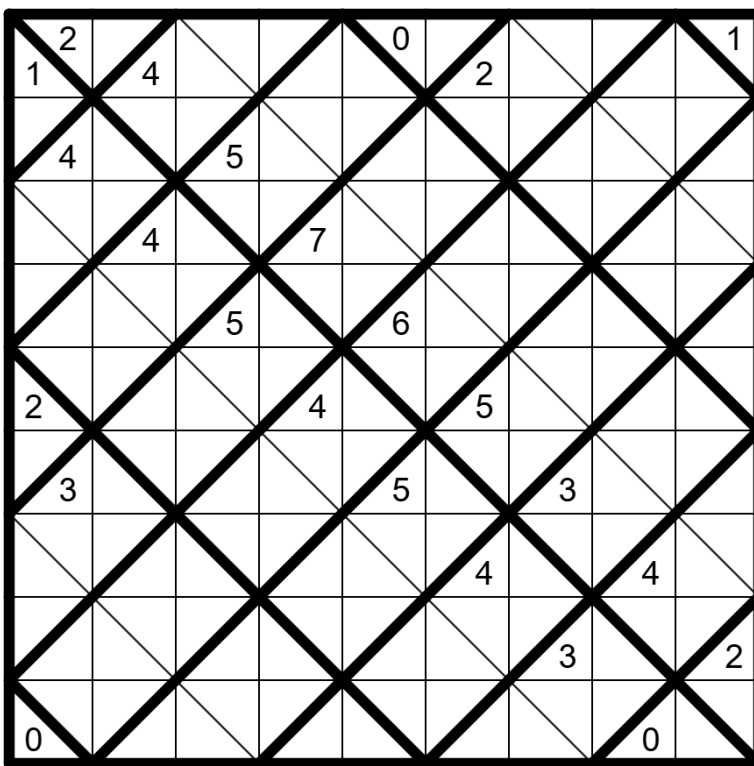
Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2svwva3p>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/dzpkxk8c>

May 10, 2026: Hinge (Tetrakis Square) | Rook

After neglecting Ququ's original geometry for my last Strange Shaped post, I decided to try it out for a different genre!

Today's *Superstrangesized Sunsaturday* puzzle is a **Hinge (Tetrakis Square)**!

Rules: Shade some cells such that each group of orthogonally connected shaded cells is cut only once by a single straight segment of region borders, across which it must have reflectional symmetry. Numbered regions must contain the indicated amount of shaded cells.



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

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/4w579k4k>

May 11, 2026: Kanaore | Lavaloid

We periodically like to feature word puzzles, perhaps to the dismay of everyone who solves these on mobile. Anyways, today's GAPP is a **Kanaore**, also known as Seek and Spell. Sorry mobile solvers.

Rules:

- Write exactly one letter in each cell in the grid.
- It must be possible to spell each word given outside the grid by starting at the corresponding number in the grid, then moving horizontally or vertically one cell at a time.
- The first move when spelling a word must be in the direction given by the arrow.
- A cell may be used by more than one word, but no cell can be used more than once in the same word.

Interface Note: For answer check, the letters must be inputted in ALL CAPS.

	1					
	2				3	4
	8					9
			10			
7						
6		5				

1	2			
	3			
	4		5	6
			7	
	8			

① ← HYDROGEN ⑥ → CARBON

② → HELIUM ⑦ ↑ NITROGEN

③ ← LITHIUM ⑧ ↓ OXYGEN

④ ↑ BERYLLIUM ⑨ ↓ FLUORINE

⑤ ↑ BORON ⑩ → NEON

① ↓ LITS ⑤ ↑ AQRE

② ← SLITHER ⑥ ↓ IKOJI

③ ↓ TAPA ⑦ ↑ HAISU

④ ↓ AKARI ⑧ ← SNAKE

1	2	S	E	R	U	
I	3	T	H	Q	S	
R	4	A	P	5	6	I
A	K	E	7	H	K	
N	8	S	I	J	O	

Example (Penpa+) by カルコゲン: <https://tinyurl.com/mwrvsddk>
Puzzle (Penpa+, words to the right): <https://tinyurl.com/yd526stf>
Puzzle (Penpa+, words at the bottom): <https://tinyurl.com/yckadkut>

May 12, 2026: Tapa (Alternative) | bakpao

Today's GAPP is a **Tapa (Alternative)**. This is a variant we've never featured in GAPP before!



Rules: Shade some cells so that all shaded cells form one orthogonally connected area and no 2x2 region is entirely shaded. Numeric clues cannot be shaded, and represent the lengths of the blocks of consecutive shaded cells in the (up to) eight cells surrounding the clue. Exactly one copy of each letter in the grid must be shaded. Other copies of the same letter, if present, must be unshaded.

	2 ₂			1 ₁					
	G	A	P	P			1 ₂ 2 ₂		
					T	A	P	A	
		1 ₂ 2 ₂							
				E	3	T			1 ₃
3			X	3	U				
							4		
	E	G	G	Y					
		1 ₁ 3			P	U	Z	Z	
					1 ₂			2	

A				4	B
1 ₃		A			
				B	
	A		4		
			C		
C					D

A				4	B
1 ₃		A			
				B	
	A		4		
			C		
C					D

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/4euuytd3>

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

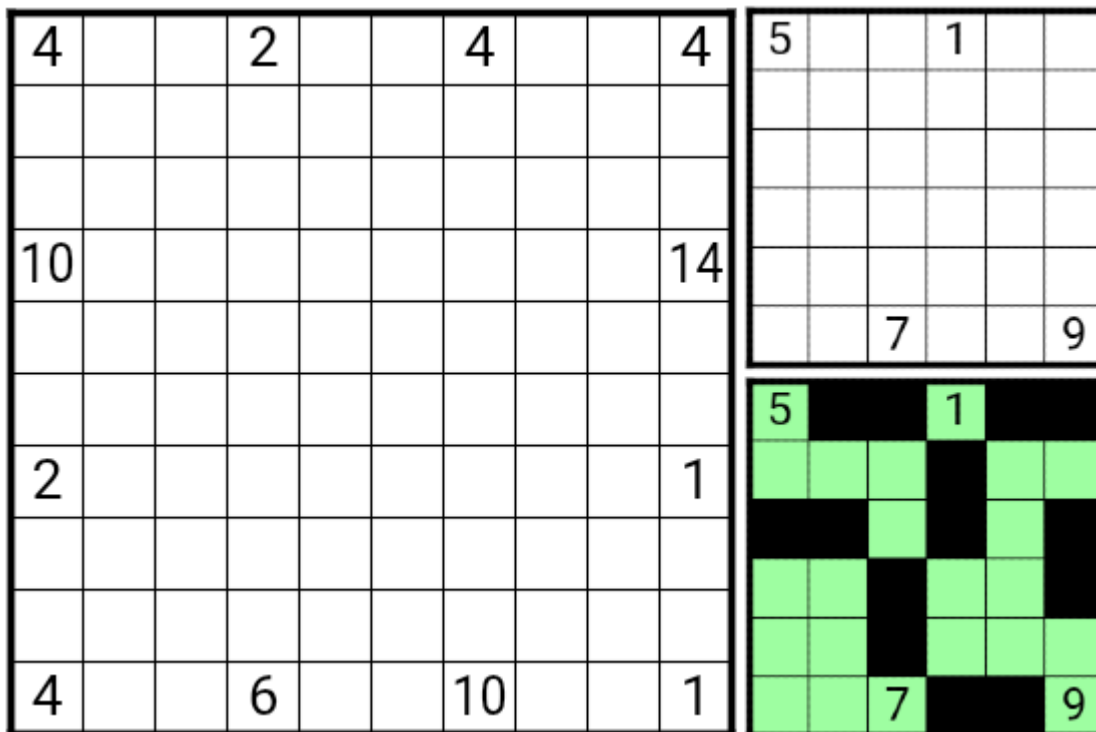
May 13, 2026: Norinuri | jovi_al

Hey everyone! I have a **Norinuri** for today, also known as *Norikabe*. There's a GAPP 101 for today, though it's one of the simplest 101s we've ever had.

Two domino puzzles by Jovi in a row? Call that a domino of domino puzzles...?

Rules: Shade some pairs of edge-adjacent cells called dominoes. No two dominoes may share an edge. Clues must be unshaded, and they indicate the number of cells in the unshaded group of edge-adjacent cells containing that number. Every group of edge-adjacent unshaded cells must contain a number.

GAPP 101: (ROT13) Orpnhfr bs guvf chmmyr'f pyhr ynlbhg, sbhe va gur pbeare vf sbepqr!



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/8tytd8p8>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/4barnyd>

May 14, 2026: Magic Box | Freddie Hand

I reckon you're wondering why I'm posting this **Magic Box**, another word puzzle, so soon after Lava's Kanaore. Well it's because LMI PR - Casual and Word is starting tomorrow! You can find the instructions at this link <https://logicmastersindia.com/live/?contest=PR202605>. It's a fun change of pace from the more "standard" pencil puzzles, I would highly recommend! As always, 🦉 **bonus otter** for anyone who gives it a go.

