

Donimoes

New Games and Puzzles

Introduction

When I tell people that I like domino games, they are often surprised to hear that you can do more than just match the numbers. If you look in a book of games, often with Mr. Hoyle's name on the cover, you might find the basic game and maybe All Fives. If you're lucky, you'll find Chickenfoot and Mexican Train.

This is a collection of domino games and puzzles that will broaden your horizons beyond a chain of dominoes with matching numbers. You'll find new games and puzzles that I designed, as well as some of my favourite domino games and puzzles by other designers.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to my patient family and friends who tested out early versions of these games and puzzles. I am grateful to Kerry Handscomb for demonstrating how to write seriously about fun topics, and for introducing me to many, many new games. Cameron Browne showed me that designing puzzles could be as much fun as designing board games, and Sid Sackson started my game design journey when I stumbled across A Gamut of Games in a neglected old library.

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Puzzles

Unmatched Donimoes

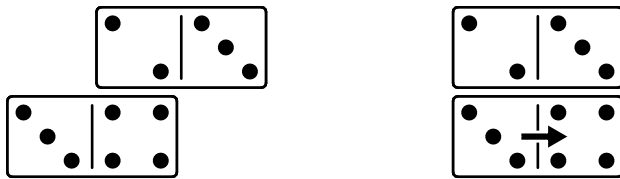
A puzzle I designed that's the opposite of traditional dominoes: matches are forbidden.

Goal

The goal is to slide all the dominoes into a rectangle, without sliding any matching numbers next to each other.

Moves

Move a domino one space along its long axis so that none of its numbers match an adjacent number on a neighbouring domino. In this example, the lower domino can move to the right, because the three doesn't match the two, and the four doesn't match the 3. You couldn't move it another space to the right, because then the threes would be right next to each other.



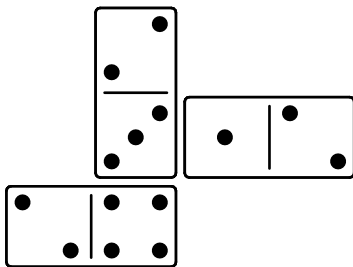
Stay Connected

All the dominoes in the puzzle have to be connected in one solid group, diagonal connections don't count. When you move a domino, it can be disconnected during the move, as long as it is connected at the start and the end of the move. Remember that it can only move one space at a time, though.

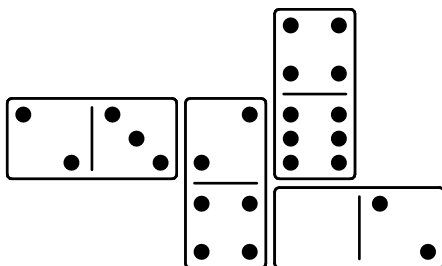
Problems

Here are the starting positions for several Unmatched Dominoes problems. The solutions are listed at the end.

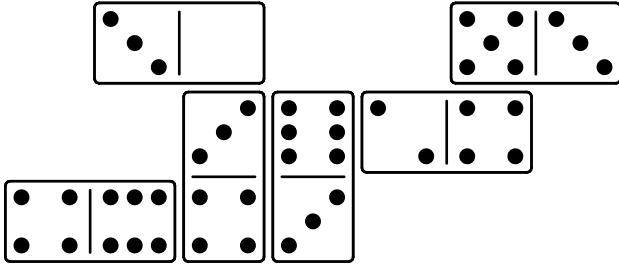
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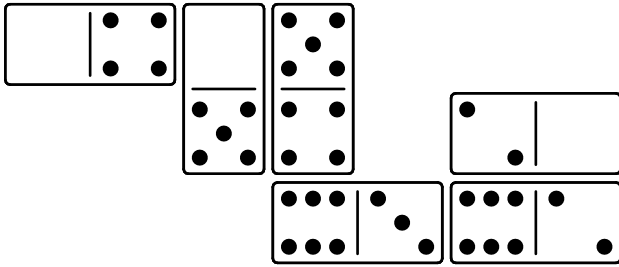
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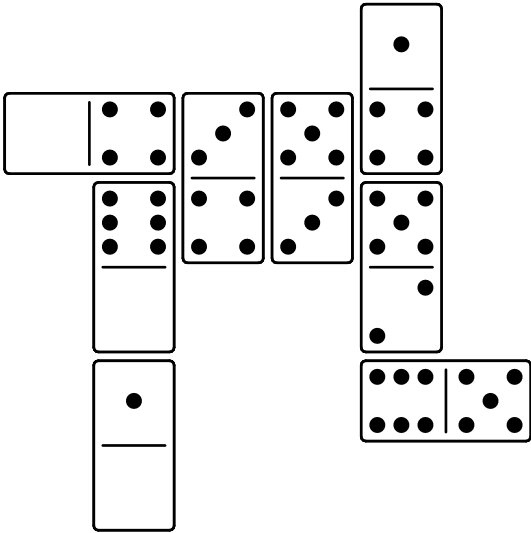
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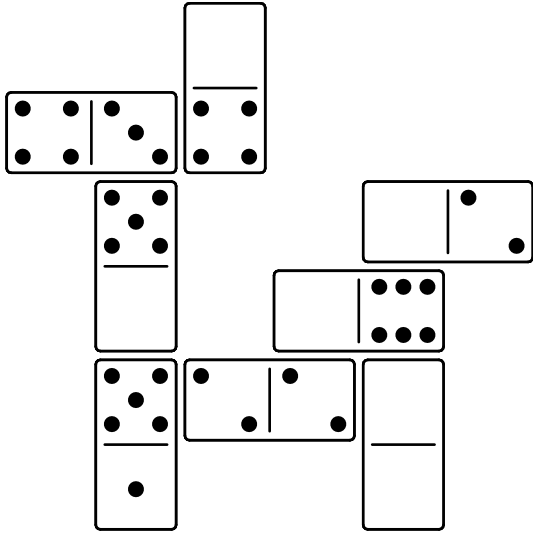
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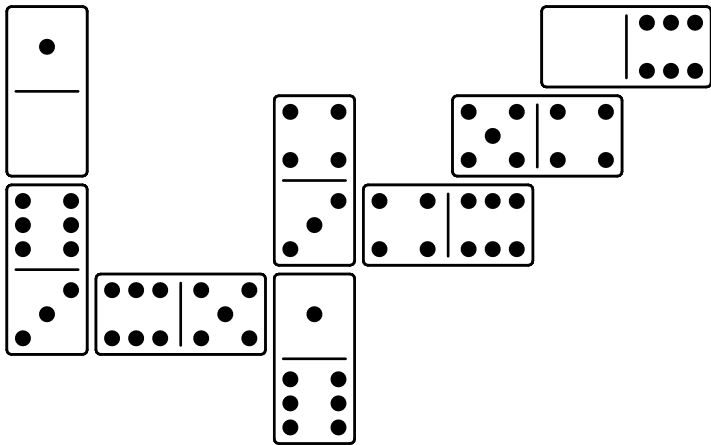
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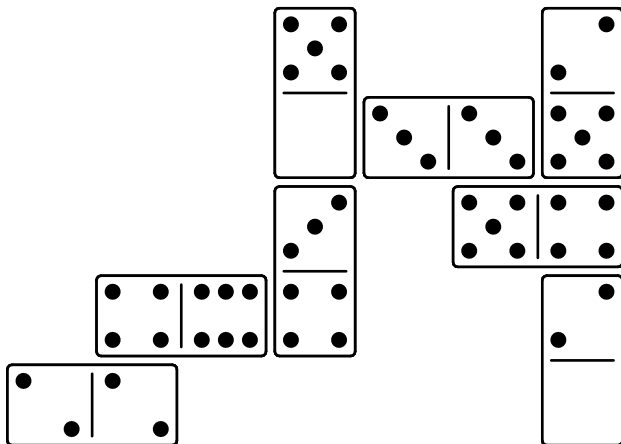
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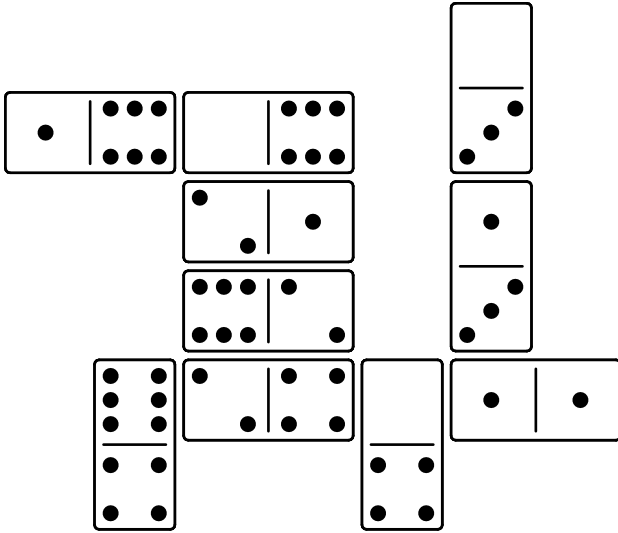
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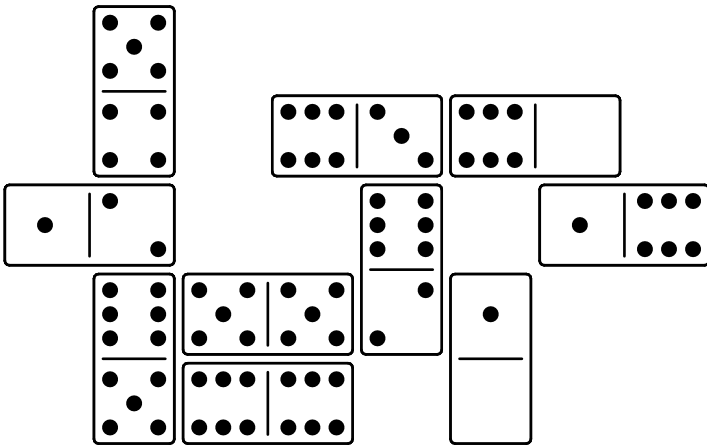
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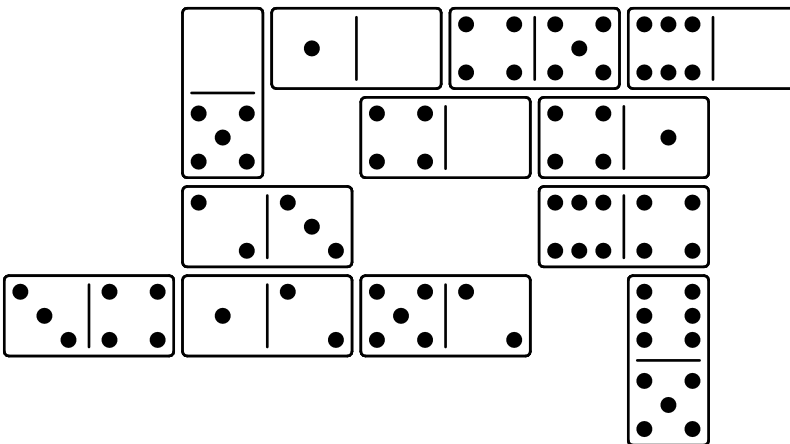
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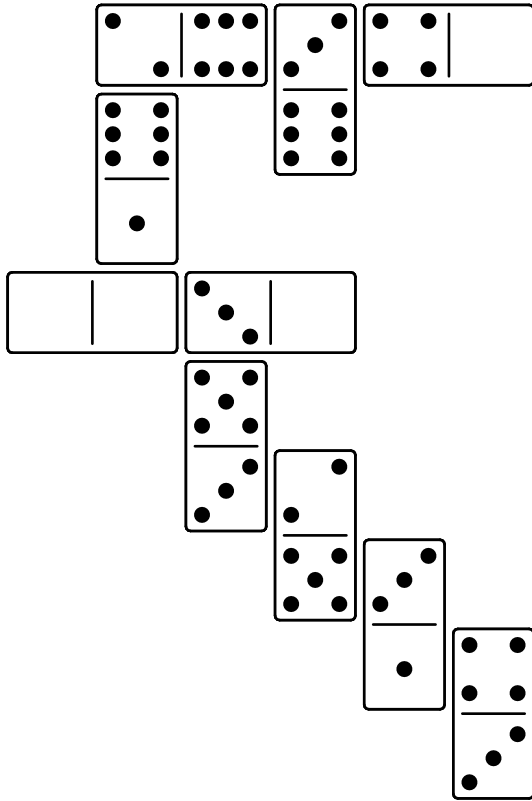
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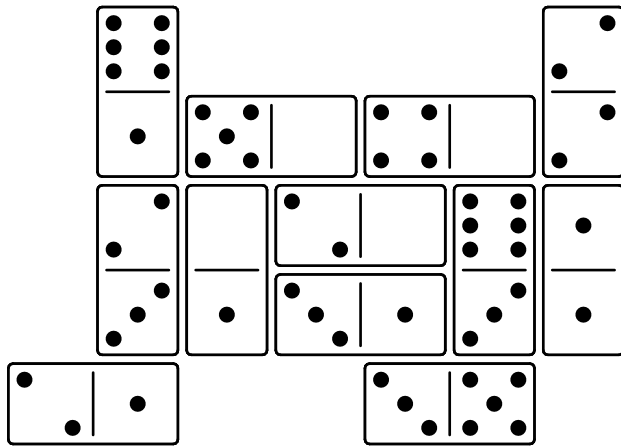
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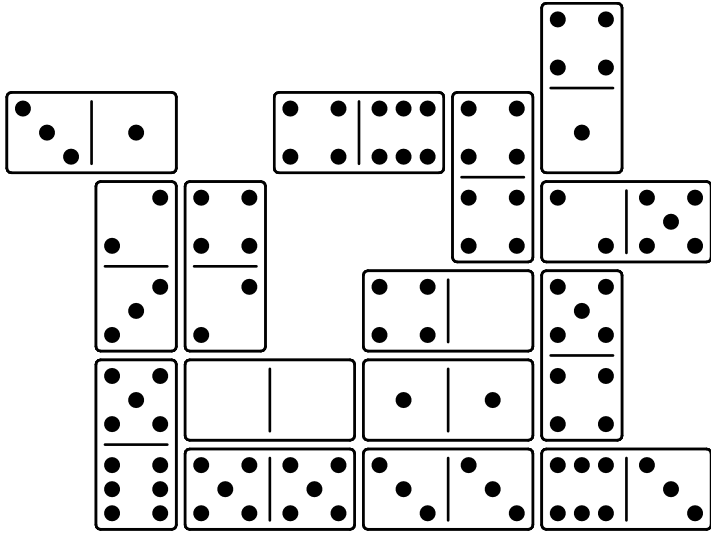
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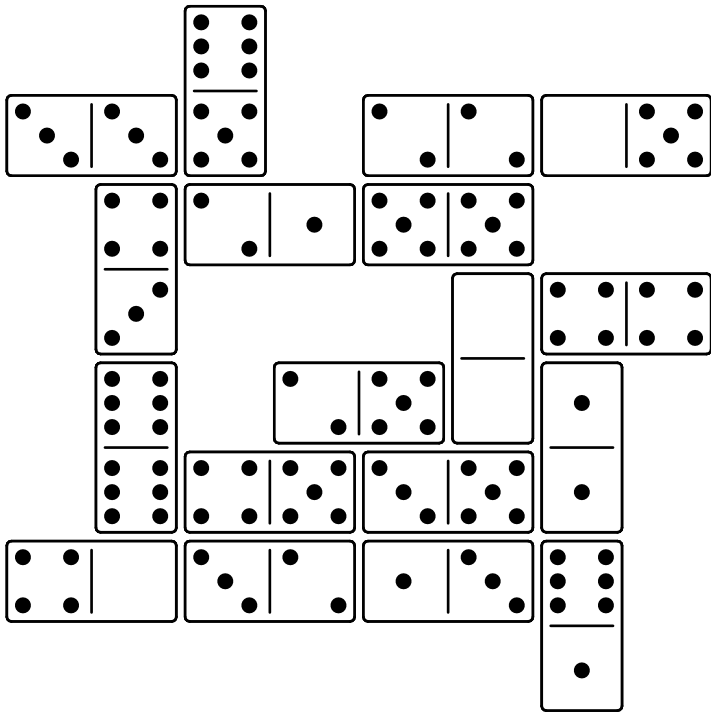
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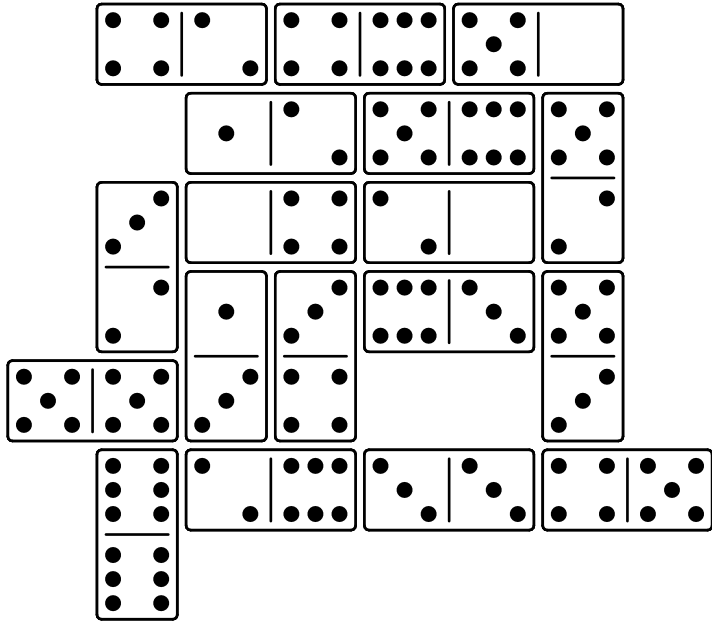
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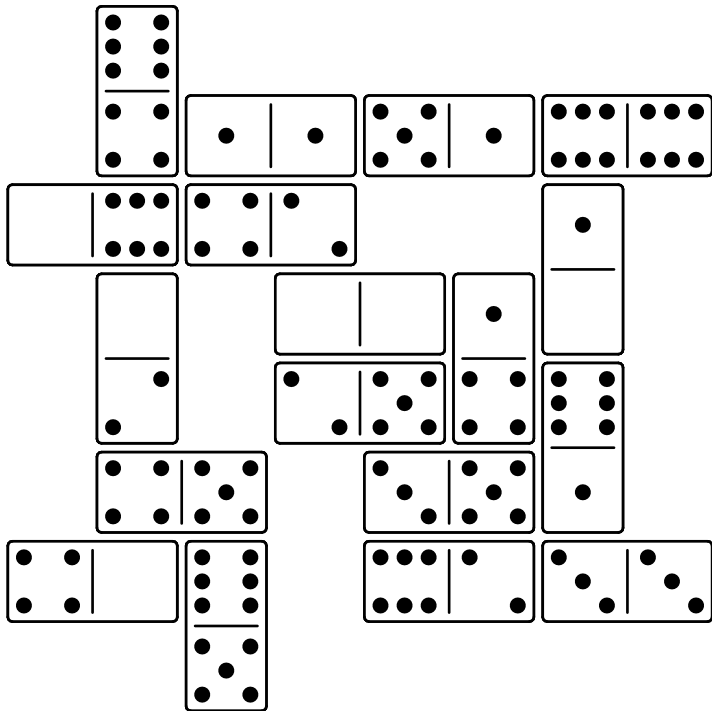
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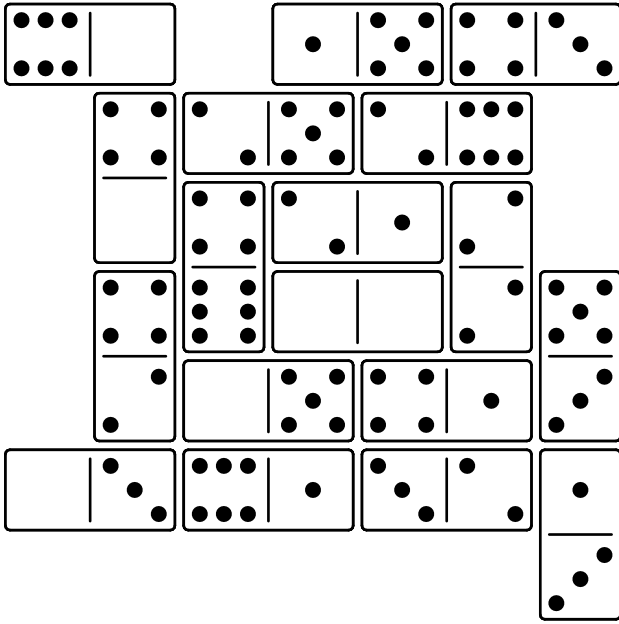
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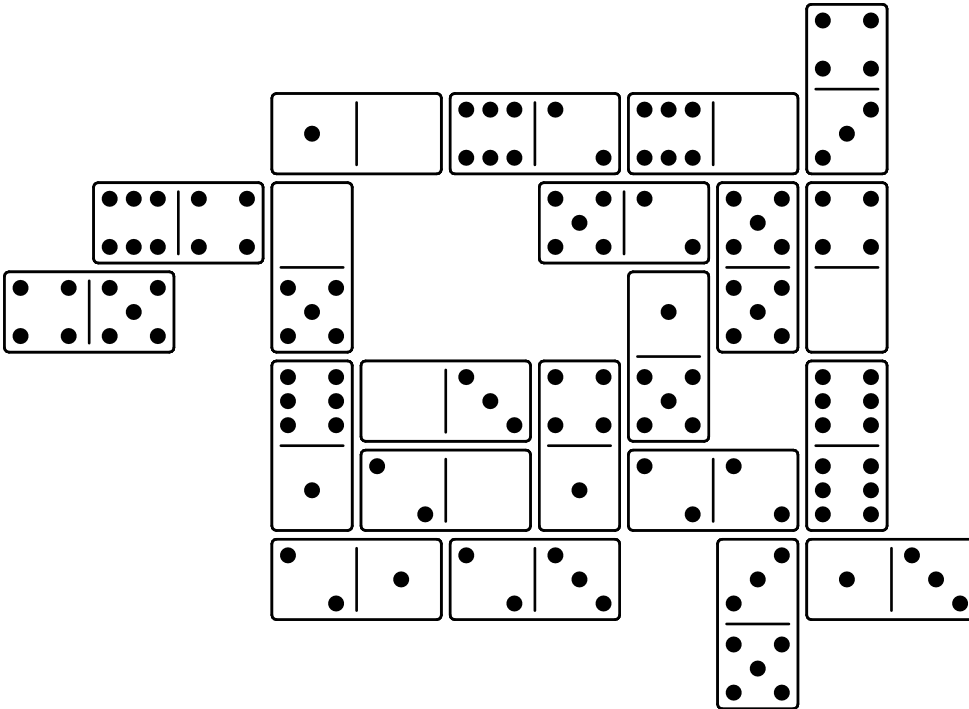
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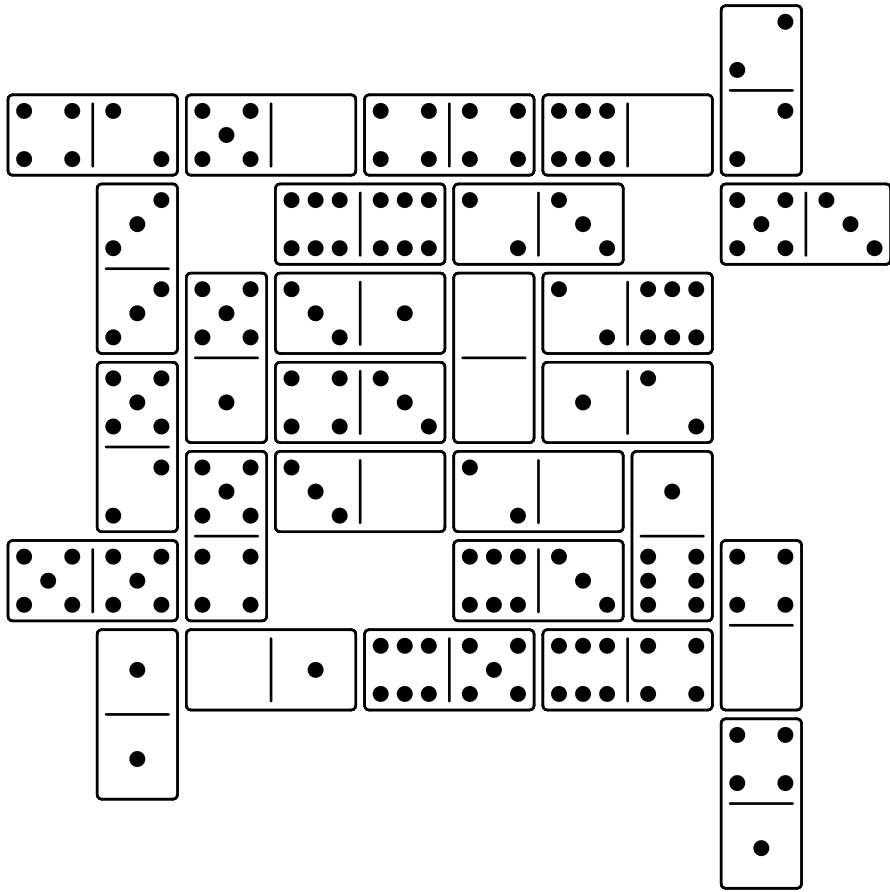
Problem 18



Problem 19



Problem 20



Capturing Dominoes

A puzzle I designed to feel like a safari in heavy traffic.

Goal

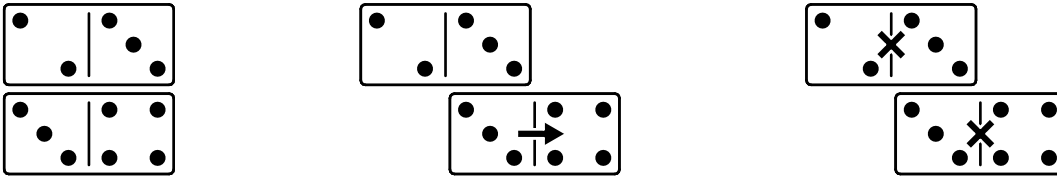
The goal is to collect all the dominoes by sliding matching numbers next to each other.

Moves

There are only two ways a domino can move: matching and adding.

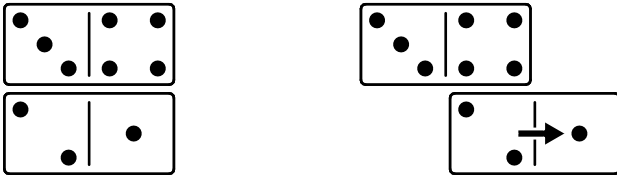
Matching

Move a domino one space along its long axis so that it ends up with at least one of its numbers matching an adjacent number on a neighbouring domino. Then collect the domino you moved and any dominoes that match it, by removing them from the pattern. In this example, the threes match, so you collect both dominoes: solution found!

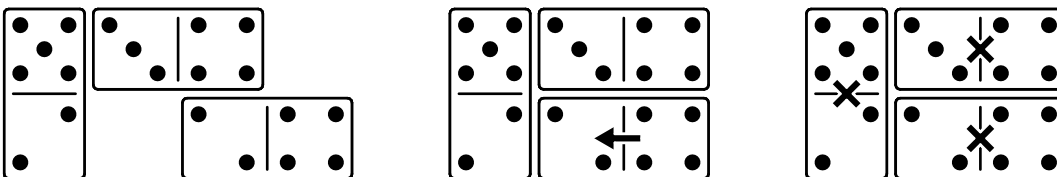
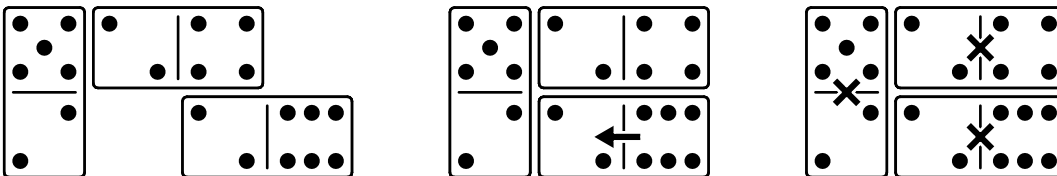


Adding

Move a domino one space along its long axis so that it ends up with at least one of its numbers next to an adjacent number that adds up to six. With an adding move, no dominoes are removed. In this example, the two adds up with the four above it to make six.



Sometimes, you can collect more than two dominoes at once. In the first example, the two matches twos on both of the other dominoes, and you collect all three dominoes. In the second example, the two matches the two to the left, and the four matches the four above it. You collect all three dominoes.



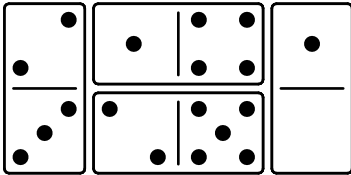
Stay Connected

All the dominoes must stay in one connected group, you can't split the group after moving or after removing the matching dominoes.

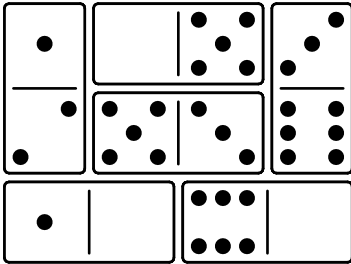
Problems

Here are the starting positions for several Capturing Donimoes problems. The solutions are listed at the end.