Rules: Find the listed words in the grid so that each word is read from left to right or top to bottom. Words may not touch each other, not even diagonally. The magic letter must appear exactly once in each row and column. Some letters have already been given.

		O				H	
				R			
		P					E
				S			

ONE
DEUX
TRE
VIER
FEM
SEIS
SEPT
EIGHT
NOVE

Magic letter = E

I						
					G	
H						
					G	

I
IS
HI
GIG
GIN
SKI

Magic letter = I

I	S					
			G	I	G	
H	I					
			I		G	
					I	
S	K	I			N	

I
IS
HI
GIG
GIN
SKI

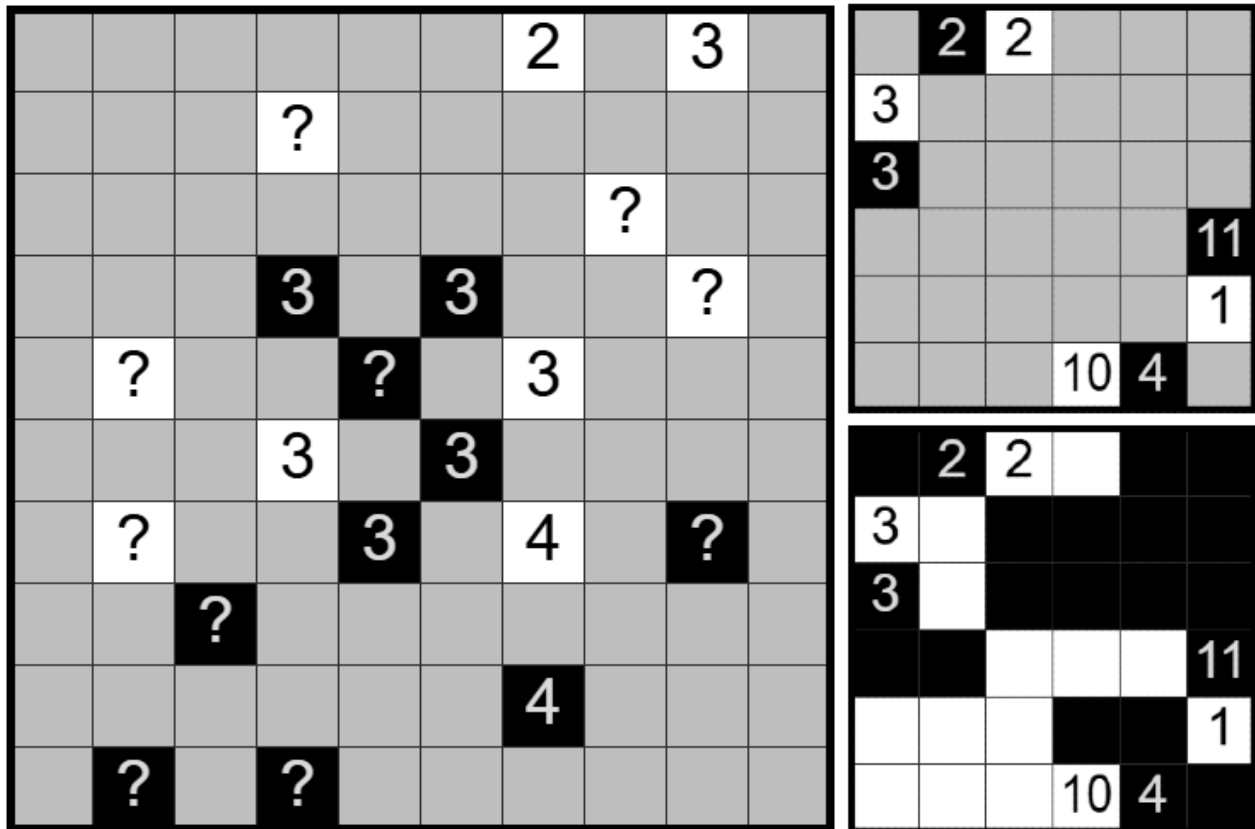
Magic letter = I

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/aunszxm4>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/4t8yxsh8>

May 15, 2026: Light and Shadow | Rook

Today's GAPP is a **Light and Shadow**! But, some of you might know it better as "*Fields*"! Those who know, will know 🤔

Rules: Fill some cells black and some cells white so that each orthogonally connected area of similarly shaded cells contains exactly one clue, which represents the size of the area of black or white cells it belongs to.



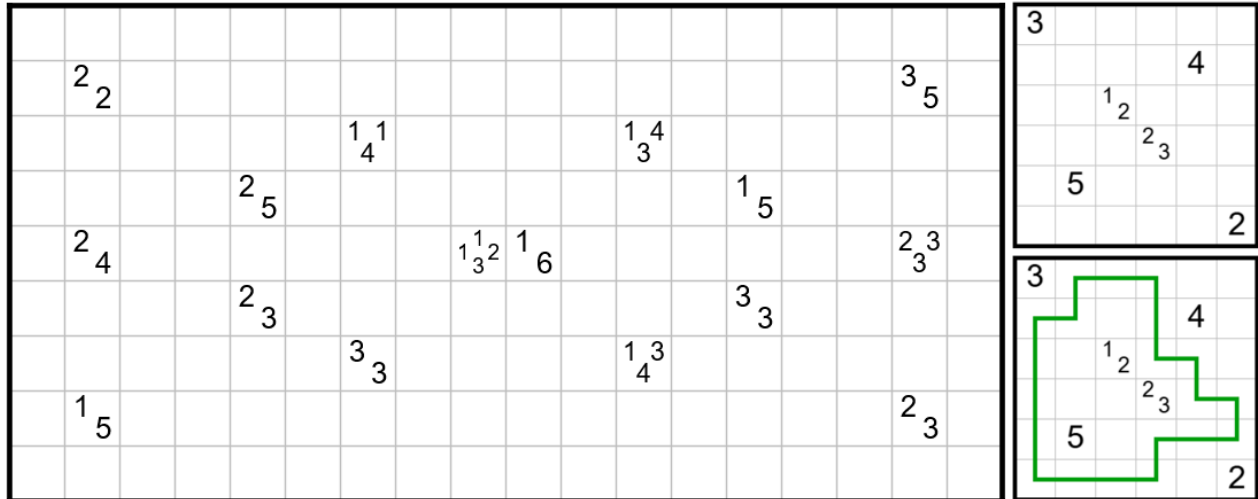
Example (pzprxs) by shye: <https://tinyurl.com/2nff4pzw>

Main (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5n6zkrr9>

May 16, 2026: Tapa-Like Loop | Lavaloid

Tapa-Like Loop!!! 🎉

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centers of some empty cells. Clues represent the numbers of consecutive cells occupied by the loop each time it enters the (up to) eight cells surrounding the clue, in no particular order.



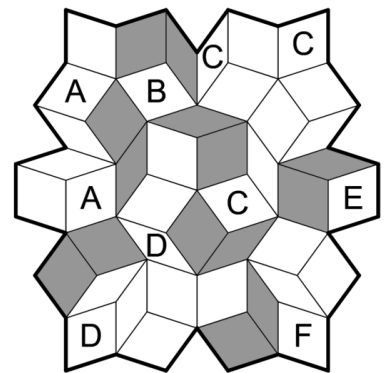
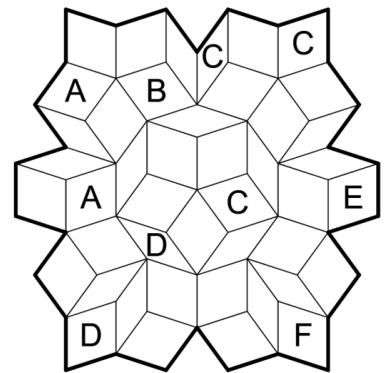
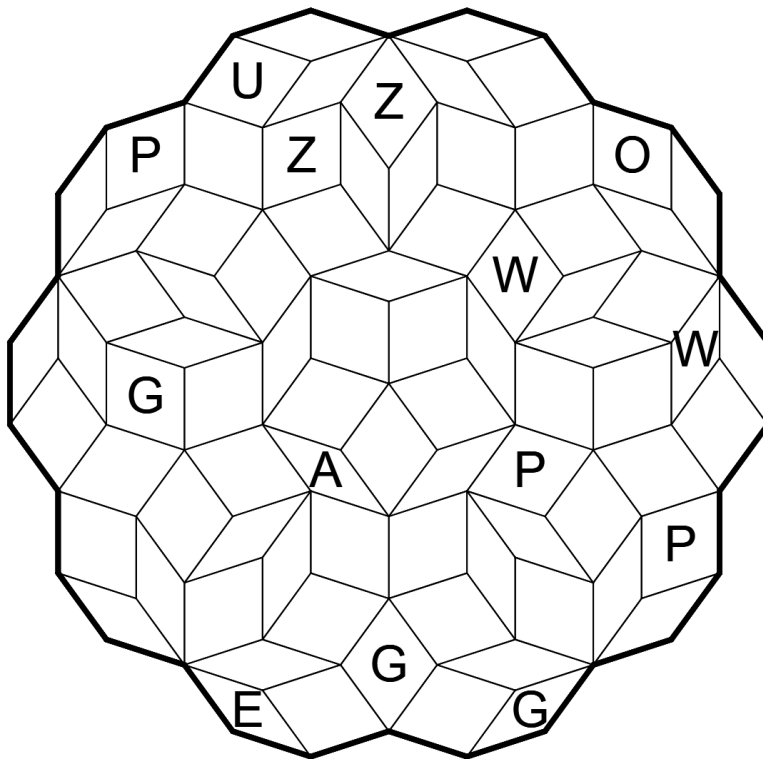
Example (pzprxs, by Jovi): <https://tinyurl.com/3p7ya7ey>
Puzzle (pzprxs, landscape): <https://tinyurl.com/5bspet8m>
Puzzle (pzprxs, portrait): <https://tinyurl.com/a59vwyjn>

May 17, 2026: Dominion (Penrose) | bakpao

Here's another puzzle that contains the words PUZZ, GAPP and EGGY.
WOW!