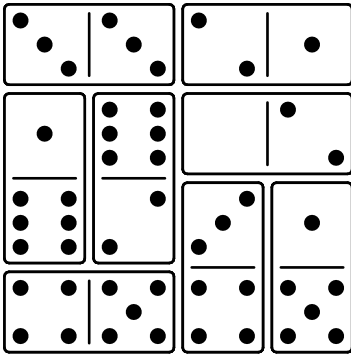
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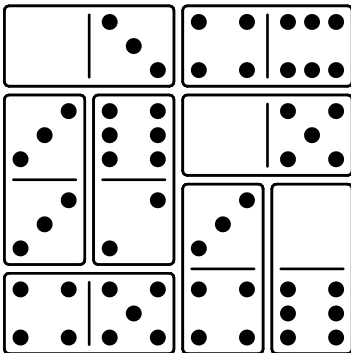
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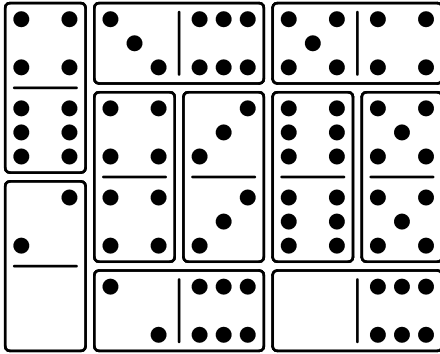
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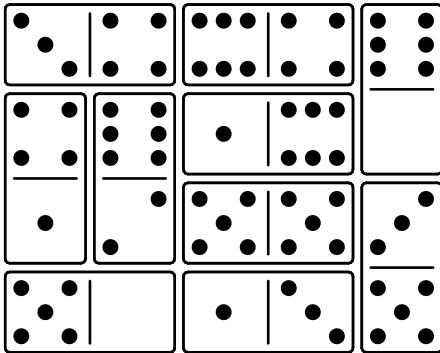
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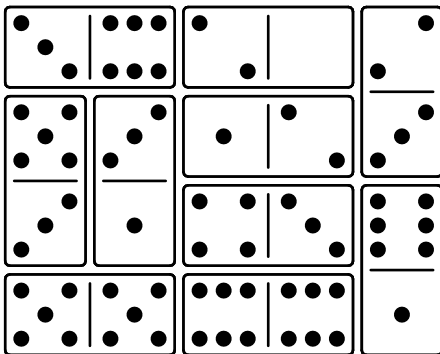
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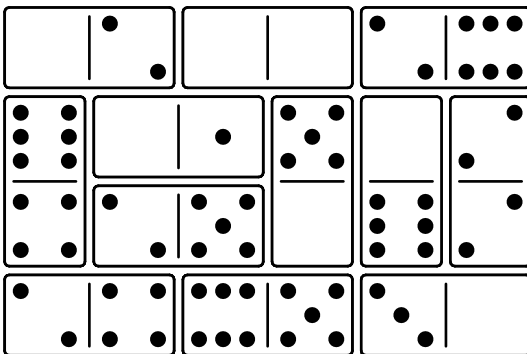
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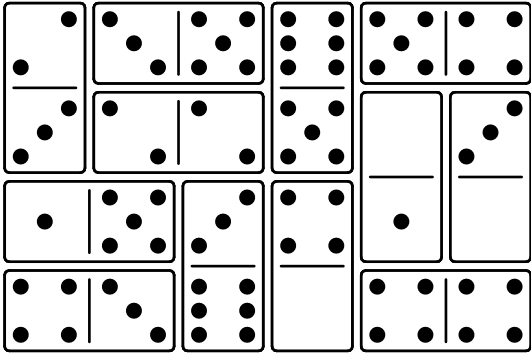
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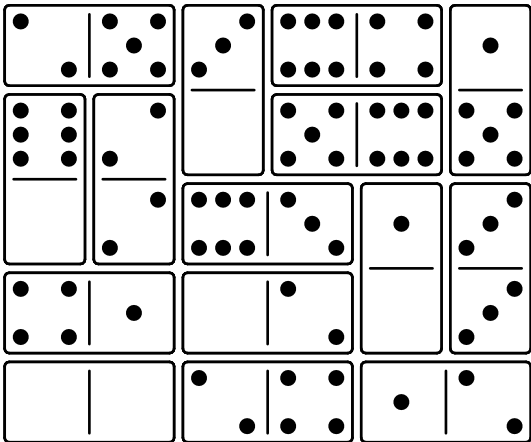
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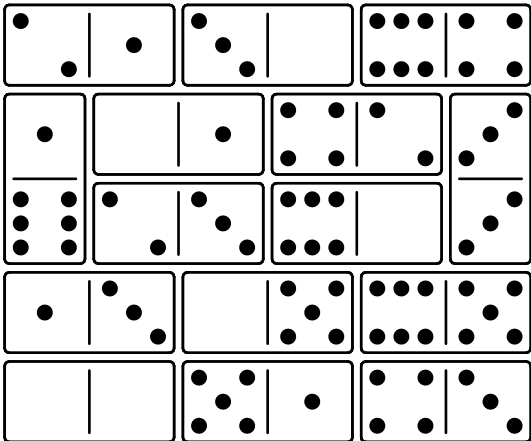
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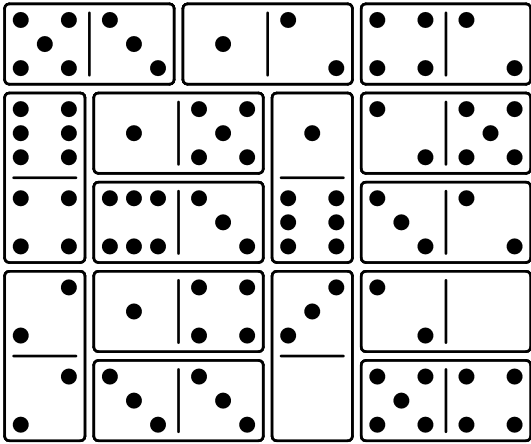
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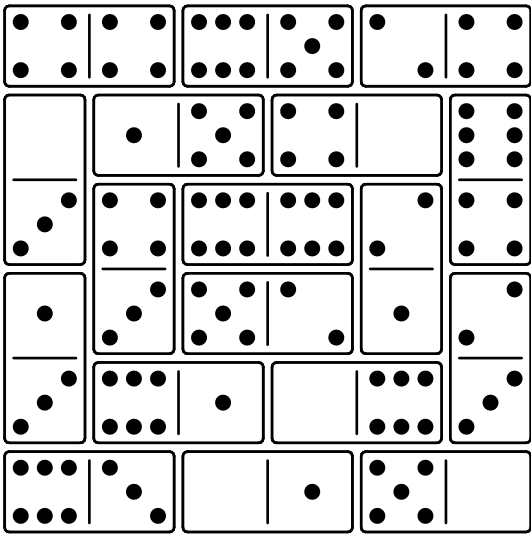
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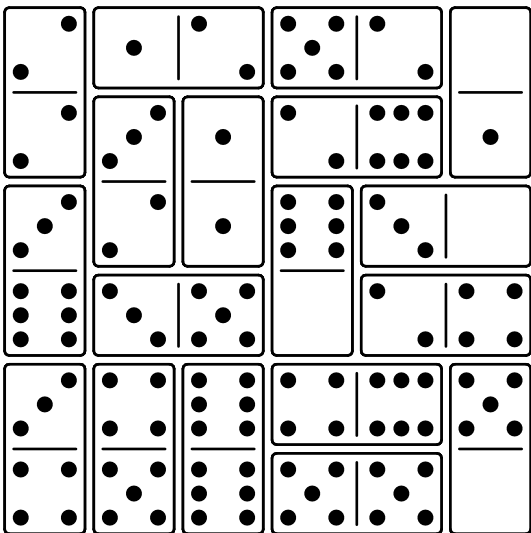
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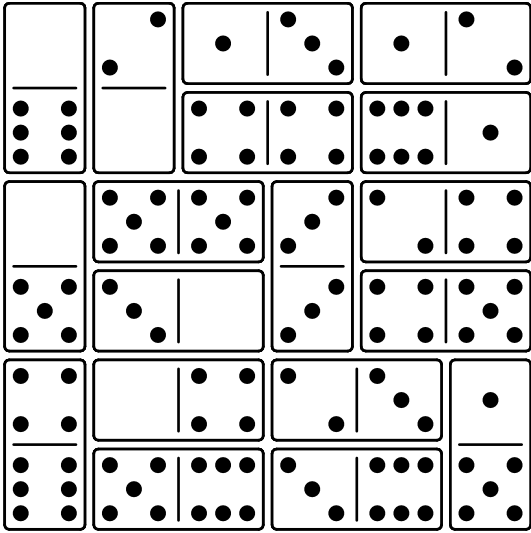
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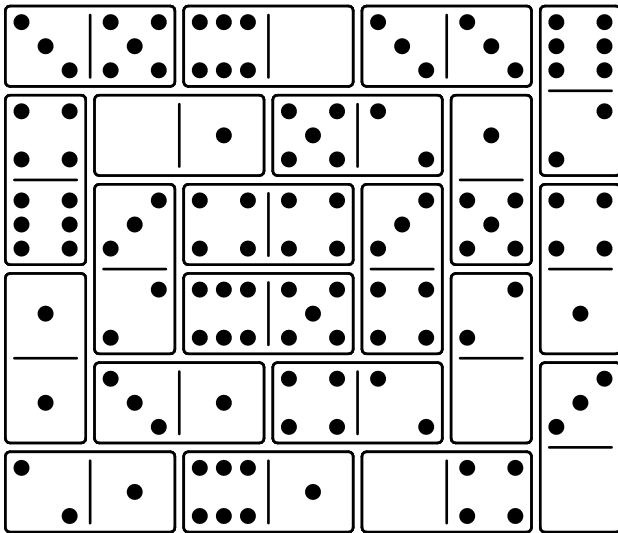
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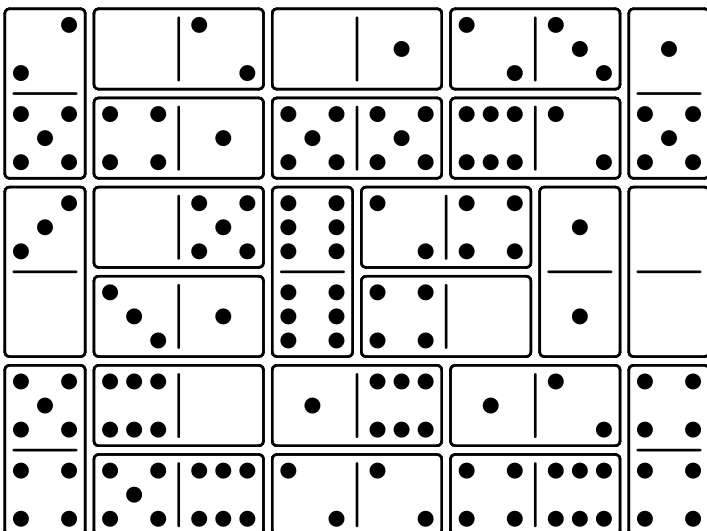
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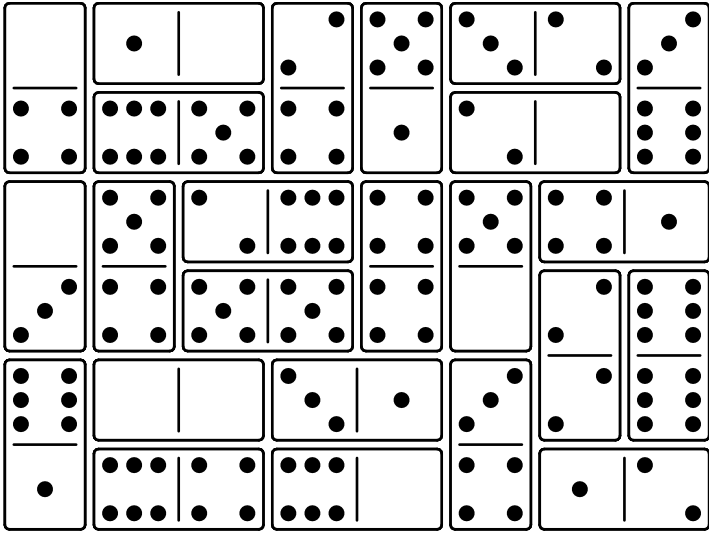
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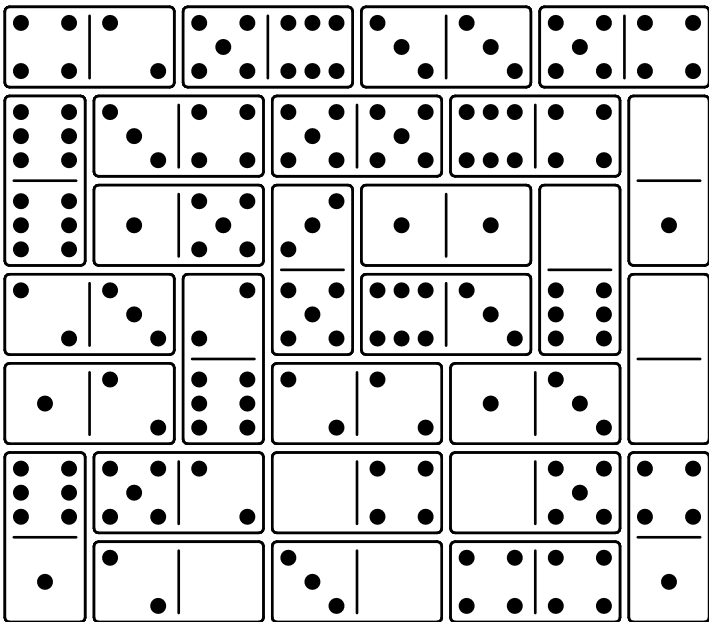
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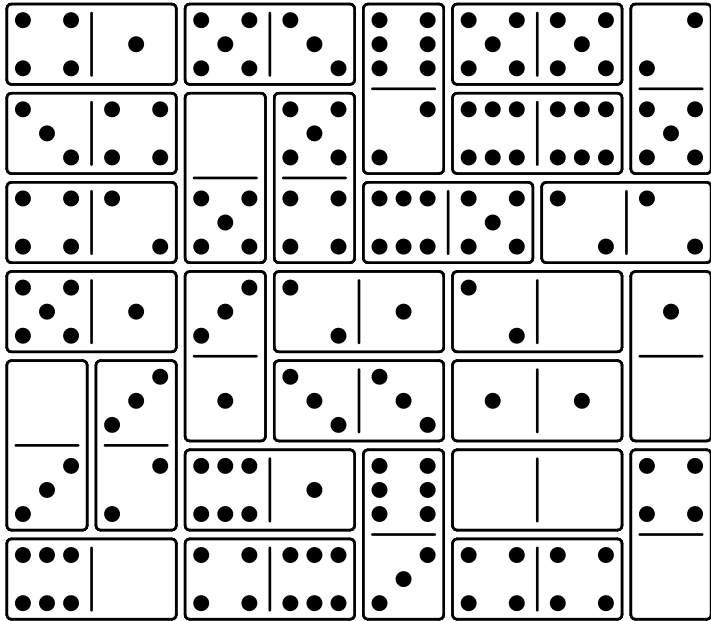
Problem 18



Problem 19



Problem 20



Mirror Dominoes

Help four ghosts find each other in a haunted house. Each domino is a room in the house, and the ghosts can't go through the closed doors. They can go through the mirrors, though. Spooky!

Goal

Move all the pawns into one connected group. Diagonal connections don't count.

Start

Place the dominoes in the starting position shown in the problem, then put a pawn on top of each corner space.

Moves

Each turn, you can make a domino move or a pawn move.

Domino Moves

The house is so spooky, the rooms can move. If a domino has one or two pawns on it, you can slide the domino one space along its long axis. The pawns go along for the ride. You can only move one domino at a time, and all the dominoes must stay connected in one group before and after the move. Diagonal connections don't count.

Remember, a domino with no pawns on it cannot move.

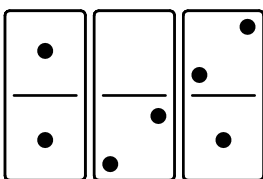
Pawn Moves

The ghosts can always move around the room, and they can move through mirrors to the room next door. You can move a pawn one space up, down, or sideways, with a few restrictions.

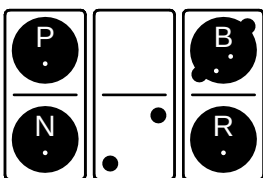
- Two pawns can't be on the same space, but you can have a pawn at each end of a domino.
- Moving to a neighbouring domino is only allowed if the number you move to matches the number you were on. (There's a mirror for the ghost to go through.)
- Pawns have to stay on top of the dominoes - no leaving the house.
- Diagonal moves are not allowed.

Example

Here's a small problem to start with. First, set up the dominoes as shown in the starting position.

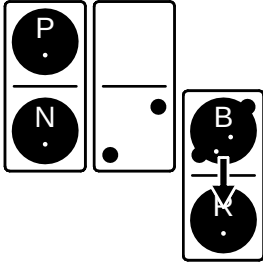


Then put a pawn on each corner. You can use four identical pawns, but for this example and the solutions at the end, we use a regular (P)awn, a (B)ishop, a k(N)ight, and a (R)ook as four different types of pawn, so you can keep track of which is which. The small white dots show you the number under each pawn.

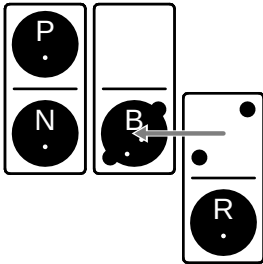


In this position, none of the numbers match their neighbours, so there are no mirrors for the pawns to move between dominoes. However, the 2 under the bishop could match the 2 in the middle, so

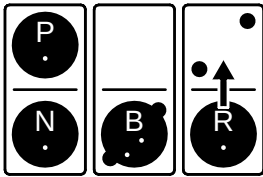
the first move is to slide the bishop's domino down.



Now that there's a mirror to move through, the bishop can move to the left.



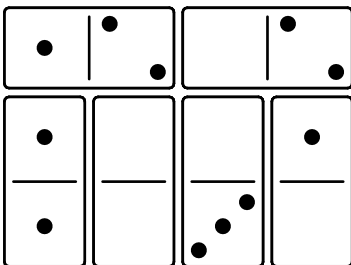
The last move is to join the ghosts into a single, connected group, and there are two choices. We can just move the rook to the other end of its domino, or we can slide the rook's domino back up, and the rook comes along for the ride.



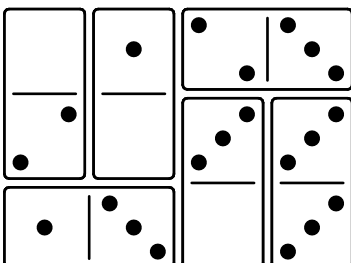
Problems

Here are the starting positions for several Mirror Donimoes problems. The solutions are listed at the end.

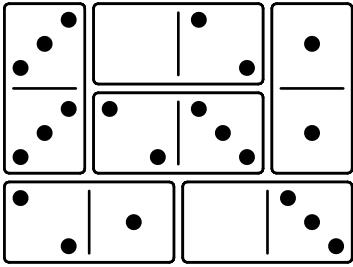
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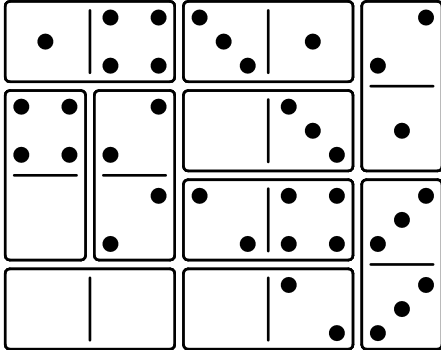
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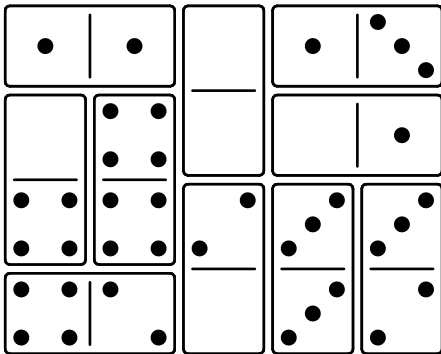
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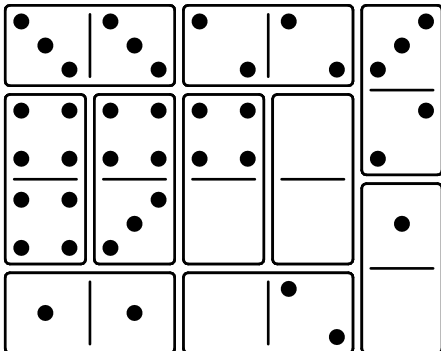
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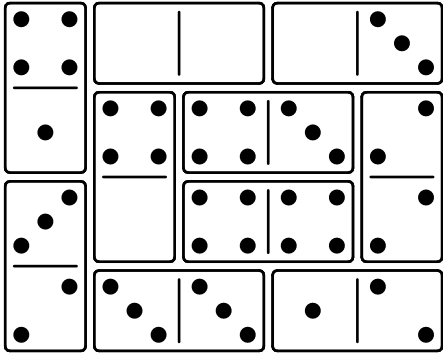
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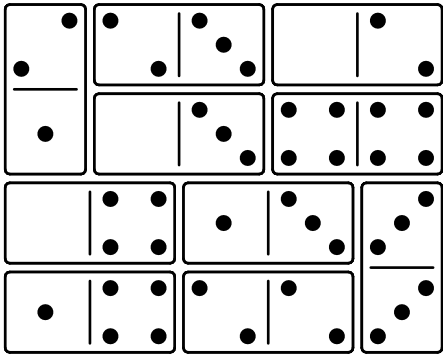
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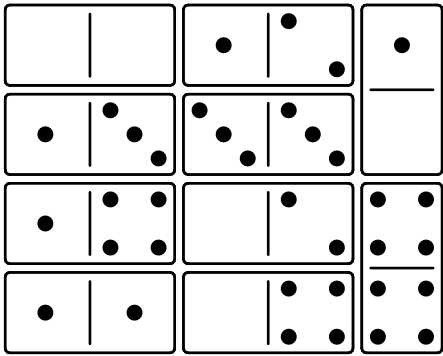
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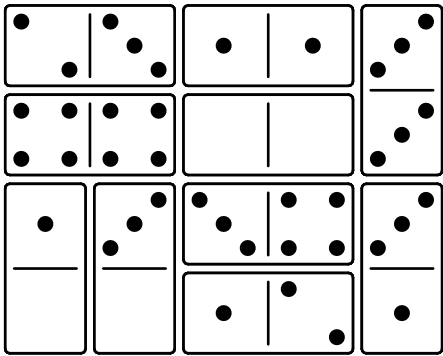
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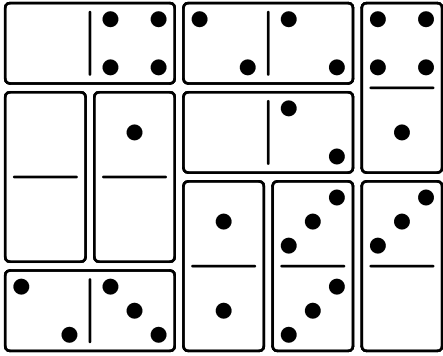
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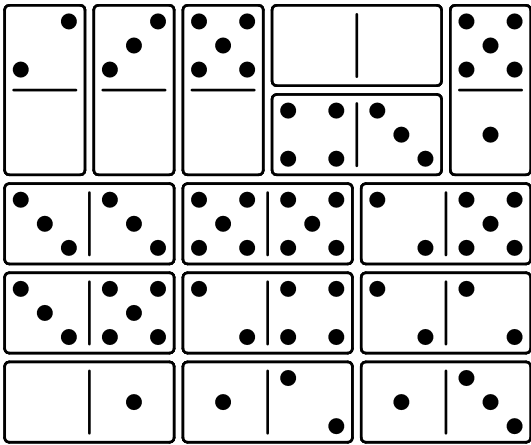
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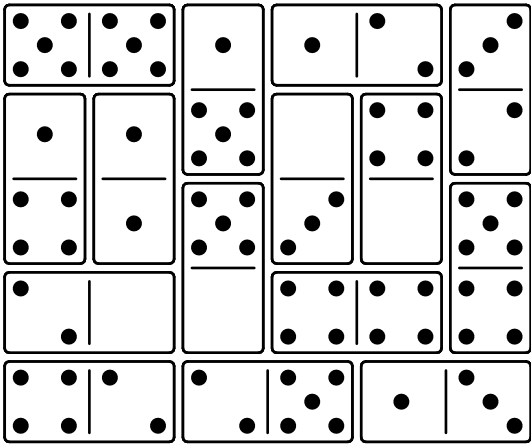
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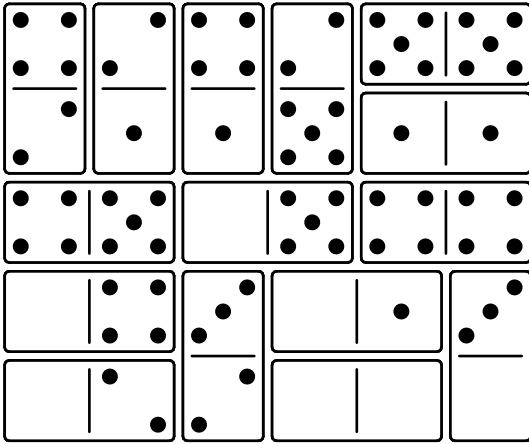
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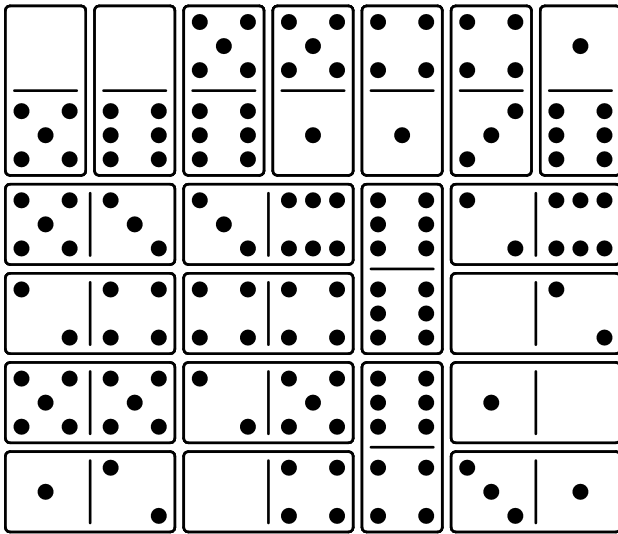
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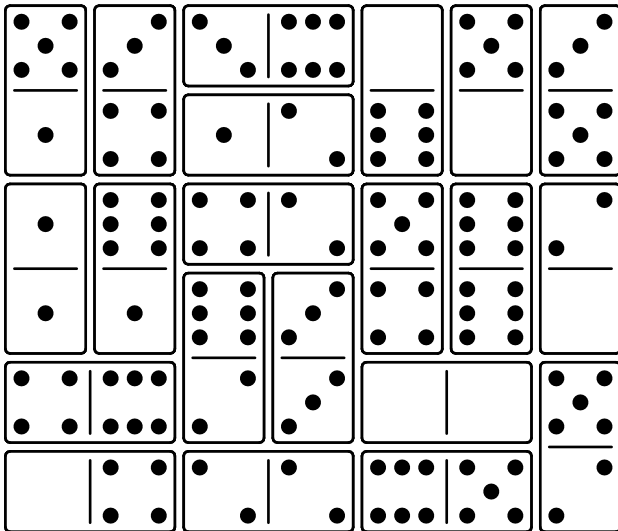
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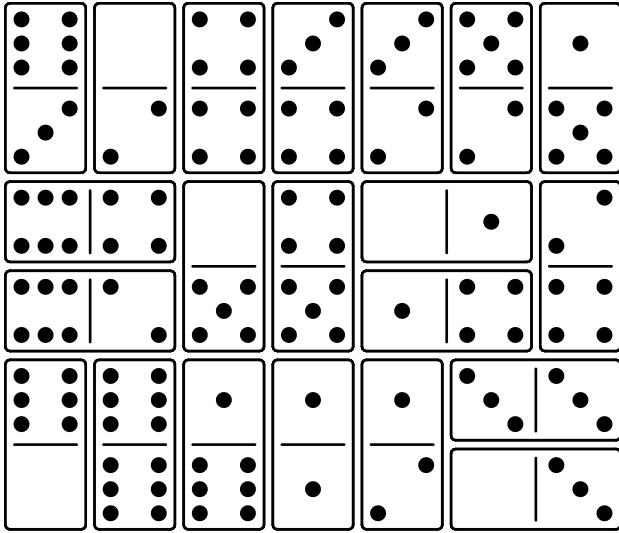
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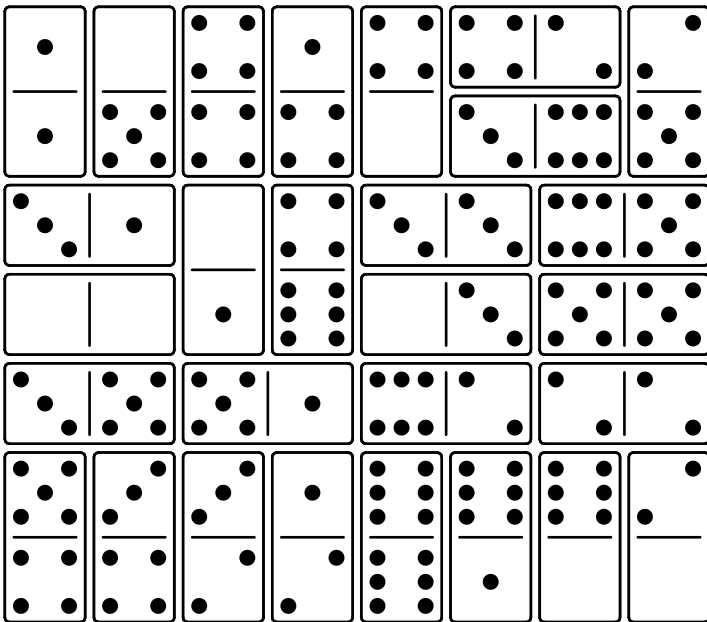
Problem 16



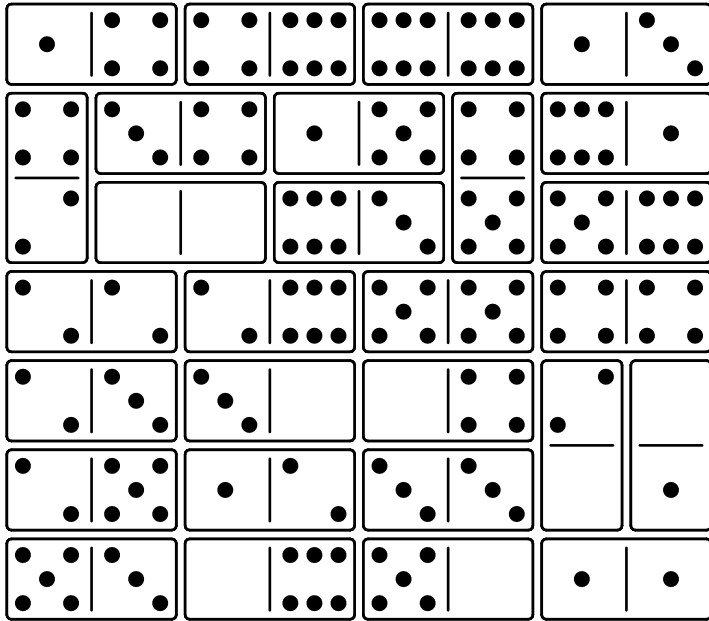
Problem 17



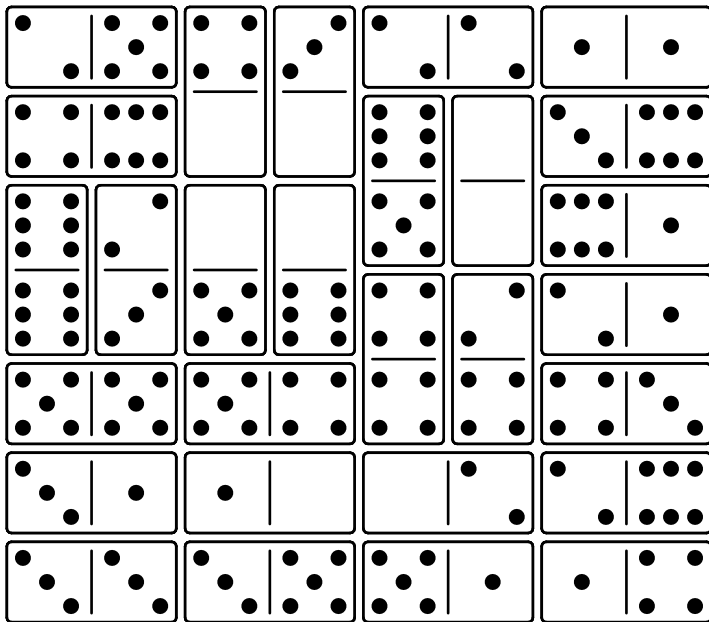
Problem 18



Problem 19



Problem 20



You'll need patience for this one. Did I go too far?

Games

Tetradominoes

I enjoy classic domino games like All Fives, and I've played recent inventions like Chickenfoot and Mexican Train. However, I thought I might be able to design a domino game that felt more like a grid than a chain. Tetradominoes is my attempt to do that.

Play matching dominoes in a grid, then try to play the tetromino shapes on top.

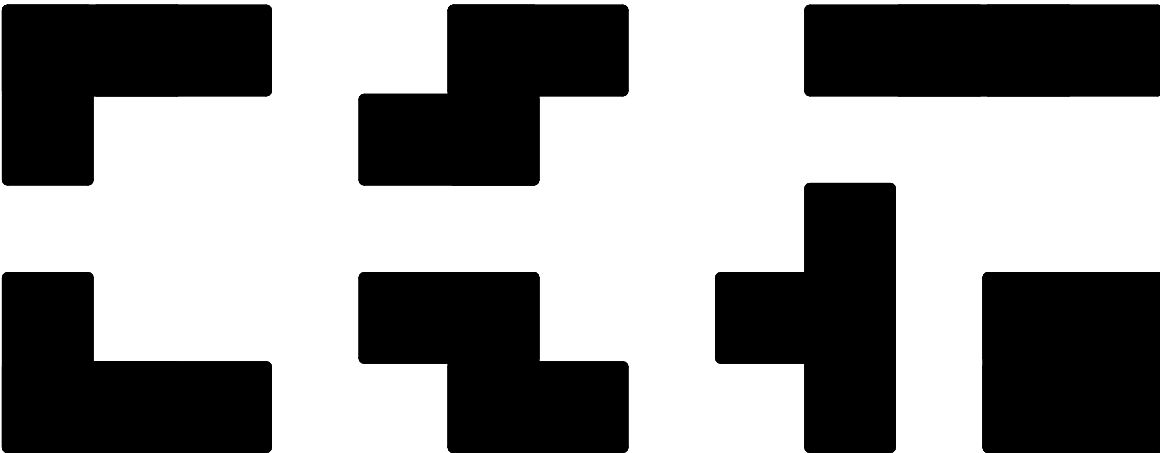
Players

1 to 4 (See the solitaire rules at the end.)

Equipment

- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six
- a set of tokens (small chips or cubes that are small enough to fit on top of a domino) - 2 players need 1 light token and 1 dark token, 3 players need 3 tokens in each of 3 colours (9 in total), and 4 players need 2 light tokens and 2 dark tokens
- seven cardboard tetrominoes (white on one side, black on the other)

To make your own set of tetrominoes, draw these seven shapes on a piece of plain cardboard, and cut them out. Use a marker to colour one side of each shape. Each shape should be big enough fit on top of four domino numbers, with a small gap around the outside.



Object

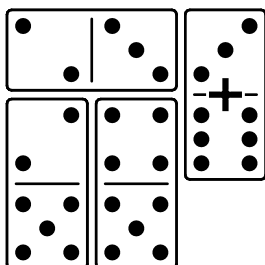
Play the most tetrominoes.

Setup

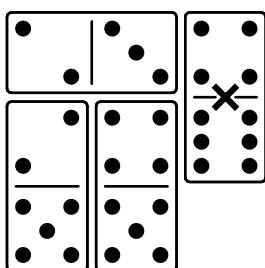
Choose a player to go first through any convenient method. In a 2-player game, the first player takes the light token. The other player takes the dark token. In a 3-player game, each player takes all the tokens of one colour. In a 4-player game, the first player and the player opposite each take a light token and the other players take a dark token. Players with the same colour tokens will play as partners. Shuffle the dominoes face down, and draw four for each player, keeping them hidden from the other players. Put the remaining dominoes and the tetrominoes within reach.

Playing Dominoes

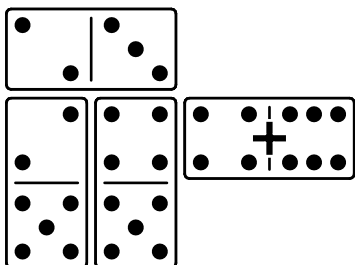
On the first turn, play any domino you like. On each turn after that, you must play a domino so that at least one of its numbers is adjacent to a matching number on a domino that was already played, and isn't covered. For example, the 36 domino can be added as shown, because the 3 matches its neighbour.



In this example, the 46 cannot be added in this position, but it could be flipped to make the 4 match its neighbour.



You don't have to match along the long side, you could also play it like this.



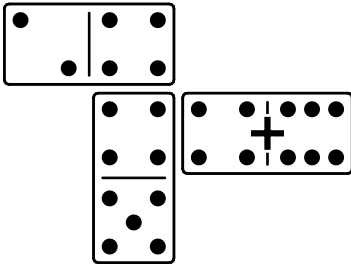
If there are no numbers uncovered at the start of your turn, play a domino so that at least one of its numbers is adjacent to a covered number (they don't have to match). If none of your dominoes match the available numbers, reveal two of your hidden dominoes, and draw one more, keeping it hidden from the other players. If you still can't play, repeat until you can. If you still can't play when there are no more dominoes to draw or when you don't have two hidden dominoes, reveal all of your hidden dominoes, and pass your turn. Leave any revealed dominoes face up until you play them.

If you have fewer than four dominoes, draw a domino and keep it hidden from the other players.

Playing Tetrominoes

After playing a domino, see if you can play a tetromino. It must cover one or both numbers on the domino you just played, it can't hang off the edge of the dominoes, and it can't cover any numbers different from the ones on the domino you just played. Also, two tetrominoes of the same colour can't be right next to each other. (Diagonal is allowed.)

For example, if you just played the 46 domino, you could play an L-shaped tetromino on the 4, 4, 4, and 6 numbers.



With 2 or 4 players, if you have a light token, you must play tetrominoes with the light side up. If you have a dark token, you must play with the dark side up. With three players, all players play tetrominoes with the light side up, and then place one of their tokens on the tetromino.

With 4 players, after a tetromino is played, the two opposing players may each take a domino from their hand, and trade with their partner. This is useful if your partner is about to play and you have a domino that matches something on the board. It can also be useful when you have two dominoes that will work well together. However, you can't tell your partner how to play what you give them.

Game End

With 2 or 4 players, the game ends when one player or team plays four tetrominoes and wins. With 3 players, the game ends when one player plays three tetrominoes and wins.

Solitaire

All the rules about playing dominoes and tetrominoes stay the same, but you're trying to fit all of the tetrominoes into a small space. You can play the tetrominoes either side up, but you get more points if they are mostly the same colour. If you play a domino that can have a tetromino played on it, you must play that tetromino. If you can't play any dominoes, discard one tetromino to count as unplayed, and draw up to four dominoes. Then put the same number of dominoes back in the pile, and shuffle the pile face down.

Level 1 - At the end of the game, count the number of black tetrominoes B , the number of white tetrominoes W , and the number of unplayed tetrominoes X . Calculate your score as $B \times W + 7 \times X$. You win if your score is less than 10.

Level 2 - At the end of the game, imagine a rectangle surrounding the dominoes you played. Count the numbers along the longest side, and add that to the level 1 score. You win if your total score is less than 15. Good luck!

Tournament

Tournament play is a series of games until one player or team wins seven points. Each game ends when a player or team plays their fourth tetromino, and then everyone gets one point for each tetromino they played. The tournament ends immediately when someone scores seven points, no need to finish the last game.

Bee Dominoes

A puzzle race game where a swarm of dice bring nectar back to the hive.

Players

1-6

Equipment

- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six
- 3 to 6 six-sided dice
- a one-minute timer

Object

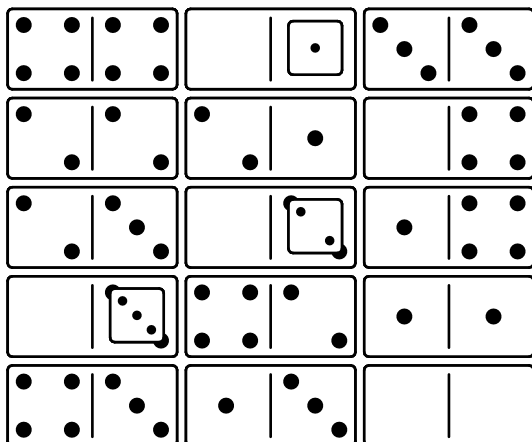
Bring the nectar back to the hive in as few moves as possible, faster than the other players. The biggest die is the queen bee and doesn't move, the others have to form a connected group around her.

Setup

Decide how many dice you want to use: 3 or 4 are good for learning the game, and 5 or 6 make more challenging puzzles. Put aside all the dominoes with numbers higher than the number of dice, and shuffle the rest. Then place the shuffled dominoes face up to form a rectangle of numbers.

Look for the dominoes with a number at one end and a blank at the other. The number on each of those dominoes is the starting space for the die with the matching number. Take 3 dice, turn them so the numbers 1, 2, and 3 are on top, then place them on their starting spaces.

For example, here's one possible setup for four dice:



Play

The die with the largest number is the queen bee, which never moves during the round. All the smaller bees have to bring their nectar back to her in one connected group. (Diagonal connections don't count.)

The dice can only land on their own numbers or on unoccupied blanks. They can move in two ways: 1. In a straight line along a row or a column. They can pass over other numbers, squares with their own number, or other dice. This counts as one move. 2. Changing direction over other dice. In the middle of a regular move, a die may make a 90° turn directly above another die. Later in the same move, it may make more turns directly above other dice. No matter how many turns it makes, this still counts as one move.

See the example solution after the rules.

Solve

As soon as the queen bee is placed, all players try to solve the puzzle at the same time. Do not touch the dominoes or dice while you are trying to solve the puzzle! Once a player has found a solution, they say the number of moves they need, and start the timer. The other players have until the timer ends to find a better solution.

A solution with fewer moves is always better. If two players find solutions with the same number of moves, then the player with fewer points wins the tie. If they have the same points, then the player who said it first wins the tie.

If there is no solution, then the first player to say it's impossible starts the timer. They win the round if no other player can find a solution before the timer ends.

Demonstrate

Whichever player has claimed the best solution when the timer ends has to demonstrate that solution, counting the moves out loud. Players should demonstrate with no more than a few seconds of hesitation. If they made a mistake or can't remember the solution, let the player who claimed the next best solution demonstrate it.

The player who successfully demonstrates a solution scores one point.