Today's GAPP is a **Dominion (Penrose)**!

Rules: Shade some dominoes of cells to divide the grid into unshaded areas. Shaded dominoes may not touch orthogonally. Clues cannot be shaded, and each orthogonally connected area of unshaded cells contains exactly one type of clue, and all instances of it.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/5b3f72tn>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/yh48p4sr>

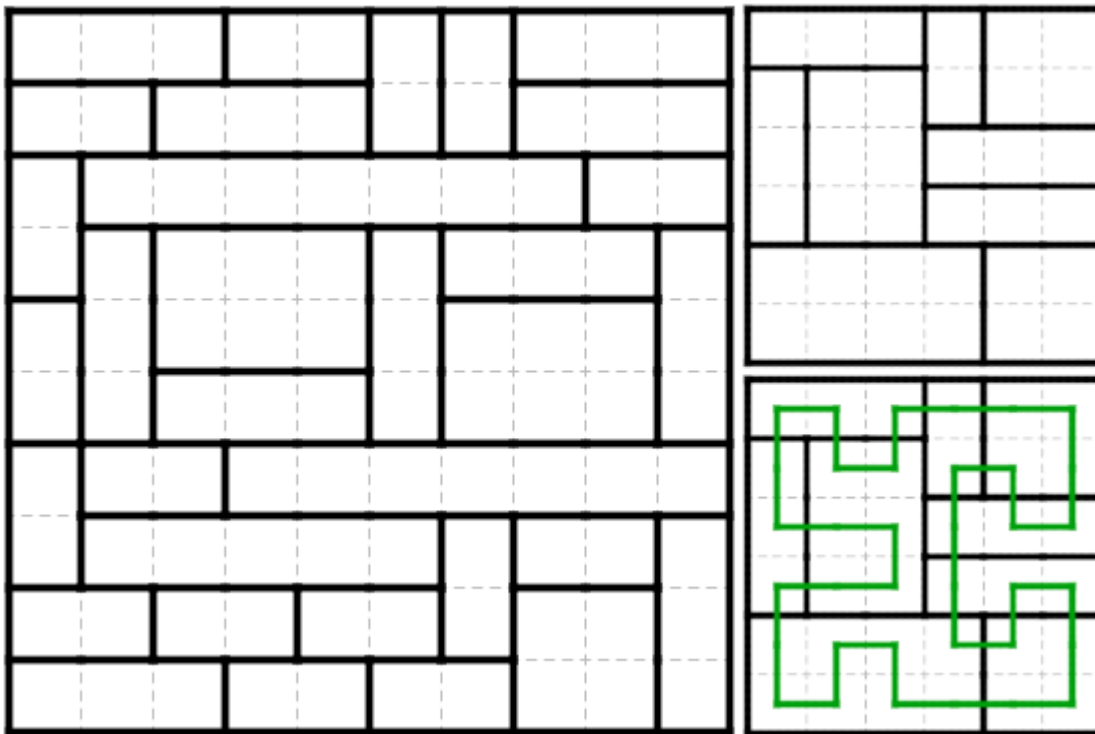
May 18, 2026: Double Back | jovi_al

Today's puzzle is dedicated to the SudokuPad user who sat in front of me on Seattle's Route 40 on Tuesday morning.

Rules: Draw a loop by connecting the centers of edge-adjacent cells such that every cell is visited by the loop exactly once, and every thickly outlined region is visited by the loop exactly twice.

Tip: (ROT13) Gur ybbc zhfg abg hfr hc nyy bs n ertvba'f pryyf ba gur fnzr ivfvg, ohg vg zhfg hfr nyy erznavat pryyf va n ertvba ba vgf frpbaq ivfvg.

Tip 2: (ROT13) "lvfvgrq rknpgyl gjvpr" vf rdhvinyrag gb "unf sbhe rkvgf."



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/yfjhj77z>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/46ff8ja7>

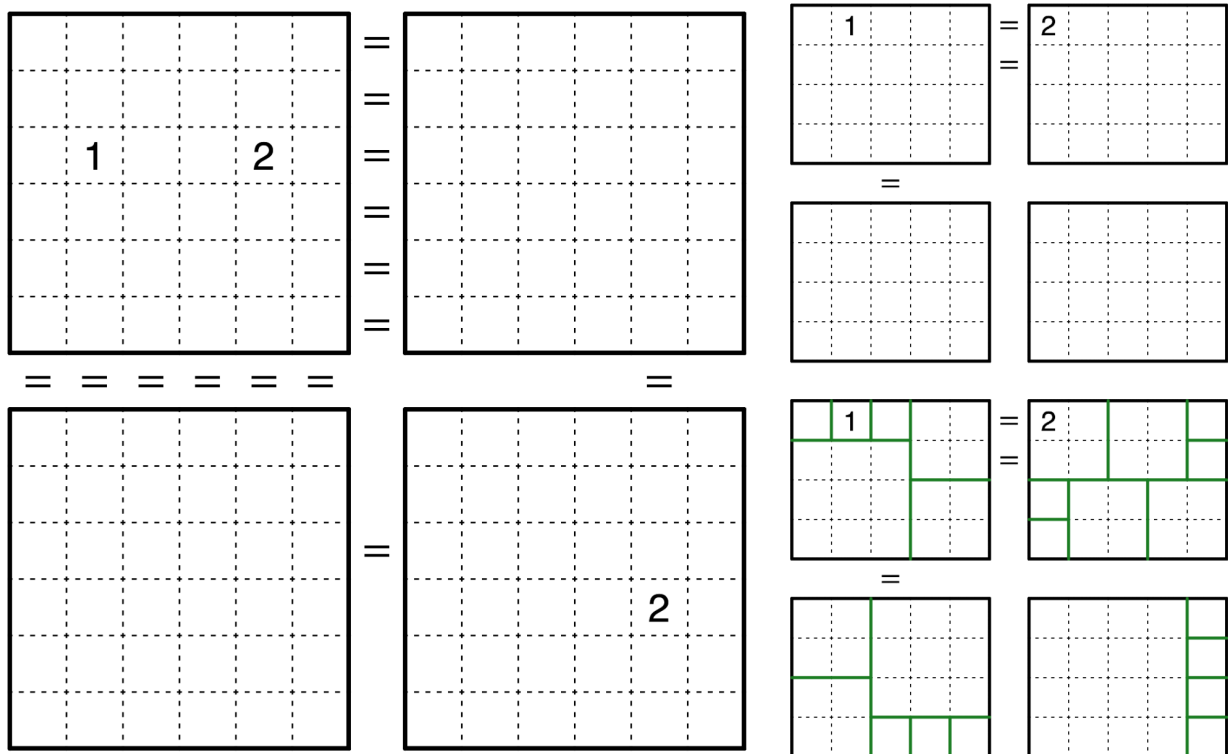
May 19, 2026: Quad Square Jam | Freddie Hand

Why have one puzzle when you could have four? Hence, **Quad Square Jam**. Even better, it comes with an obligatory

💣💣 **NEGATIVE CONSTRAINT ALERT** 💣💣

Rules: Divide each grid along cell borders into square regions. A region may contain any number of numbers (including none), each of which must indicate the length of one of the sides of the square. No region borders may form four-way intersections.