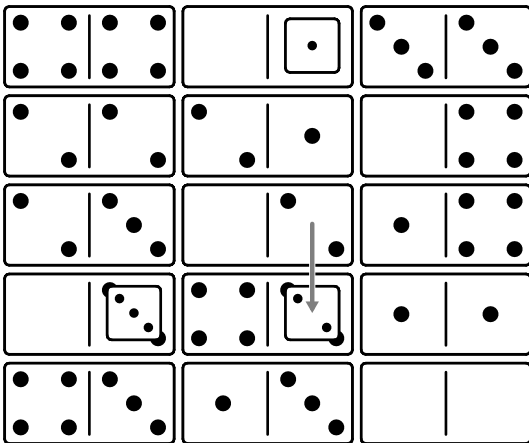
Next Round

Put the dice back on their starting spaces. If there are any empty starting spaces, start the next round by adding the next bigger die on its starting space. Otherwise, shuffle all the dominoes and set up again.

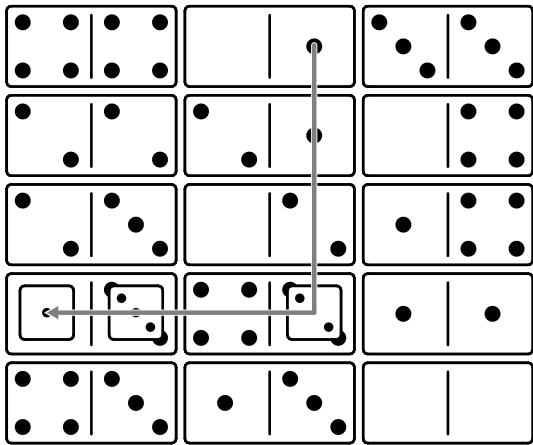
Example Solution

Let's solve the set up above, where the 3 die is the queen bee. The first thing to do is check whether there are enough places for the bees to land around the queen bee. The queen is surrounded on three sides by 3s and 4s, so something has to land on the wild space. Next to that is a 4 and a 2, so you know that the 1 has to end up on the wild space with the 2 next to it.

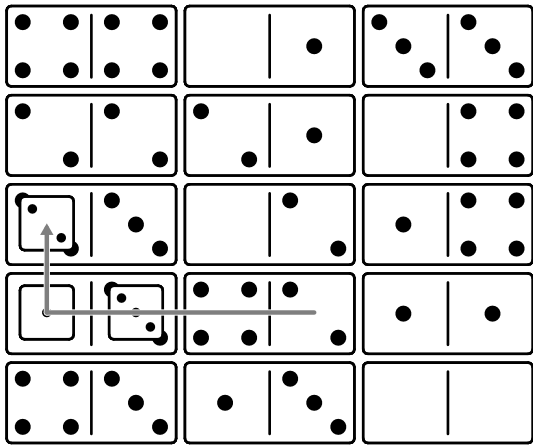
Now that we know where we're going, it seems best to start by moving the 2 where it can guide the 1 onto the wild spot:



With the 2 in place, the 1 can get to its target.



Finally, the 2 can get to its target with the help of the 1, in a nice leapfrog pattern.



End Game

Play for an agreed number of rounds, the player with the most points wins. In case of a tie, play an extra round.

To play a series of games, start with 3 dice and play 1 round. Add in another die and all the dominoes with numbers up to 4, then play 2 rounds. Continue with 5 and 6 dice for a total of 10 rounds.

For experienced players, play 3 cycles with 6 dice for a total of 12 rounds.

Advanced Version

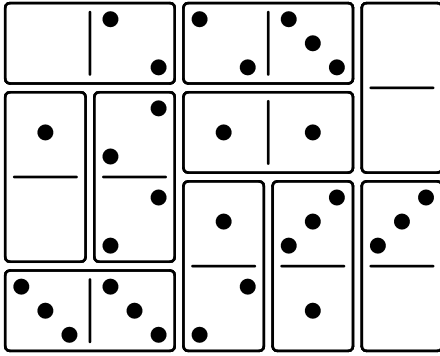
Letting the dice land on the blanks makes the game easier to solve. For more challenging puzzles, only let the dice land on one blank: the blank on the queen bee's domino.

If you find the race too stressful, play cooperatively or as a solitaire.

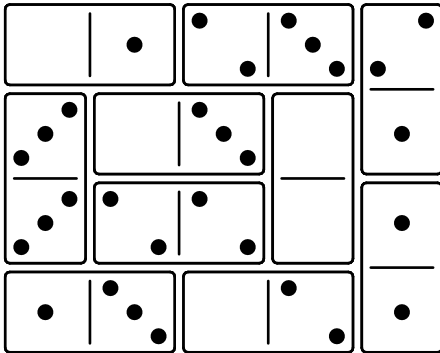
Problems

When you randomly lay out the dominoes, most solutions will take between 3 and 6 moves. Here are some carefully chosen layouts that range from easy to very challenging. Record how many moves you used for each queen bee, and then compare to the solutions at the end. These problems all use the advanced version of the rules, so the only blank you can land on is the one on the queen bee's domino.

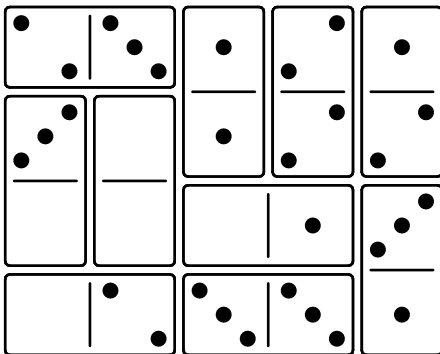
Problem 1



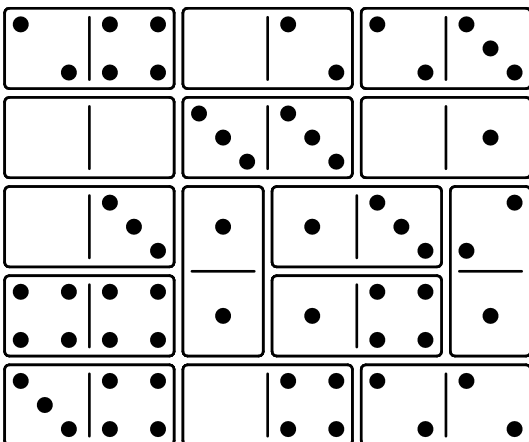
Problem 2



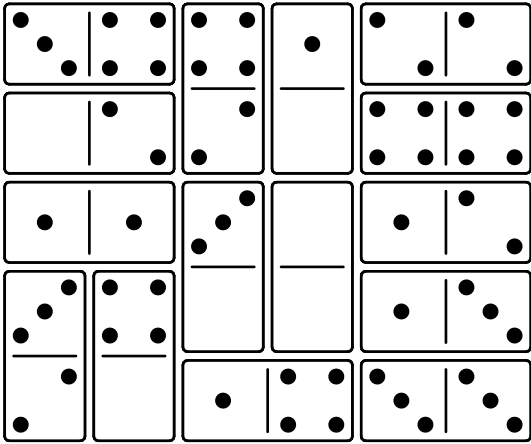
Problem 3



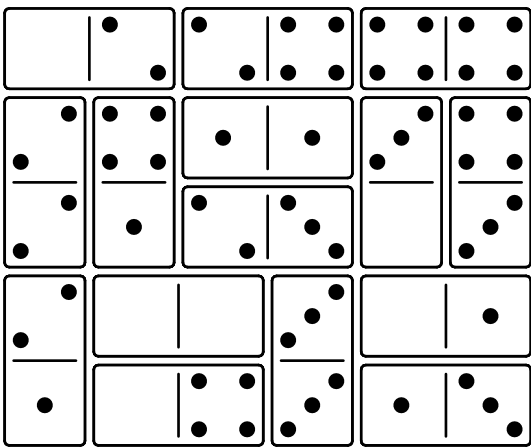
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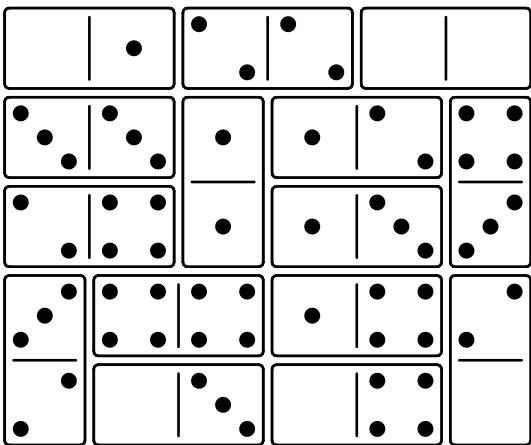
Problem 5



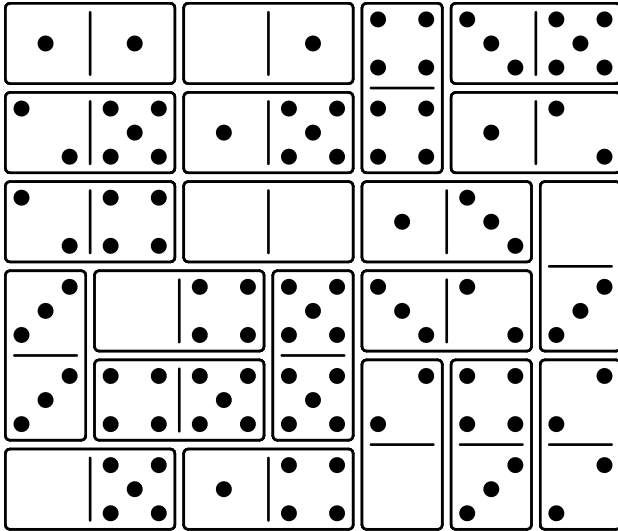
Problem 6



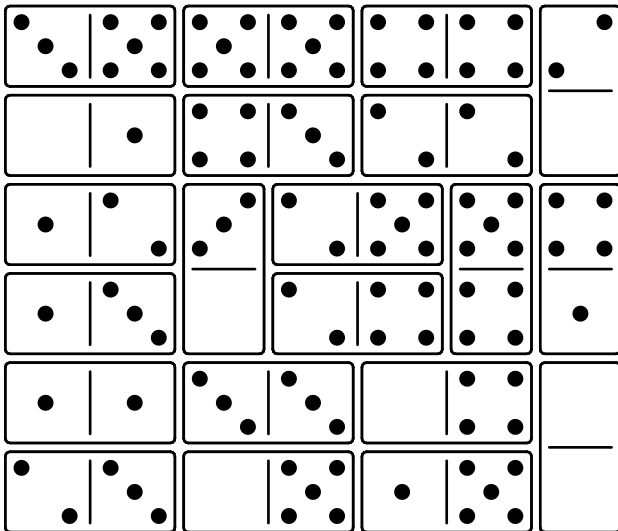
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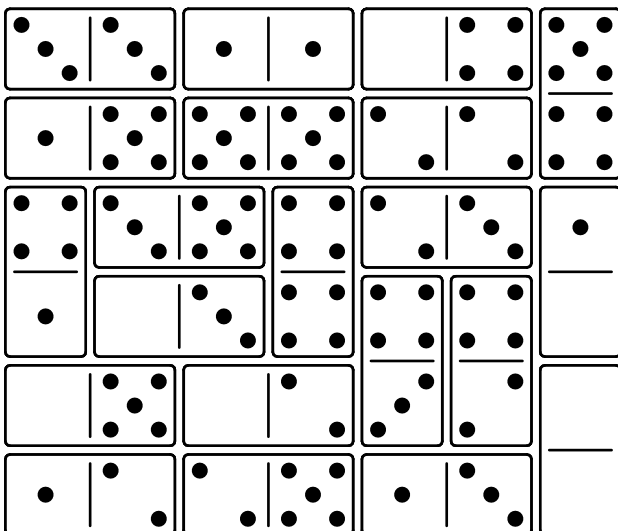
Problem 8



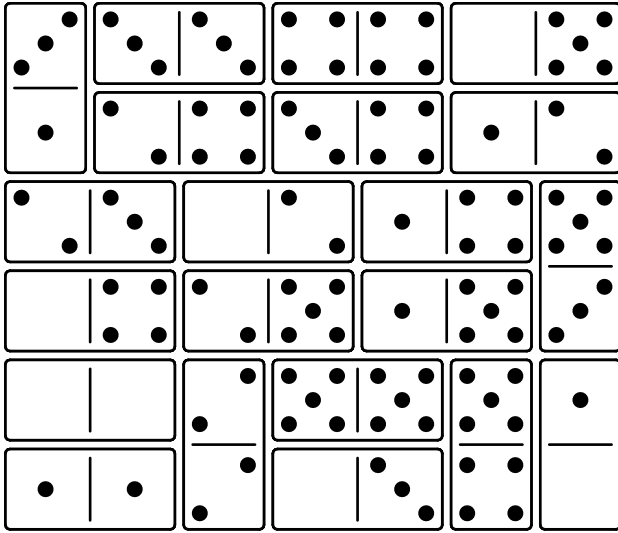
Problem 9



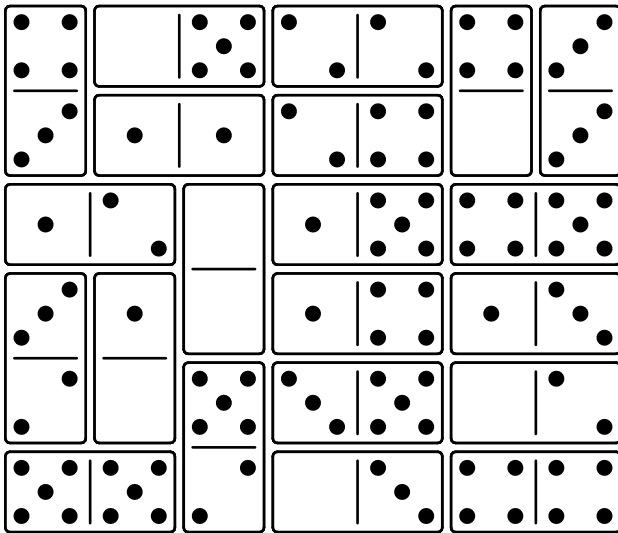
Problem 10



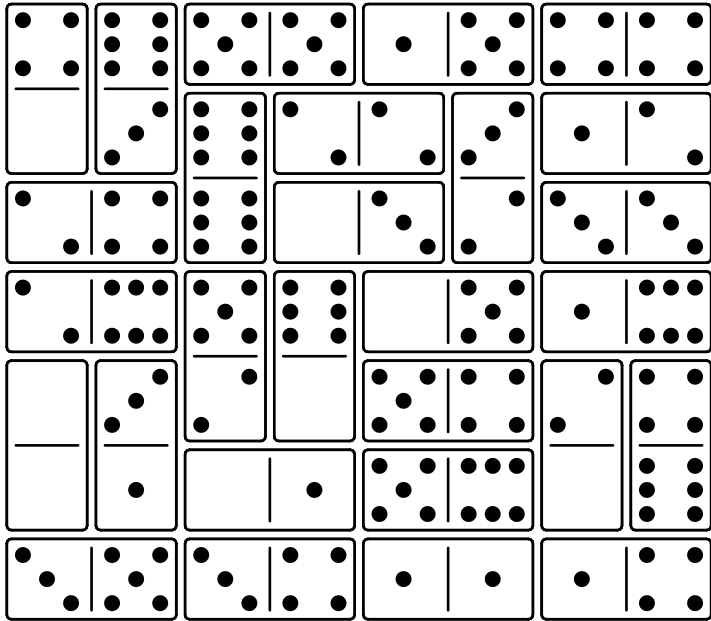
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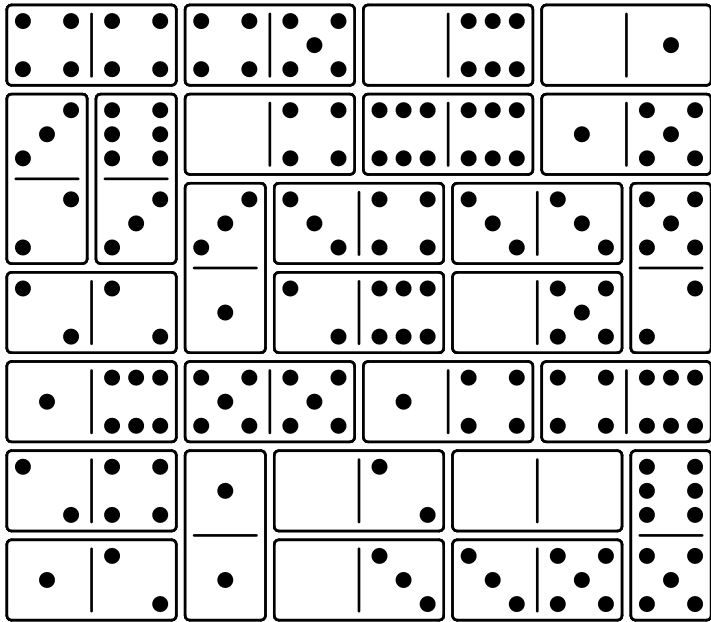
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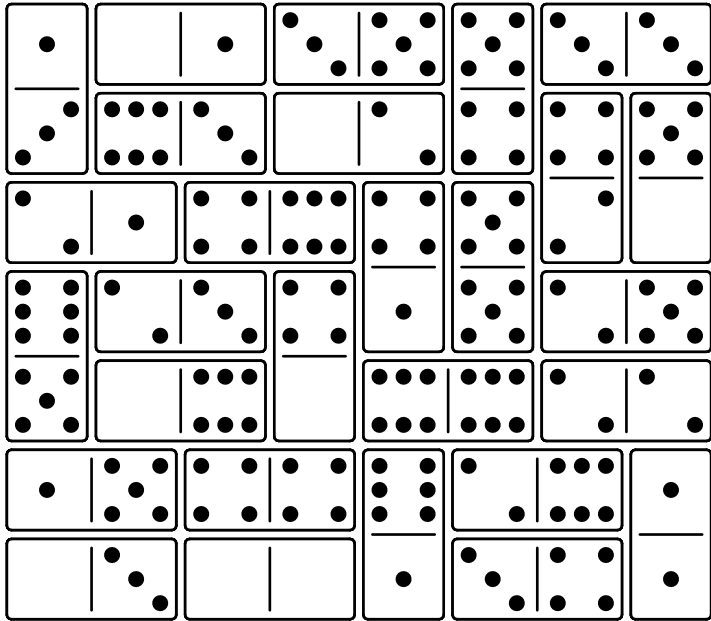
Problem 13



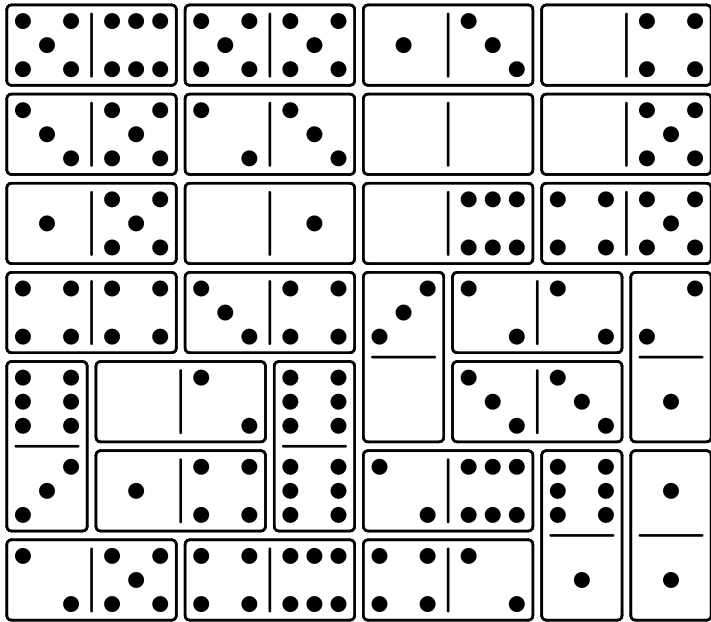
Problem 14



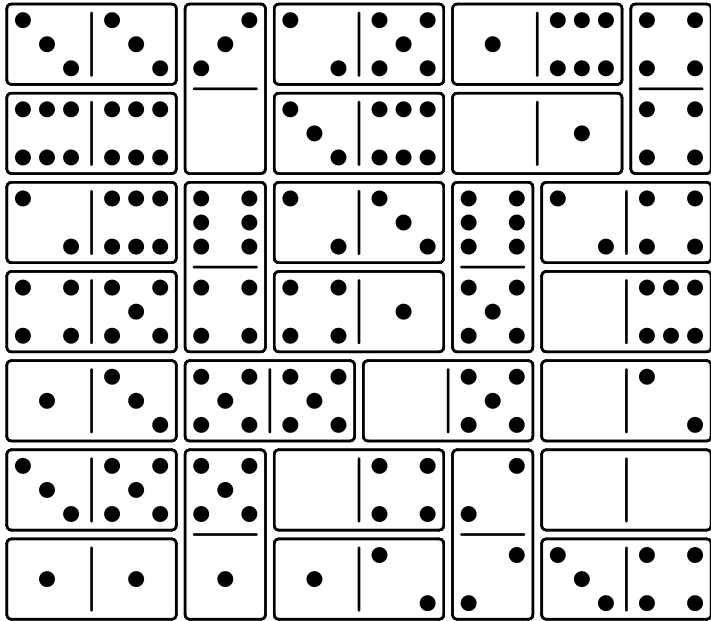
Problem 15



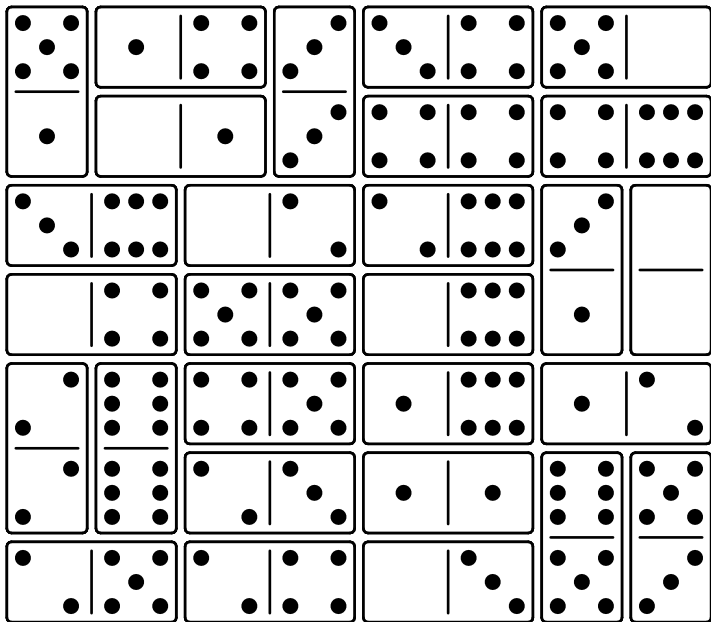
Problem 16



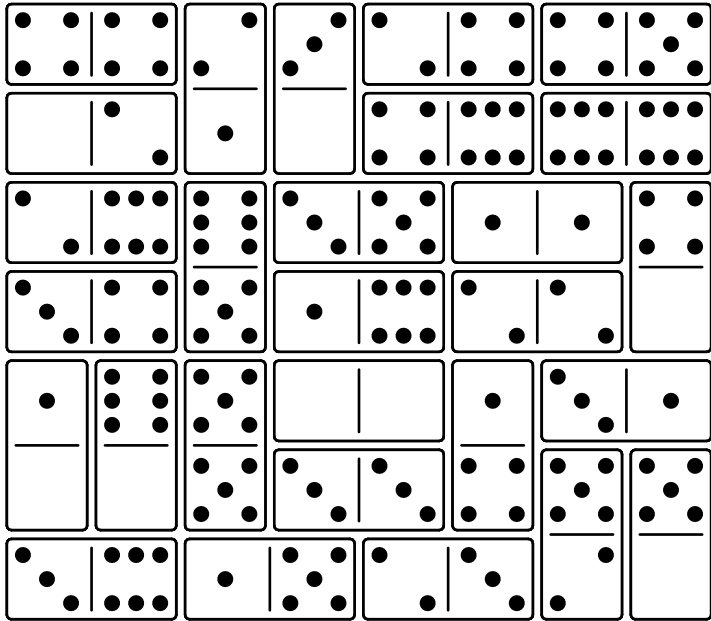
Problem 17



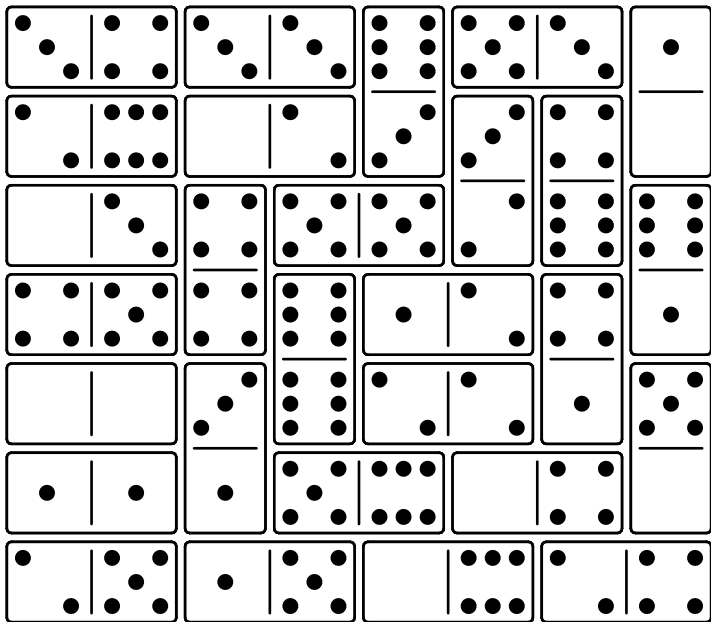
Problem 18



Problem 19



Problem 20



Domino Finder

A memory game with hidden traps.

Players

2-4

Equipment

- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six
- one pawn for each player, in different colours
- two six-sided dice

Object

For 2 players, find 5 treasure dominoes. 3 players find 4, or 4 players find 3.

Setup

Find the 7 dominoes that have blanks, gather them into a pile, and shuffle them face down. Shuffle the other 21 dominoes face down in a separate pile. Then, take 1 domino from the blanks pile and 3 from the other pile. Shuffle them together so you don't know what numbers they have and you don't know which has a blank. Lay them out face down in a long thin row. Repeat the process until you have 7 rows side by side, but leave gaps between the rows so you can turn them over as you play. You should end up with a rectangle of 7x8 secret numbers.

Each player rolls the two dice, and the highest number plays first. Reroll to break ties. The starting player rolls the two dice to choose the treasure domino.

Play

On your first turn, place your pawn next to one of the face-down dominoes along the edge of the board. Every turn, you flip up one face-down domino, and move your pawn onto it. Your pawn must be next to the domino you want to flip up, but you may move it over dominoes that are already face up, before you get to the domino you want to flip up. You may also move it over empty spaces where dominoes have been removed. You may not move it over blanks or face-down dominoes. Once your pawn is next to the face-down domino you want to flip, place your pawn next to one end, and then flip the domino around the long axis, so the numbers stay in the same position. If you flip over a blank square next to your pawn, then you stepped in a trap! Place your pawn on the blank square, and skip your next turn.

If you flip over a domino that matches the two dice, you found the treasure! Place the treasure domino face up in front of you, move your pawn into the empty space, and prepare for the next treasure: * Flip every revealed trap so that it is face down, unless there's a pawn on it. * Roll the dice to see what the next treasure is. * If you roll numbers that match a previous treasure domino that's now in front of a player or if they match a domino that a player's pawn is on, just roll again. * If you roll numbers that match a face-up domino, flip it face down. Roll again.

Whether you found the treasure or not, your turn ends after flipping one domino. The turn passes to the player on your right.

Winning

As soon as you collect enough treasures, you win the game.

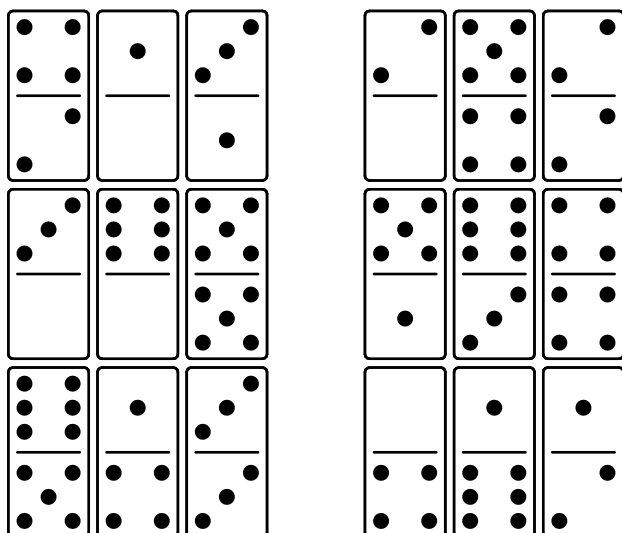
By Other Designers

Mountains and Valleys

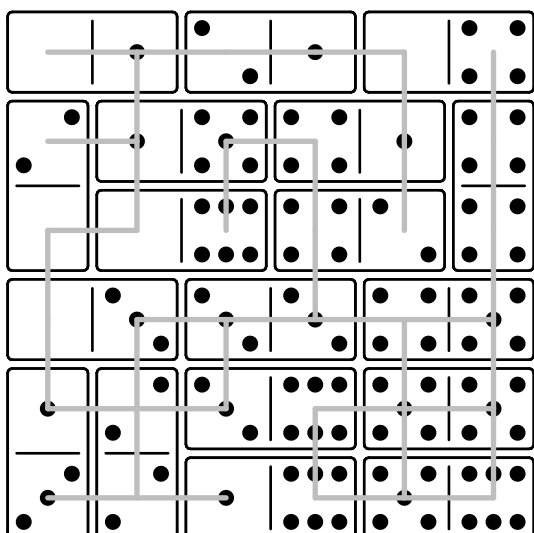
Sid Sackson is one of my favourite game designers. He designed Acquire, Can't Stop, and I'm the Boss, among many, many others. He included Mountains and Valleys in his Beyond Solitaire book, and I adapted it from paper, pencil, and dice to use dominoes.

To start, shuffle a set of double-six dominoes face down, then turn 18 of them face up. The remaining 10 aren't used. Then arrange the dominoes into a 6x6 square of numbers that represents a map of mountains and valleys, where blanks are at sea level, and sixes are the highest peaks. The goal is to make a map where you can walk to every square. You can walk from one square to its neighbour if the two heights are the same or differ by one. (You can't climb cliffs.)

For example, this set of 18 dominoes:



can be arranged into this solution, where the grey lines show the paths you can walk along:



I like this solitaire, because it can almost always be solved, though finding a solution can be very difficult. There's usually more than one solution. For example, you can flip the 56 domino, above. There is a trivially unsolvable situation whenever one of the numbers from 1 to 5 is completely missing, but that can be quickly checked, and I haven't found any other unsolvable combinations.

Cooperative Version

You can play Mountains and Valleys cooperatively with other players. Shuffle the dominoes face down, then draw 9, 6, or 5 dominoes each when there are 2, 3, or 4 players, respectively. Keep your dominoes hidden from the other players.

Randomly choose a player to go first. That player chooses one of their dominoes and passes it to the player on their left. The player receiving the domino plays it on the table, then chooses one of their dominoes and passes it to the player on their left. Play continues in the same pattern until a 6x6 square is complete. After the first domino, all dominoes must be played so they have at least one neighbour, and they can't be moved after they are added.

When the 6x6 square is complete, see if the whole map is connected as described in the solitaire game. If you need a step of more than one level to get from one section of the map to another, you get a penalty of the number of levels. For example, if a map is completely connected except that you need to go from a 3 to a 5, then you would have a 2 point penalty. A perfect game is zero, and anything under 5 is a good game.

With four players, the last two players will each have an extra domino left at the end of the game.

For a harder solitaire version, draw 18 dominoes, but only turn five of them face up. Each time you play a domino, turn another one face up, until you've turned up all 18. Then play the last five. Use the same placement and scoring rules as the cooperative version.

Domino Runners

Roland Siegers used an unusual mechanic in two board games: Winkeladvokat (1986) and Cabale (1999). Each turn, your runner makes a V-shaped move, and drops a marker at the bend. I've played many games of Cabale, which uses a hexagonal grid. When I learned that Winkeladvokat uses the same mechanic on a square grid, I thought it would adapt well to play on a grid of dominoes.

Equipment

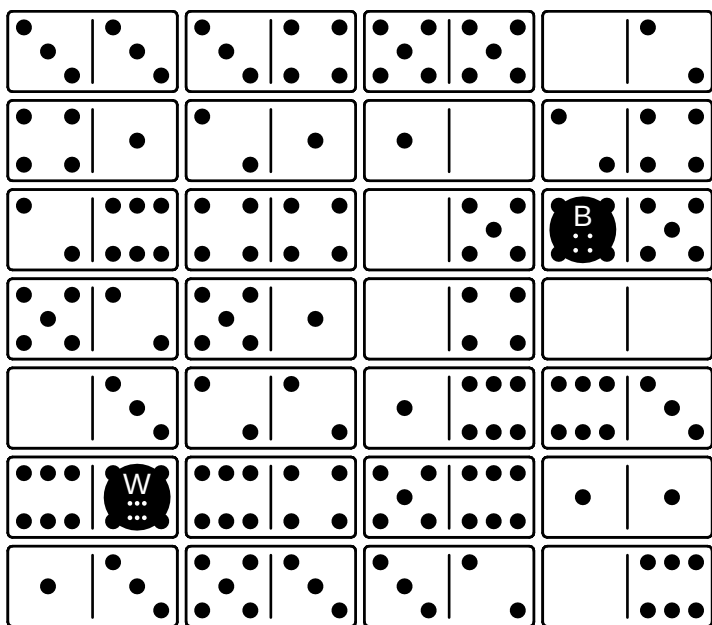
- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six
- ten checkers for each player, in different colours, that will fit on half a domino
- one runner for each player, in colours to match the checkers, they can be pawns or a stack of two checkers
- a neutral runner in a third colour (optional)

Start

Shuffle all the dominoes face down, and then place them in a 7x8 grid of numbers, flipping them face up as you go.

Randomly choose colours for the two players. The player with the darker colour starts, placing their runner on one end of any domino. The player with the lighter colour then has a choice: either place their runner somewhere else on the dominoes, or swap colours and force the other player to place the lighter runner. This means that if the first player makes too strong a first move, the second player can steal it.

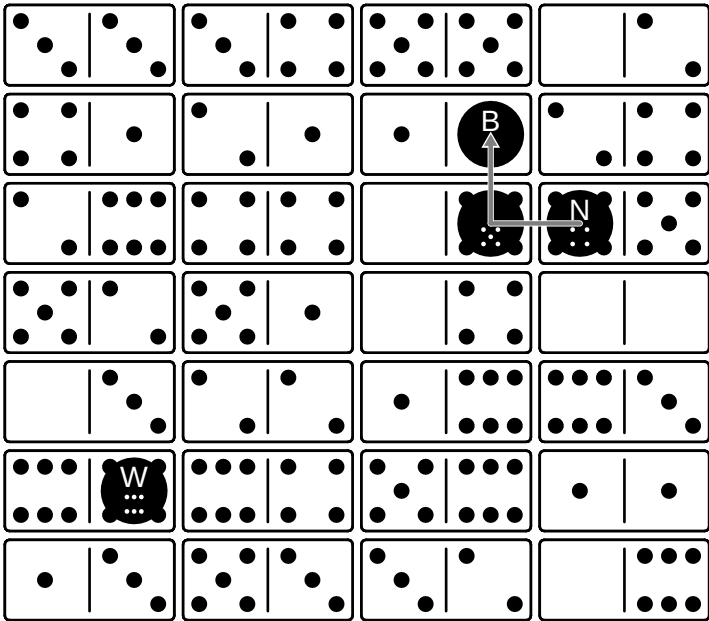
Here's an example starting position, where there are several fives and sixes protected by blanks or the edge of the board. The black player decided to line up with two of the fives, so the white player would choose to line up with a six instead of swapping colours. The little white pips show you what number is underneath each runner.



Play

On each turn, move your runner in two parts: vertical then horizontal or horizontal then vertical. Each part must move at least one space across the board. Start by replacing your runner with the neutral runner, then move your runner as described. It cannot cross over another runner or any checkers. After moving the runner, place one of your checkers on the space where the runner changed direction. **Important:** you cannot place a checker on a blank space, so you cannot change direction on a blank space.