An "=" sign indicates that the two squares adjacent to it have the same size. 💣 **All possible "=" signs are given** 💣 (i.e. if a cell in between two grids does not contain a "=", then the squares adjacent to that cell must have different sizes)

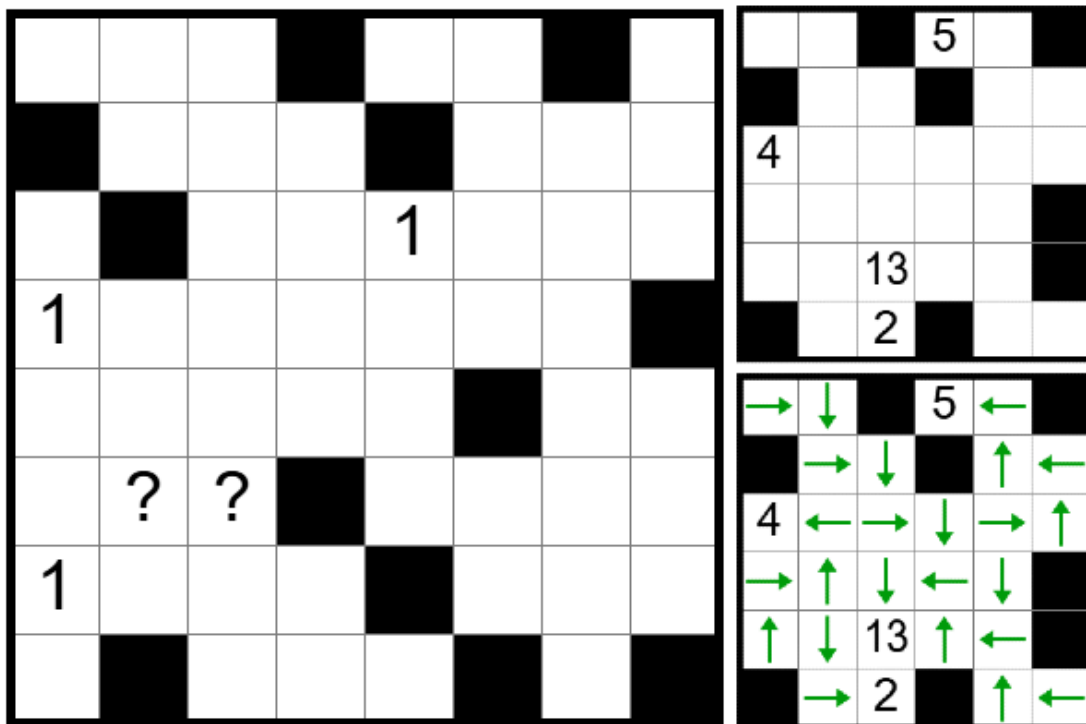


Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/5amjbhr3>
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/4enmrdsa>

May 20, 2026: Arrow Flow | Rook

Arrow Flow has had a very nice pzprxs implementation for over a year now, but we haven't used it yet! So I am obligated to show it off!

Rules: Place arrows pointing in four directions in each empty cell. Identical arrows cannot be orthogonally adjacent. Starting from a cell with an arrow, following the arrows from cell to cell, a cell with a number must be reached. A cell with a number indicates the total number of arrows that lead to it. Question marks can be any number.



Example (pzprxs) by Walker: <https://tinyurl.com/33fh573a>

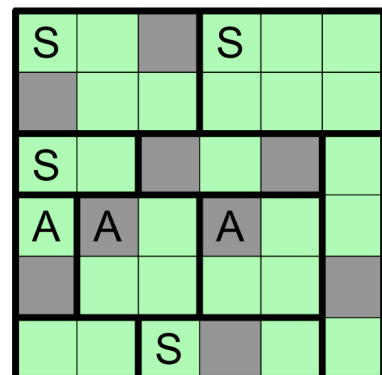
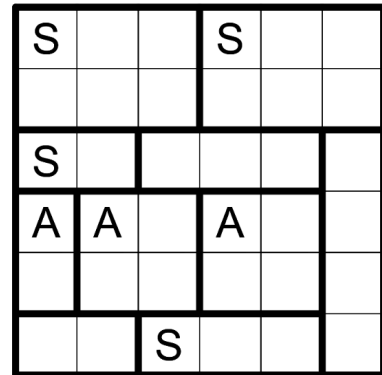
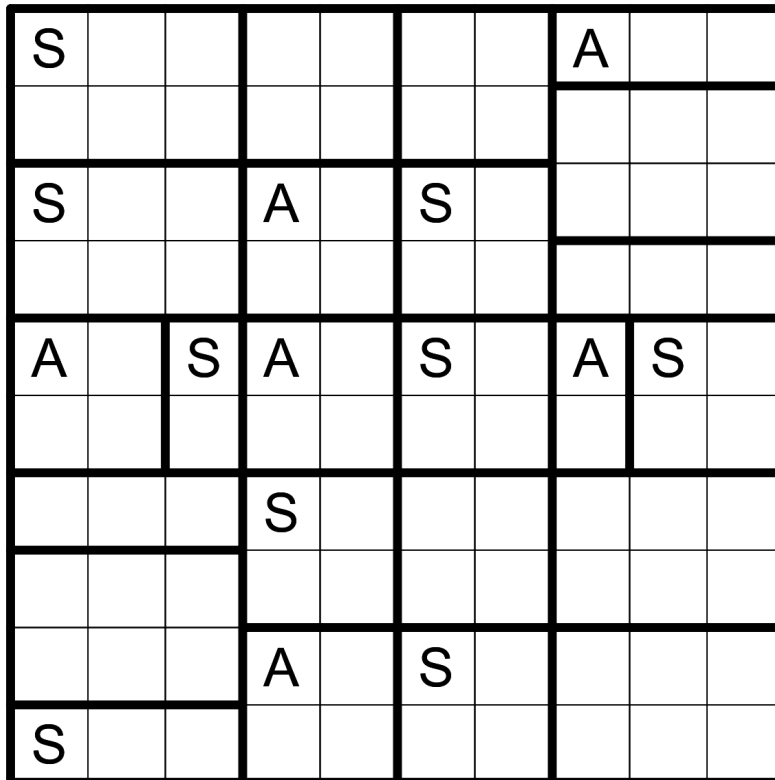
Main (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/3k33czdk>

May 21, 2026: Heyawake (Symmetry) | Lavaloid

Now that we've featured Ayeheya and Ayeheyan't, it's time to combine both of them into one variant. Today's GAPP is a **Heyawake (Symmetry)**!

Rules:

- Shade some cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area.
- In a region with an S, the shaded cells must have 180° rotational symmetry around the region's center. In a region with an A, the shaded cells must not all have 180° rotational symmetry around the region's center.
- A line of consecutive unshaded cells may not cross more than one bold border.



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/49tc7bzz>

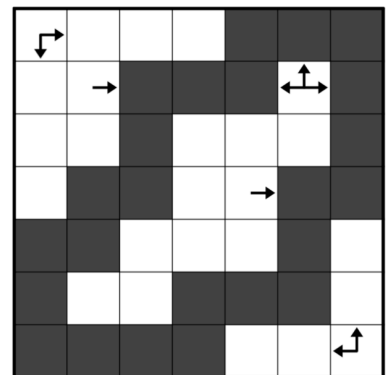
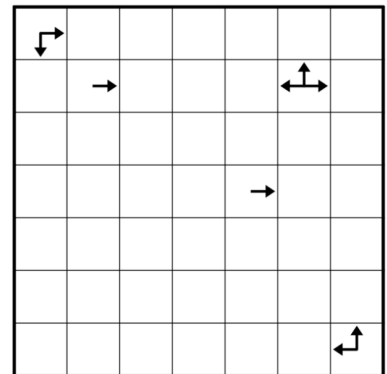
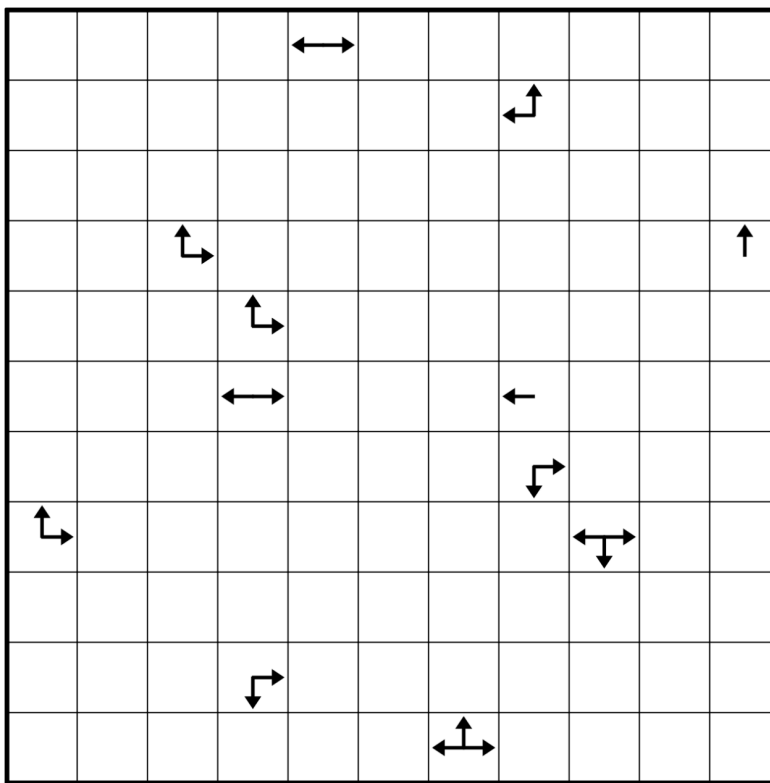
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/5n67axj9>

May 22, 2026: Myopia | bakpao

Today's GAPP is a **Big Myopia**! This type featured in the qualifier for the 2026 German championships earlier this year.

Rules: Shade some cells to form a non-intersecting loop which does not touch itself, not even diagonally. Clues contain arrows indicating ALL of the orthogonal directions which tie for having a shaded cell appearing closest to the clued cell. Cells containing clues cannot be shaded.

⚠ Beware of the negative constraint! ⚠



Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/mc6f9wdc>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2sd6wh8x>

May 23, 2026: Sukoro | jovi_al

Happy **Supersized Saturday**! Today's puzzle is a **Sukoro**, also known as Infection. Topical, as the flu is spreading wildly in the PNW right now. It hasn't reached me yet! 🙌

I also wanna take today to give a shoutout to Rever for their work on pzp-rever-t and Penpa+, and also just for being an awesome member of the puzzle community! They've made some amazing tools and are a good friend, and I'm happy they're around!

Answer check in Penpa+ will accept numbers, shading, and inverse shading.

Rules: Place a whole number from 1-4 into some cells such that all cells with numbers form one edge-connected network, each number indicates how many edge-adjacent numbers that cell has, and no two identical numbers are edge-adjacent.

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

1		3		1	
1					
					2
	1		1		2

1	2	3	2	1	×
×	×	2	×	×	1
1	2	4	3	2	3
×	×	3	2	×	2
1	3	2	×	2	3
×	1	×	1	3	2

Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/c5xrkyce>

Example (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2cl8cp4y>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/msj5x4j6>

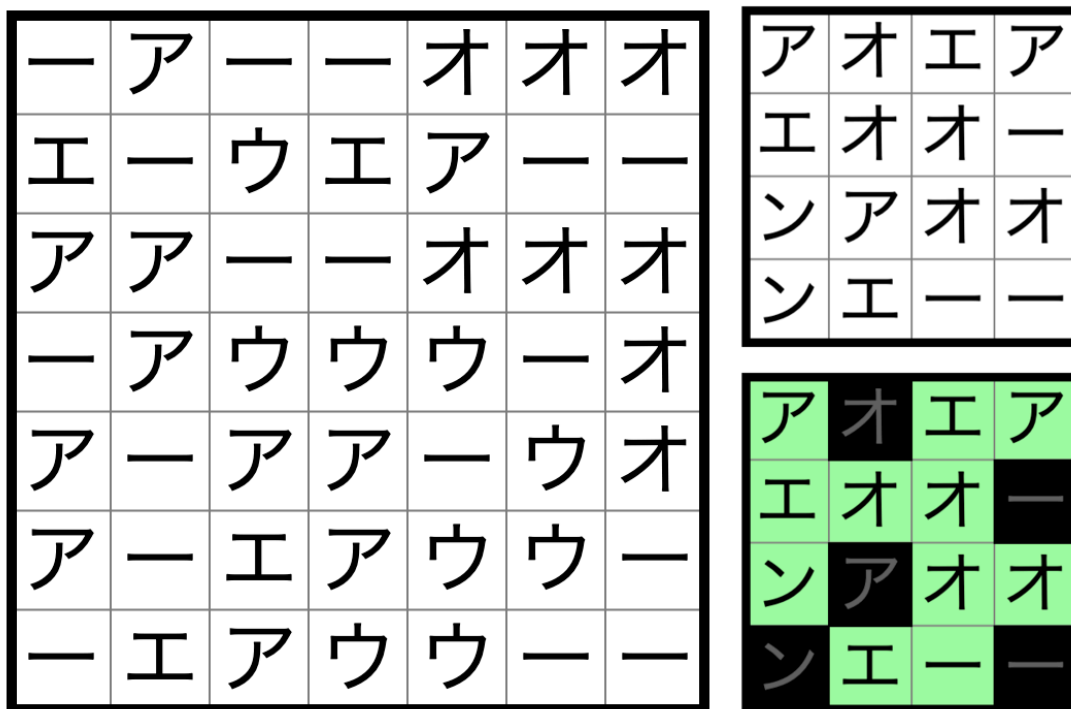
Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/2dn6r8gm>

May 24, 2026: Yokeimoji Cross | Freddie Hand

Hello! This **Yokeimoji Cross** may look a bit intimidating, but I guarantee you don't need any Japanese knowledge to solve it. In fact it might be actively unhelpful, I have no idea what these "words" spell out.

Rules: Shade some cells so that no two shaded cells are orthogonally adjacent and the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. Every run of 2 or more consecutive unshaded cells forms a word (left-to-right or top-to-bottom). Each word can appear no more than once in the grid. Words cannot start with "ン" or "ー". The sequences "——", "ンン" or "ンー" cannot appear in a word.

Here's a little **GAPP 101** to help you get started: (ROT13) Lbh pnaabg funqr n pryy gb gur yrsg bs gur xngnxnan "a" be gur ybat ibjry znex va gur gbc ebg, fvapr gung jbhyy sbepn n jbeq gb fgneg jvgu gubfr gjb punenpgref. Fvzvnyeyl, lbh pnaabg funqr n pryy nobir gubfr gjb punenpgref va gur yrsgzbfg pbyhza.



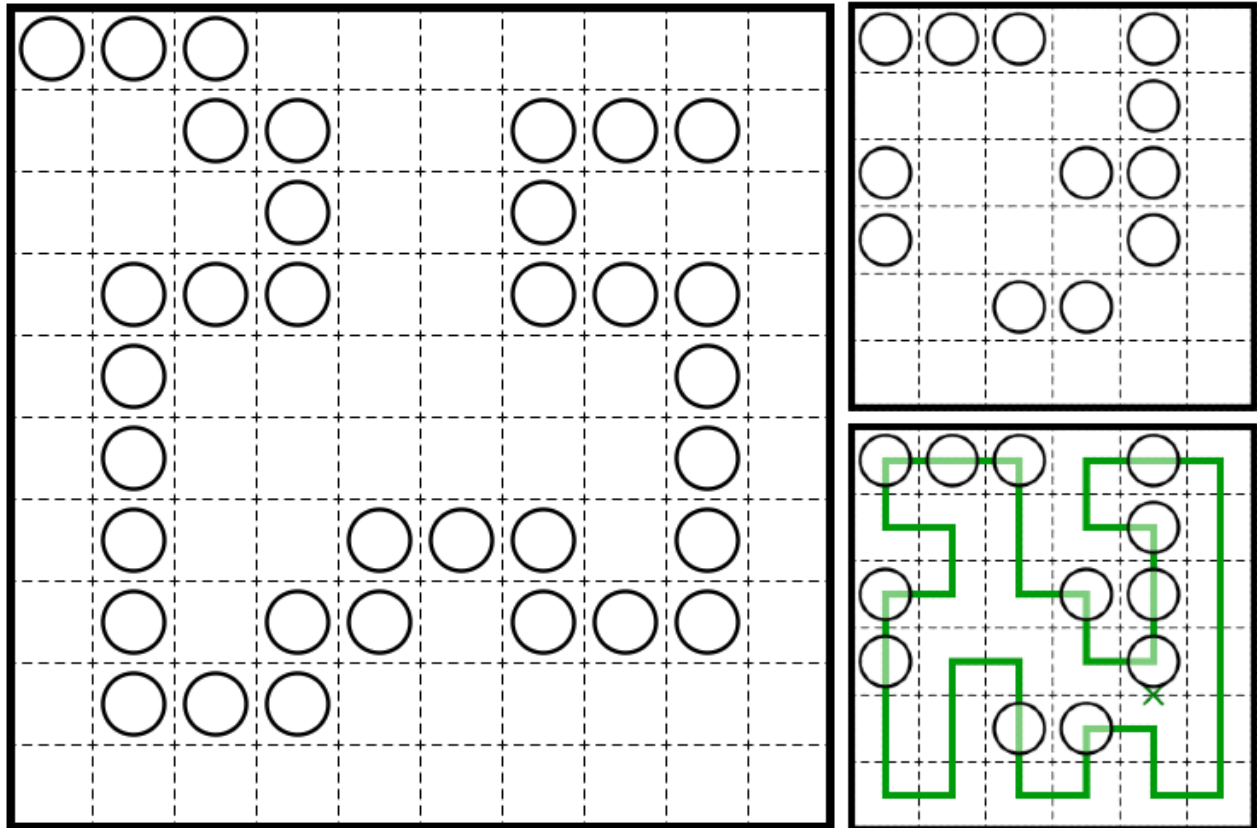
Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/4m54jd46>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5rgol22i>

May 25, 2026: Ripple Loop | Rook

Ripple Loop! Or as the pzprxs implementation can qualify it, **Bhai Bahan (Full)!**

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop through the centres of all cells. Wherever two circles are in vertically or horizontally adjacent cells, the loop must go straight through one, and make a turn in the other.



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5798rw6z>

Main (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/387uxup8>

May 26, 2026: Akari (Mirror) | Lavaloid

/P is an Akari (Mirror)!