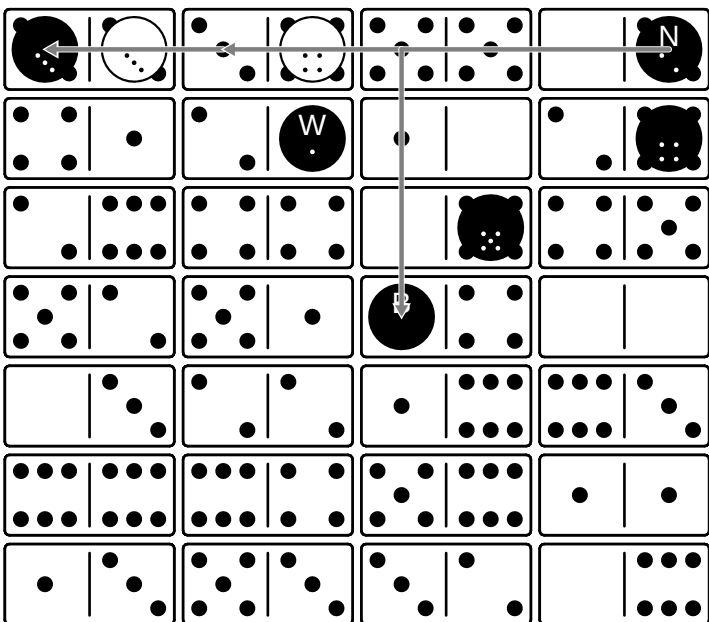
Here's what the black player might do on the first move of the example game. The neutral runner is optional, and helps you see where you started your move. The black runner turned at the 5 and dropped a black checker, then moved up to the blank and stopped.



After placing the checker, you may use it to jump over one of your opponent's checkers, if the two checkers are right next to each other and there's an empty space on the other side. You may not jump diagonally, and you may not land on a blank space. You may continue jumping another checker after you land, with the same rules.

Once you finish, your opponent takes a turn.

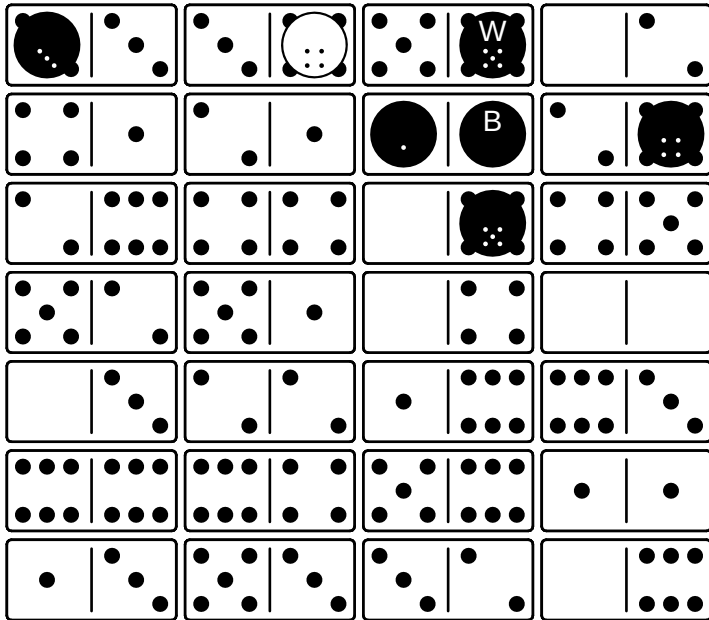
After a few moves in the example game, the white player has left some checkers unprotected. You can see the neutral runner where the black runner started, and the corner where the black player dropped a checker. Then that checker jumped over the white checker on the four and then over the white checker on the three. Both the white checkers can now be removed by the black player.



Winning

The game ends in one of two ways: either both players place all their checkers, or a player can't make a legal move. If a player can't make a legal move, they lose. If both players have played all their checkers, look under the checkers, and add up all the covered numbers, then add one more point for every captured checker. The player with the most points wins.

In the example game, the white player has made another mistake, and can't make a legal move. You might think that white could move one to the right and then down the empty column, but remember that you can't drop a checker on a blank. White loses the game, and it doesn't matter how many points are under the checkers.



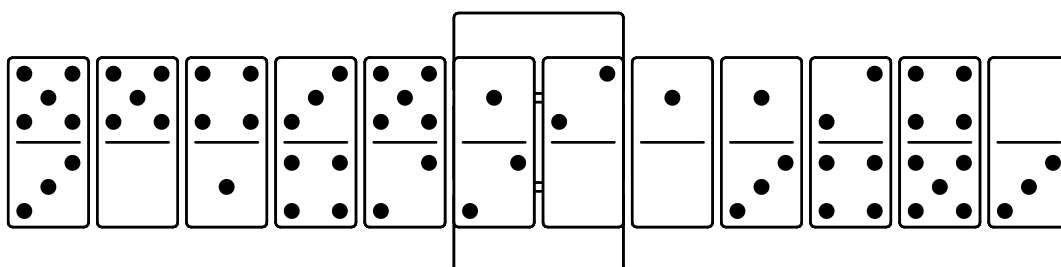
Fujisan

James Droscha is best known as the designer of the piecepack game system, and he designed Fujisan for the piecepack, then adapted it for dominoes and pawns in a paper on using entangled components in solitaire games.

Four Shinto Priests have traveled from their various prefectures in pilgrimage to the top of Mount Fuji. You must find pathways for them to move up and down the mountain until they can all achieve the peak. Often, this will require you to guide them into positions from which they can assist each other.

Setup

Remove all dominoes with the number six and all doubles from a standard set of double-six dominoes. Shuffle the remaining 15 dominoes face down, then place twelve face-up dominoes side by side. Leave the three remaining dominoes face down, and use them to lift up the two middle dominoes as the peak of Mount Fuji. Here's an example layout:



Place a Priest (pawn) beside each number at both ends of the mountain.

Moving a Priest

1. A Priest may move onto a space if the number matches the number of unoccupied spaces the Priest must move in a straight line to get there (including the destination space itself, but not including the Priest's starting space). For example, a Priest may move onto a space with the number 4 if there are 3 unoccupied spaces between it and the Priest.
2. Occupied spaces (containing intervening Priests) are not counted when determining if a Priest may move onto a particular space. For example, a Priest may move onto a space with the number 2 if there are 3 occupied spaces and one unoccupied space between it and the Priest.
3. A Priest may move freely between the two spaces on a domino. This is the only manner in which a Priest may move onto a blank space.
4. Once a Priest lands on the peak of the mountain, he will refuse to leave it, but he can move back and forth (in the same domino) or to and fro (between the two dominoes). Clarification: A Priest may pass over the peak dominoes as part of a move.
5. A Priest must enter the mountain from his own starting row; that is, he cannot move back and forth while he remains on the ground.

Goal

The Priests will be content when they all reach the top of the mountain.

Variant

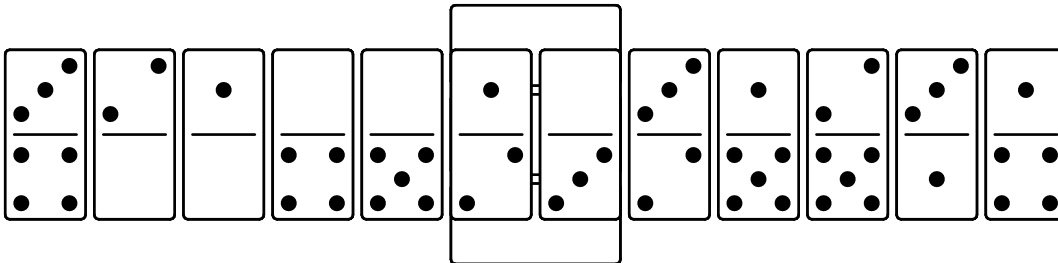
Country Road: Once all four Priests have reached the peak, move the dominoes at the peak to the Priests' original setup positions at the two ends of the mountain and continue until all four Priests have left the mountain.

Treat the spaces at the peak as blanks. Once a Priest leaves the mountain, he will not step back on.

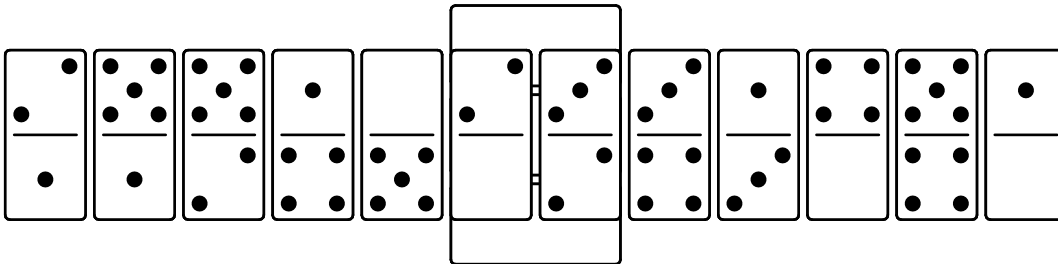
Problems

Shuffling the dominoes generates a nice set of Fujisan problems. In 1000 randomly generated problems, 92% were solvable. Of those, the median solution length was 14, with half of them between 12 and 16. Here are some more challenging problems for you to try. The solutions are listed at the end.