P

A

G

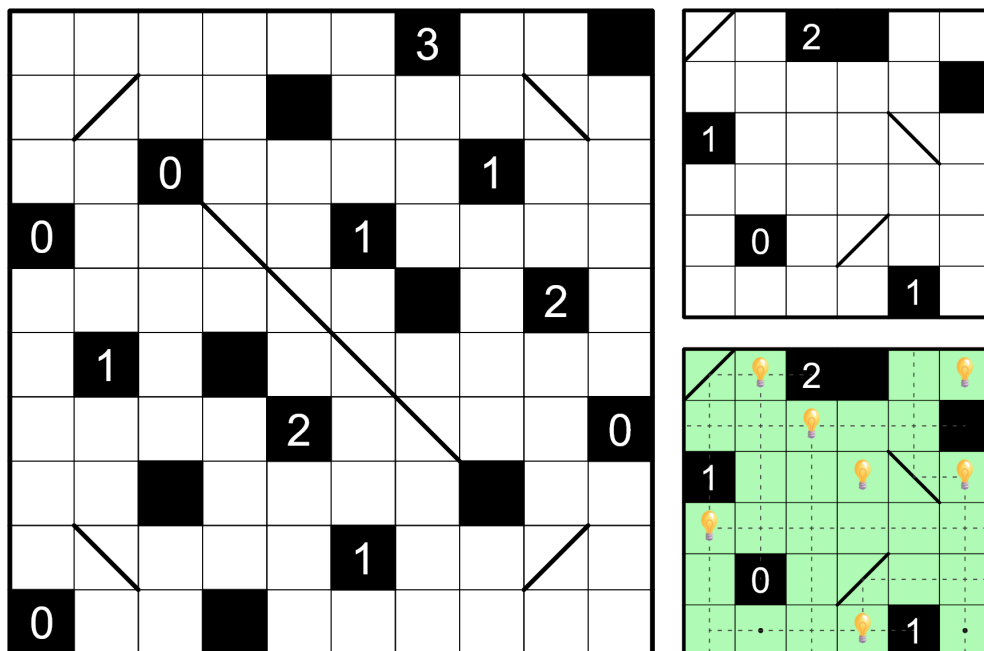
s

\'yadoT

Rules:

- Place lights into some empty cells so that every cell is illuminated. Lights illuminate the cell they're in as well as all cells seen in a straight line horizontally or vertically, not obstructed by a black cell.
- Diagonal lines are mirrors that reflect the light 90 degrees. Mirror cells cannot also contain lights. Mirror cells only need to be lit from one side to be considered illuminated.
- Lights may not illuminate each other. Clues represent the number of lights in the (up to) four cells surrounding the clue.

Interface note: You can use Composite mode to draw lines, which is useful for marking where the light from each lightbulb travels. You can also use Surface mode to mark which cells has been lit.



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

Puzzle (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/92chfaz7>

May 27, 2026: Recto | bakpao

Today's GAPP is a **Recto**!

Rules: Divide the grid into rectangular regions of orthogonally connected cells. Each region must contain exactly one clue, which indicates the sum of the width and height of its rectangle.

5	4						5	3
						6		
		5	6			2		
5								4
6								5
			5			7	6	
			3					
	4	3						8 3

					4
		5			
3		4			
			4		7
			4		
4					

					4
		5			
3		4			
			4		7
			4		
4					

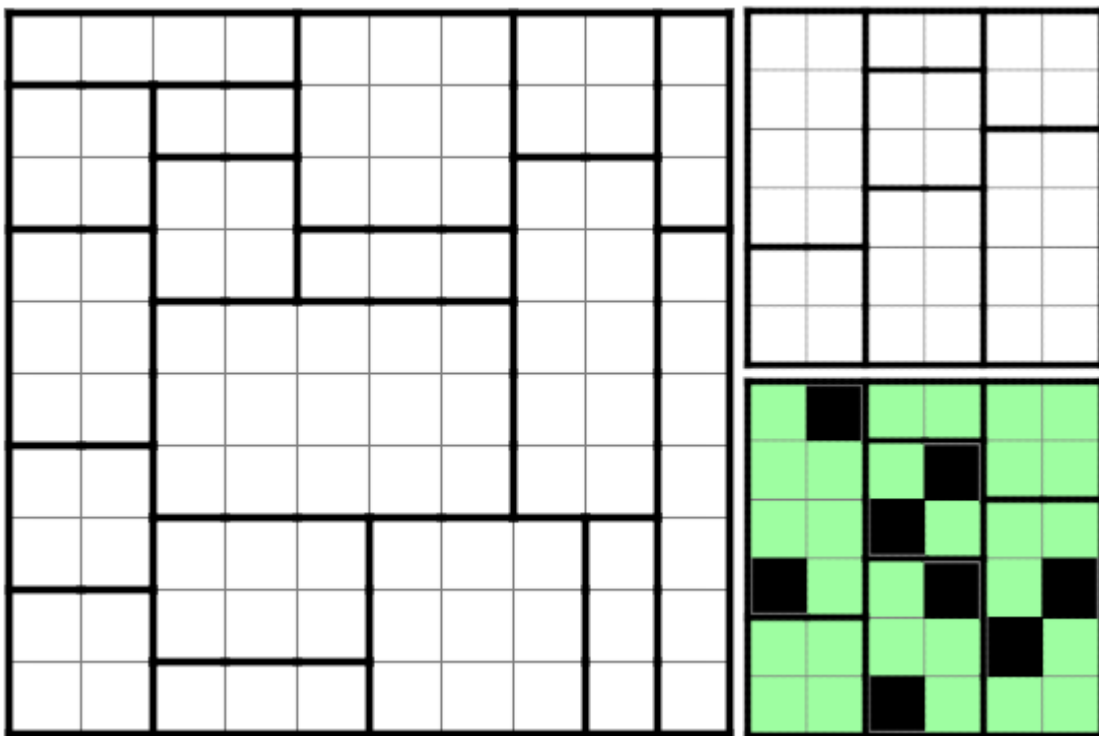
Example (Penpa+, by Eric): <https://tinyurl.com/yad63cmc>

Main (Penpa+): <https://tinyurl.com/3tcs2x7c>

May 28, 2026: Ayeheya | jovi_al

I was going to come up with an original intro for today's **Ayeheya**, but I tripped in a hurry and used Lavaloid's joke instead!

Rules: Shade some cells such that no two shaded cells are edge-adjacent and all unshaded cells form one edge-adjacent network. Within regions, shaded cells must have 180° rotational symmetry relative to the center of that region. A number in a region indicates how many shaded cells are in that region. No vertical or horizontal line of unshaded cells may cross more than one region border.



Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/y6sdwzbc>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/3yd3ty99>

May 29, 2026: Soulmates | Freddie Hand

Hooray! The first **Soulmates** in GAPP finally has a pair. Unfortunately it's also by me, so it feels forced. One of them is Penpa+ and the other is pzprxs, but I'm sure they'll get along like a house on fire.

Rules: Place a number into some cells such that for each numbered cell, exactly one other number of the same value is able to be reached by traveling through only empty cells, **regardless of the distance of the path**. The value of each number must be equal to the distance of the shortest possible path from it to its partner (again by traveling through only empty cells!)

Solving Tips

- You can use dots to mark cells which are empty, and circles to mark cells that contain a number (but you don't know which yet)
- (ROT13) Sbe ynetre ahzoref, gel gb znc bhg gur cngu vg jbhq unir gb gnrx gb ernpu n cnegare. Ner gurer nal obgyrarpfx vg zhfg cnff guebhtu? Nal fubegphgf gung zhfg or oybpxrq bss ol bgure ahzoref?

1	2	3	7	8	5
		10	6	10	
				4	

	3	4	
3			
			2

.	.	.	3
4	3	4	2
3	1	1	.
.	.	3	2

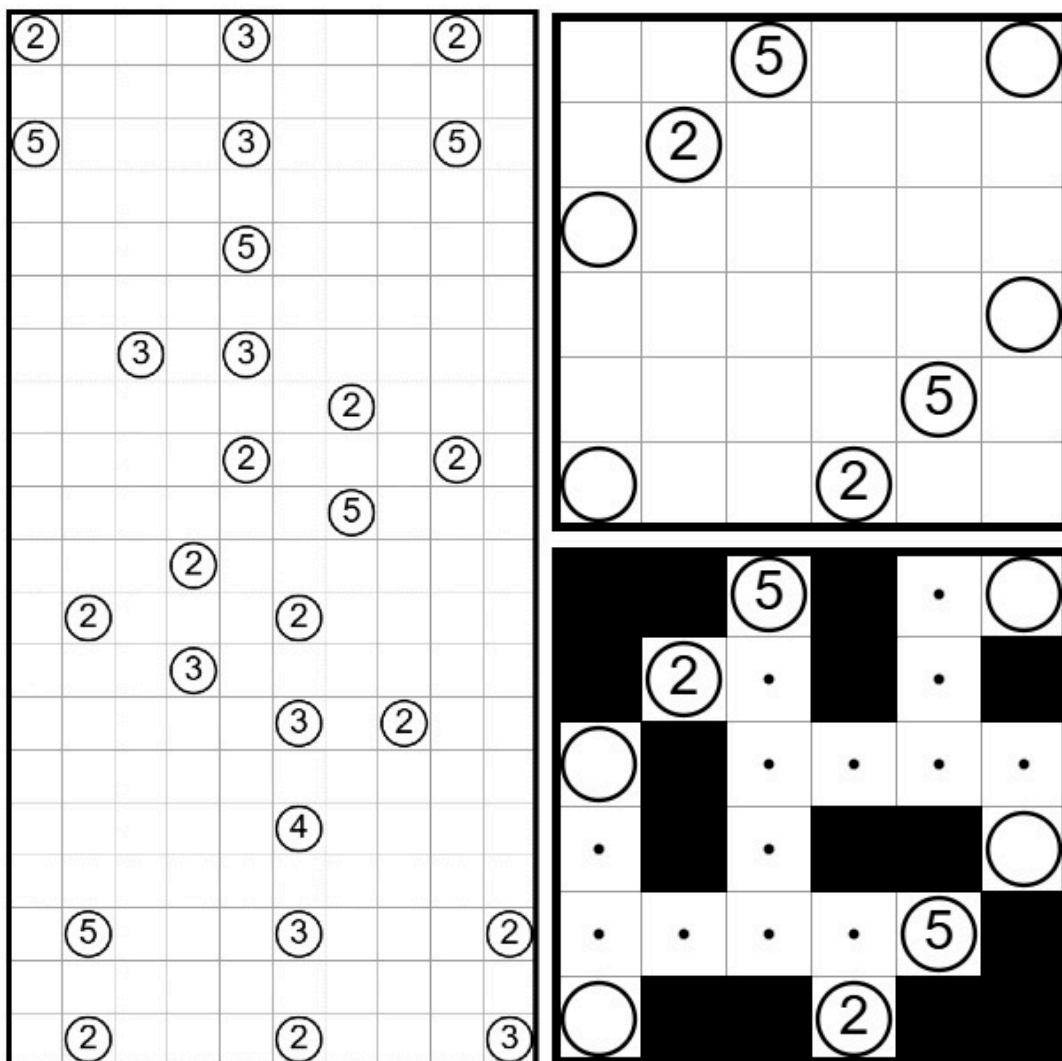
Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/4unemfj3>

Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/zafsz7a3>

May 30, 2026: Nurimisaki | Rook

I was thinking what genre I should pick for my 25th GAPP when I realized that shye's example **Nurimisaki** puzzle conveniently has the number 25 in the theming, so I was forced to make one! You can't blame me! My hands were tied!

Rules: Shade some cells so that the remaining unshaded cells form one orthogonally connected area. No 2x2 region may be entirely shaded or unshaded. Circles mark **every instance** of a cell which is unshaded and orthogonally adjacent to exactly one other unshaded cell. If a circle contains a number, it indicates how many cells are in the straight line of unshaded cells coming out of the cell with the circle, including itself.



Example (pzprxs) by shye: <https://tinyurl.com/3mkydb8n>

Main (pzprxs, horizontal): <https://tinyurl.com/46d3p246>

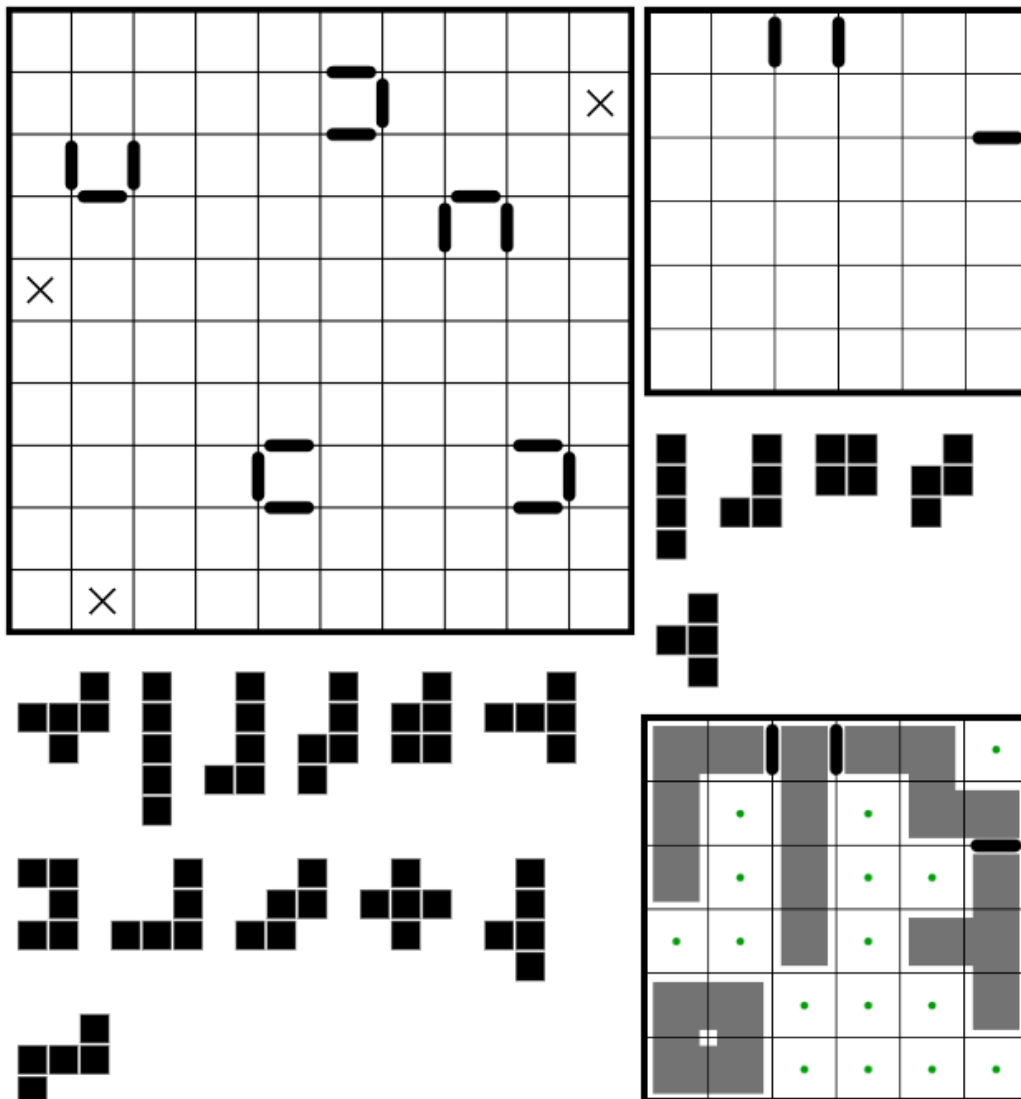
Main (pzprxs, vertical): <https://tinyurl.com/5a9cuzn4>

May 31, 2026: Kissing Polyominoes | Lavaloid

Round 5 of Puzzle GP is here! As always, you can claim a *bonus otter* 🦦 if you participate in the round. Check it out here: <https://gp.worldpuzzle.org/content/puzzle-gp>

Today's GAPP is a **Kissing Polyominoes**, one of the genres from the round!

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. Cells marked with an X cannot be used by any shapes.



Example (pzprxs) by Menderbug: <https://tinyurl.com/3p7kvdcw>

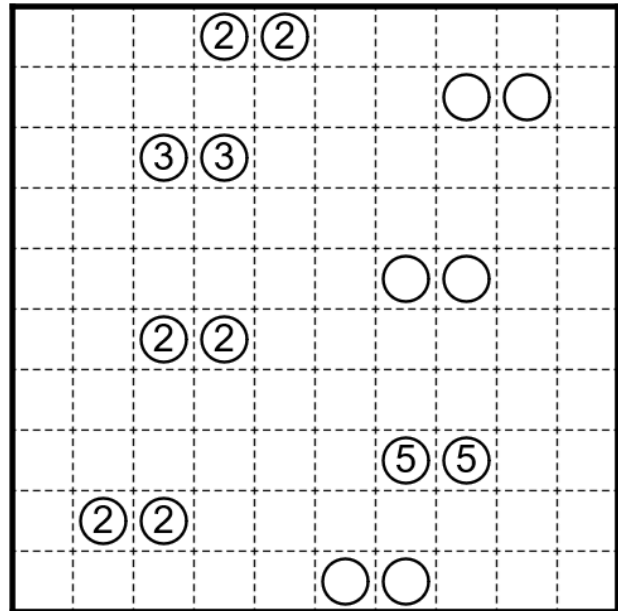
Puzzle (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/3unay9tn>

Bonus 1: Bhai Bahan (Full) | Freddie Hand

Rules: Draw a non-intersecting loop that visits every cell. When two circles are orthogonally adjacent, the loop goes straight in one and turns in the other.

Consider the loop split into segments, alternating between segments where the loop turns in every cell and segments where the loop goes straight in every cell. Number clues indicate the length of the current segment.

Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/yvehxjva>

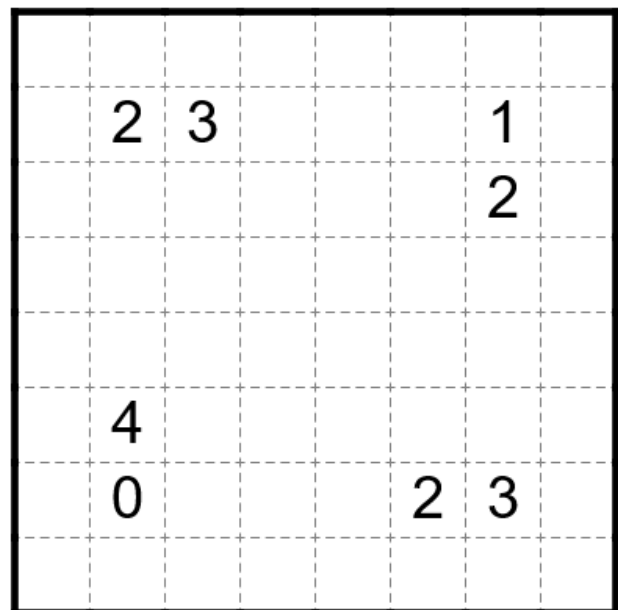


Bonus 2: La Paz | bakpao

Rules: Shade some cells such that no two shaded cells share an edge, and divide all unshaded cells into dominoes (pairs of edge-adjacent cells). Clues cannot be shaded. If a clue is in a vertical domino, it indicates how many shaded cells are in its column. If a clue is in a horizontal domino, it indicates how many shaded cells are in its row.

Example (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5dy2chhu>

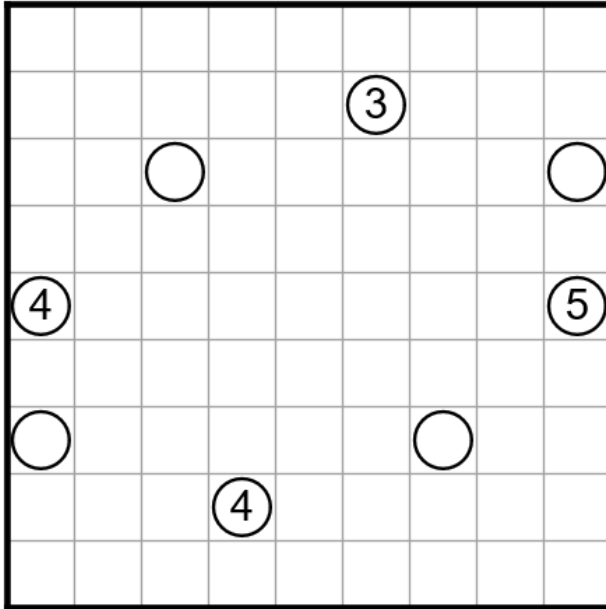
Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/mvrwbpsz>



Bonus 3 - 6: Nurimisaki

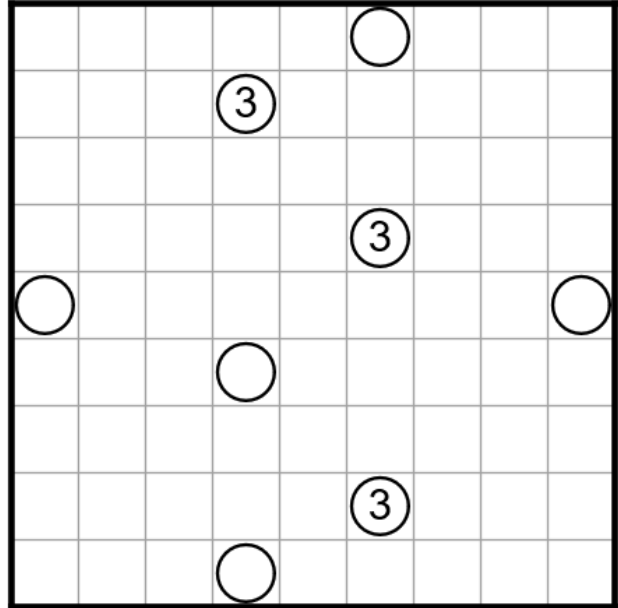
Example (pzprxs) by shy: <https://tinyurl.com/3mkydb8n>

Bonus 3 by jovi_al



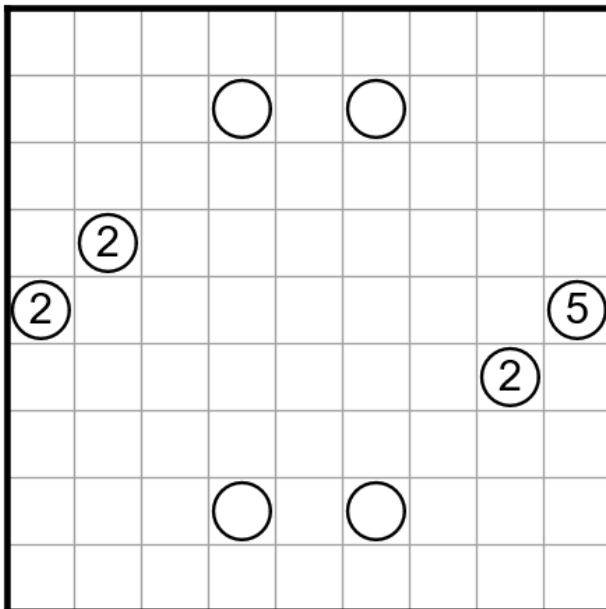
Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/6tpbvm78>

Bonus 4 by jovi_al



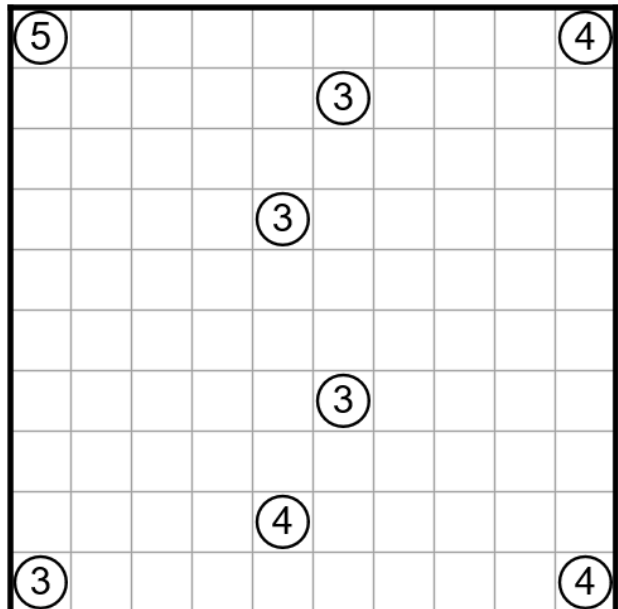
Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/33s3nduy>

Bonus 5 by Lavaloid



Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/5n6hknhu>

Bonus 6 by Rook



Bonus (pzprxs): <https://tinyurl.com/bdf76zbz>

Date	Sloth Time	Crab Time	
01 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Two-hundredth Twite
02 May 2026	0:03:10	0:06:20	Oblique Osprey
03 May 2026	0:03:30	0:07:55	Wallowing Watercock
04 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:00	Clay Clapper Rail
05 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Learned Balearic Shearwater
06 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Recursive Racket-tailed Roller
07 May 2026	0:01:45	0:03:30	Slovak Stork
08 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:40	Sparse Spanish Sparrow
09 May 2026	0:04:00	0:08:00	Wacky Wakatobi White-eye
10 May 2026	0:03:15	0:06:30	Beautiful Sundaybird
11 May 2026	0:03:21	0:06:00	Periodic Pauraque
12 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Eggy Emu
13 May 2026	0:01:30	0:03:25	Domino Domino Dolphin Gull
14 May 2026	0:03:00	0:05:30	Chill Chinspot Batis
15 May 2026	0:01:45	0:03:30	Know Goose
16 May 2026	0:02:45	0:05:30	Brief Brambling
17 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Wordy Woodswallow
18 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:40	Repeated Bit Red-throated Tit
19 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:00	Quartered Queen Carola's Parotia
20 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:00	Swamp Sparrow
21 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Chimera Chimney Swift
22 May 2026	0:01:45	0:03:30	Brawny Bosnian Bittern
23 May 2026	0:08:00	0:18:00	Goatish Grackle
24 May 2026	0:04:00	0:07:00	Katakana Katanga Masked Weaver
25 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Bhaima Orioloop
26 May 2026	0:01:45	0:03:30	dribrelliM
27 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Comeback Chough
28 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:30	Original Oriole
29 May 2026	0:02:30	0:05:30	Partnered Parodi's Hemispingus
30 May 2026	0:05:00	0:10:00	Gray-Cheeked Thrush
31 May 2026	0:02:00	0:04:00	Kissing Kikau