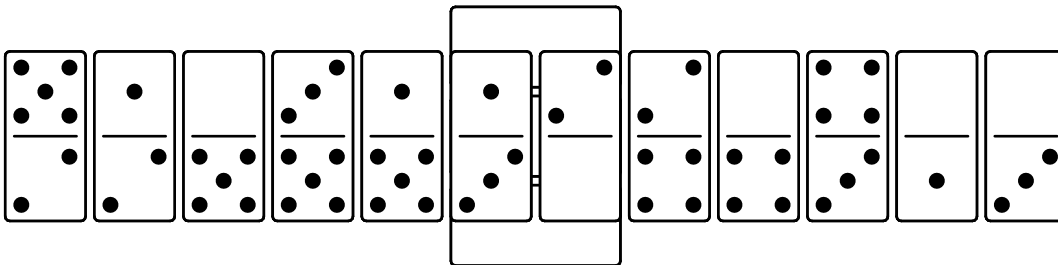
Problem 1



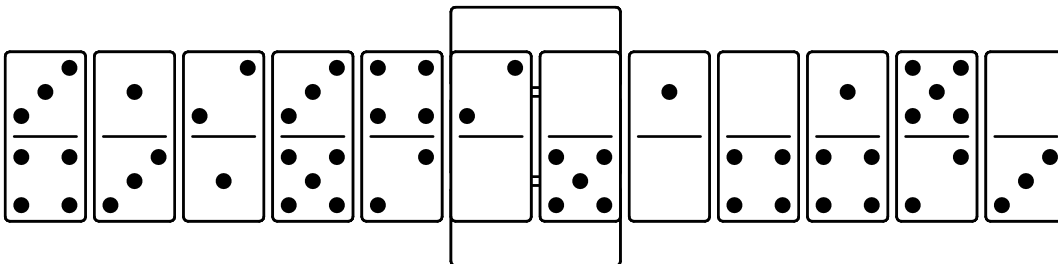
Problem 2



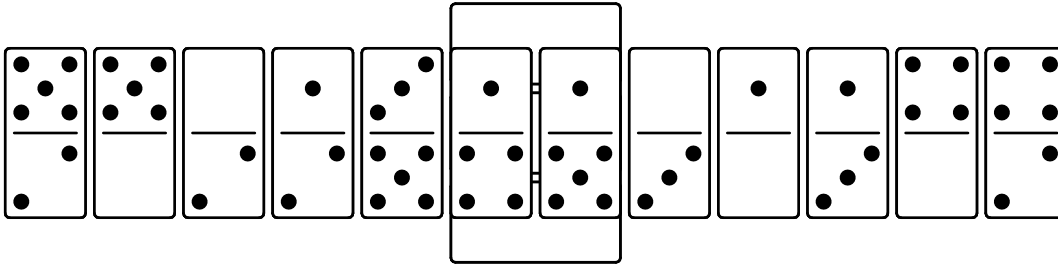
Problem 3



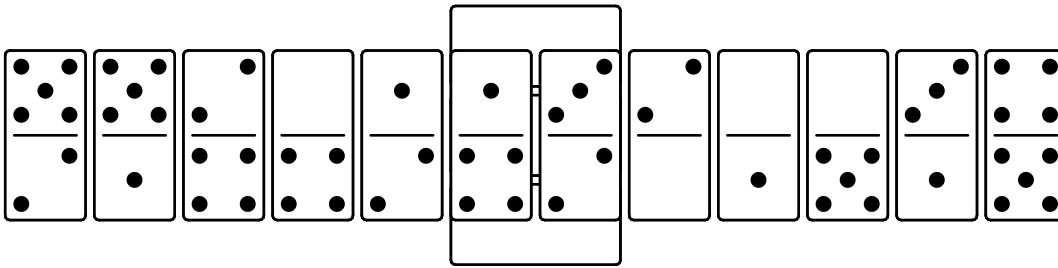
Problem 4



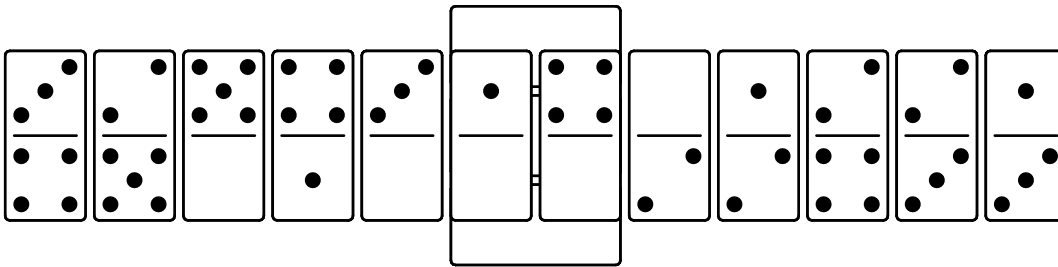
Problem 5



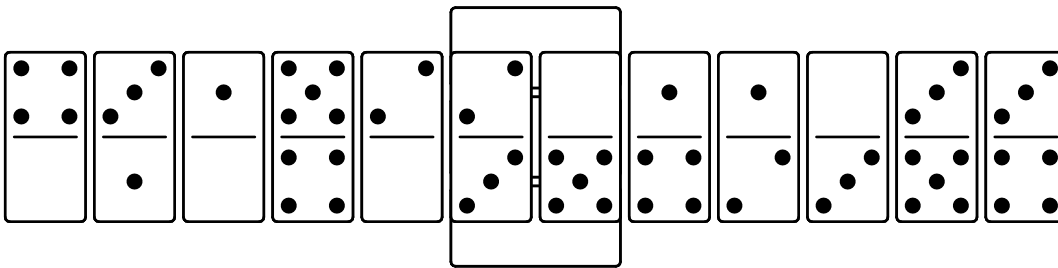
Problem 6



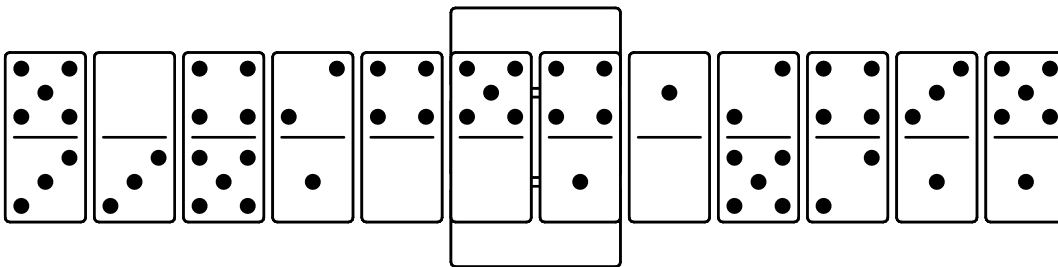
Problem 7



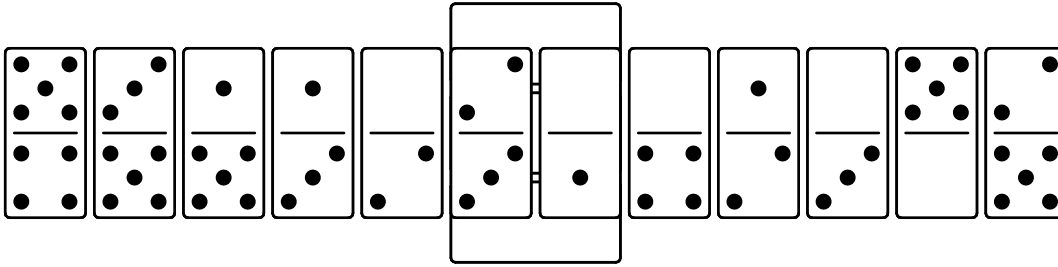
Problem 8



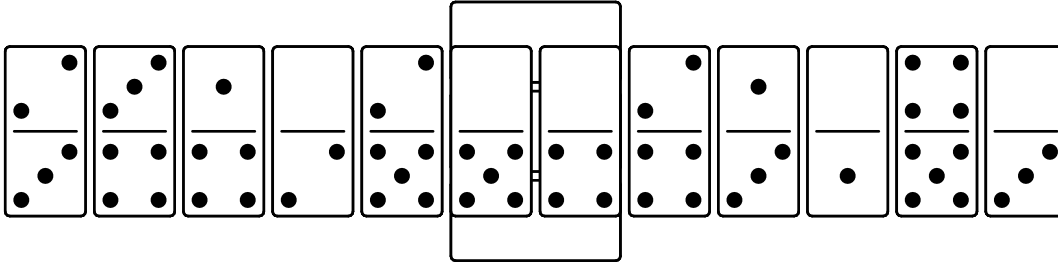
Problem 9



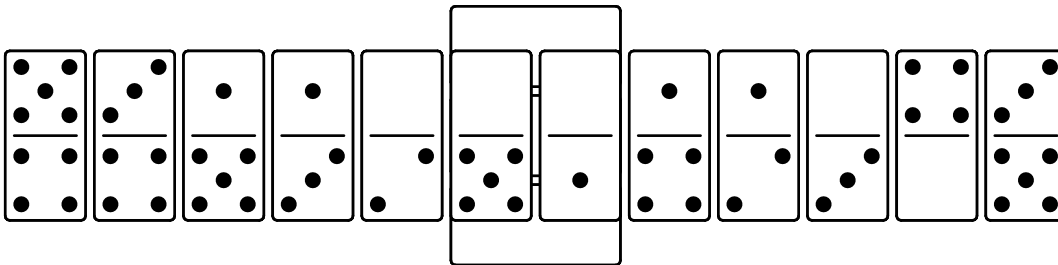
Problem 10



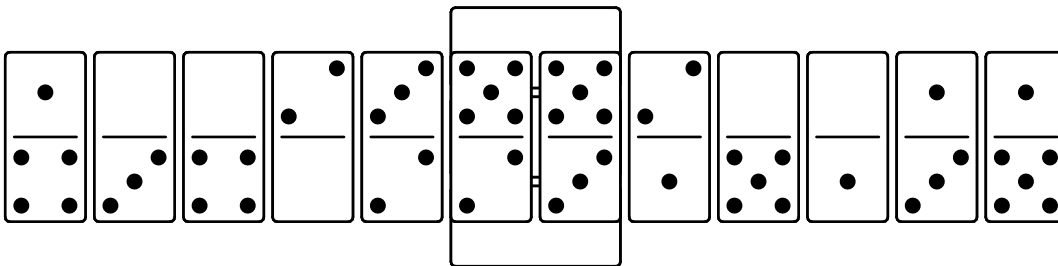
Problem 11



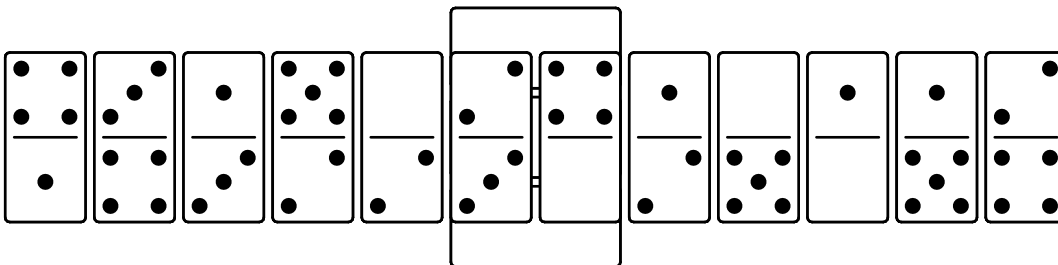
Problem 12



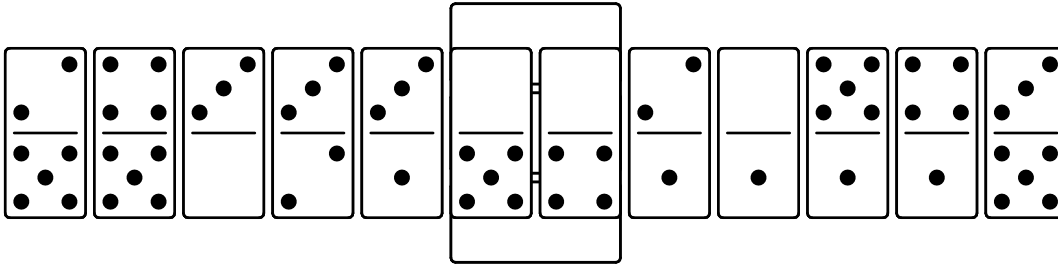
Problem 13



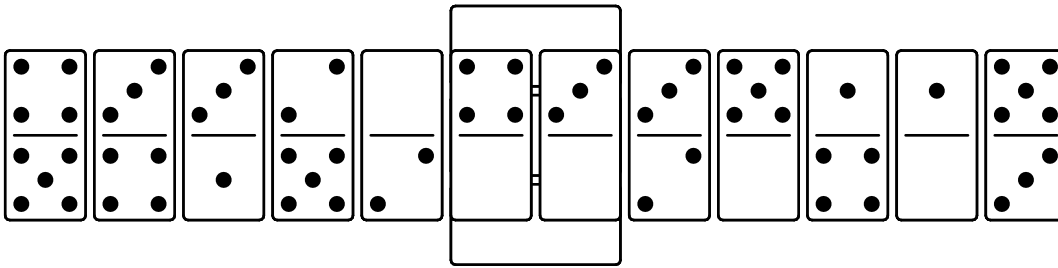
Problem 14



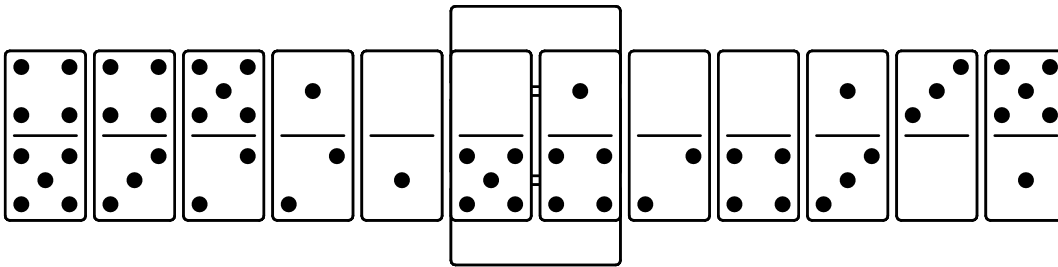
Problem 15



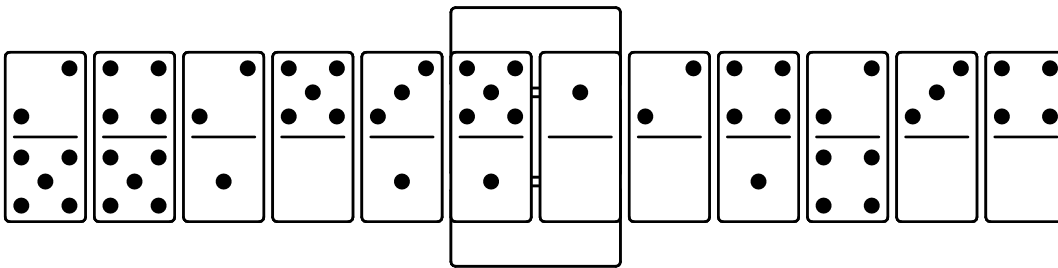
Problem 16



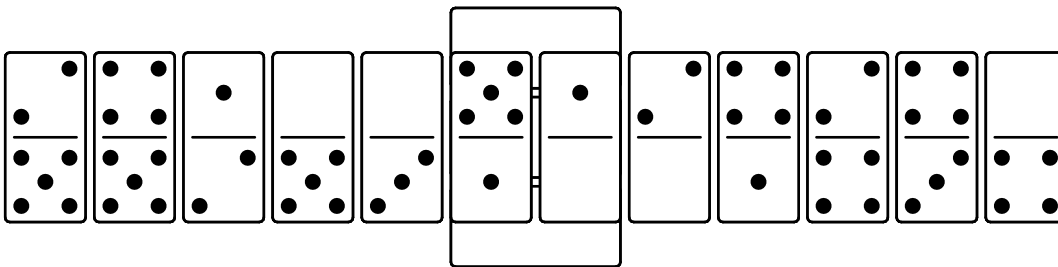
Problem 17



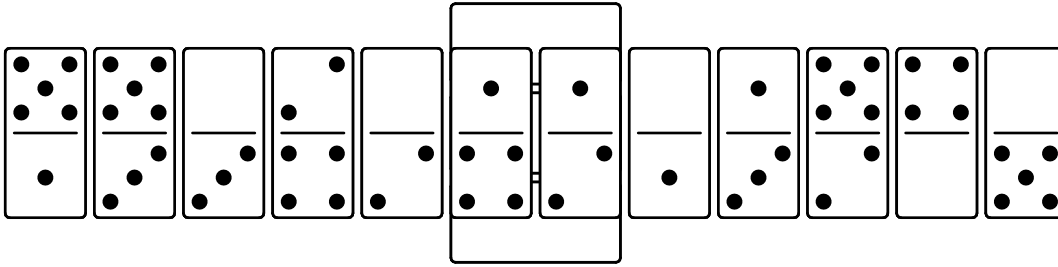
Problem 18



Problem 19



Problem 20



Cobra Paw

Derek Weston is a new game designer who designed this cute quick-reaction game in 2017. I adapted it to use regular dice and dominoes, but the original game has custom dice and dominoes with some nice design features, so check it out if you like this basic version.

Players

2 - 4

Equipment

- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six
- two six-sided dice

Object

Collect six dominoes

Setup

Shuffle all the dominoes face up in the centre of the table.

Any player rolls the dice.

Play

All players try to find the target domino - the one that matches the numbers on the two dice. As soon as you find it, put one finger on the centre of the domino. Whoever gets their finger on the target first, takes it and places it face down in front of them. Then they roll the two dice to start the next search. When you put your finger on the target, be sure not to cover the numbers, so the other players can still see that you got the right one.

If you think the target is already face down, be the first to put your finger on the double blank. If none of the other players can find the target, you can take any remaining domino except the double blank and place it face down in front of you. If you're wrong and another player finds the target, though, all the other players get to take a domino! Plus, the player who found the target gets to take it as well.

Winning

The first player to take six dominoes wins the game. If two players take their sixth domino at the same time, hunt for another domino.

All Fives

Of the traditional domino games, this is my favourite. It has a lot of the same appeal as cribbage: some basic arithmetic, and playing the odds. Just make sure you understand how the sniff works.

Players

2 - 4

Equipment

- a set of dominoes from double blank to double six

Object

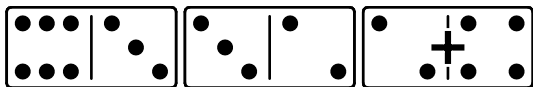
Score points by making the ends add up to a multiple of five.

Setup

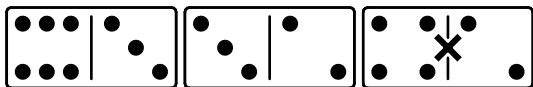
Shuffle the dominoes face down, then draw 7 dominoes each, keeping them hidden from your opponents. (Draw 5 when there are 3 or 4 players.)

Play

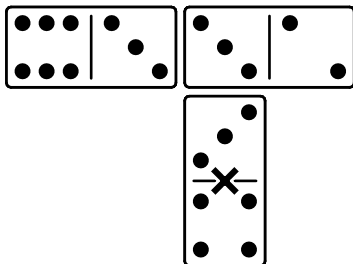
On your turn, you must play a domino with a matching number. In this example, the 24 domino has just been played. It's a valid move, because its 2 matches the 2 on the open end.



This example is not valid, because the 4 is played against a number that doesn't match.



Dominoes must either be played against an end of the line, or against the sniff. (The sniff is explained below in the rules for doubles.) This example is not valid, because the 34 domino wasn't played against one of the ends.

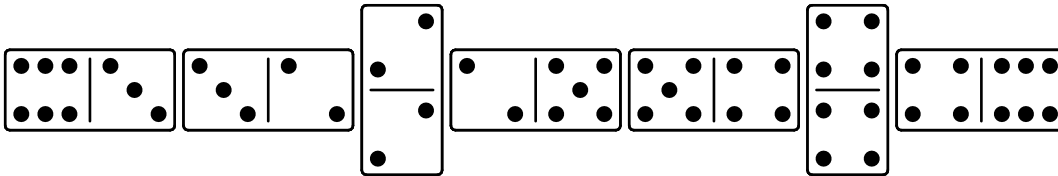


Draw

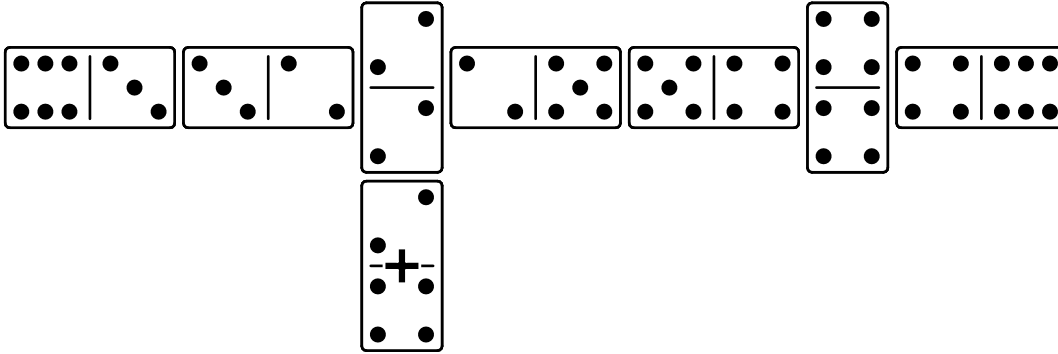
You may draw extra dominoes before you play one, to give you more options. If you can't play any of your dominoes, then you must draw extra dominoes until you get one that you can play. If there are no dominoes left to draw and you can't play any, then pass your turn.

Doubles

There are special rules for doubles, and there are extra special rules for the first double. Most doubles have to be played across the line, like this:



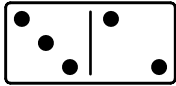
Whichever double gets played first is called the sniff, and it has some differences from the other doubles. You can play against all four sides of the sniff, so if the 22 domino is the sniff, then a 24 domino could be played on the 22 domino, but not on the 44 domino.



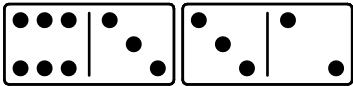
The other difference with the sniff is that it doesn't have to be played across the line, you can choose which way to play it. That can make a difference to the scoring.

Score

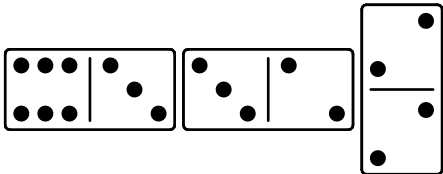
After playing a domino, add up the numbers on the ends. If the total is a multiple of 5, then add it to your score. This example adds up to 5, and scores 5 points.



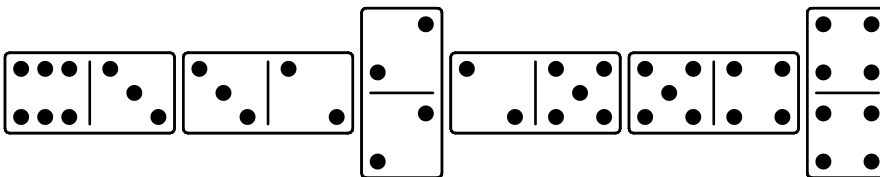
The next player adds a 63 domino, and the total is 8, no score. You don't count the 3's, because they're not on the ends.



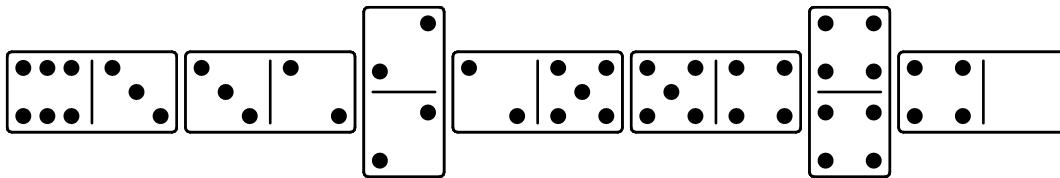
Now the first double gets played (the sniff). It's played across the line, so you count both numbers, and the total is 10. Score 10 points!



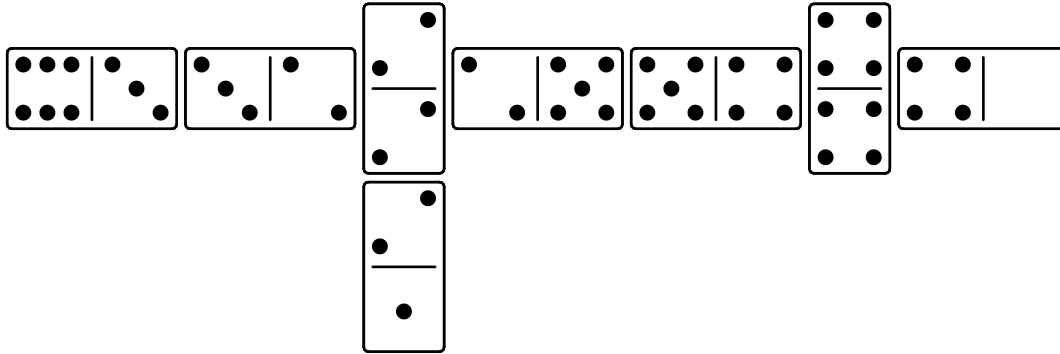
A few turns later, a second double is played. It has to be played across the line, so you count both numbers. The sniff's ends are still open to play on, so you count them, and the total is 18. No score.



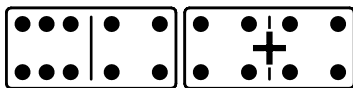
The next play is on the regular double, so we stop counting it. The total is $6 + 2 + 2 + 0 = 10$. Score 10 points.



Don't forget you can play off the sniff. Now the total is $6 + 2 + 1 + 0 = 9$. No score.



Here's an example where the sniff should be played in line instead of across the line. Playing across the line would make a total of 14, but playing in line makes 10 and scores. Don't forget, you can still play off all four sides of the sniff.



Always keep track of which ends need to be counted: there can be 2, 3, or 4. If you run out of room on the table, you can bend a line of dominoes around a corner, but keep track of where the end is.

Going Out

When a player plays their last domino, they score regularly for that domino, plus they get points for the dominoes left in other players' hands. Each player reveals the dominoes in their hand, adds up the numbers, and rounds to the nearest multiple of 5. The player who went out gets that many points.

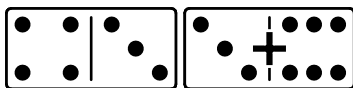
If all players pass, then the player with the fewest points left in their hand goes out. They score the difference between their points and every other player's points. If there is a tie for fewest points, split the score. Always round scores to the nearest multiple of 5.

Winning

If any player has over 200 points after someone goes out, then the player with the most points wins the game. If there is a tie for the most points, continue playing.

Strategy

To make the arithmetic easier, look at the differences between the numbers on your dominoes. If the current total is 7, then you can score by raising the total by 3 or dropping it by 2. In this example, the difference between 3 and 6 is 3, so playing it changes the total from 7 to 10.



Particularly in a two-player game, there is a painful rhythm where your opponent repeatedly scores and you can't. The key to breaking out of that rhythm is to be able to score on a scoring position. Usually, that means playing a domino with a difference of 5. Those dominoes are 6-1, 5-0, and 5-5, so they are useful to keep in your hand. The double blank can also be played without changing the total, so it's useful to keep.

Classic Puzzles

In the early twentieth century, Henry Ernest Dudeney published several collections of mathematical puzzles and games. They included a few domino puzzles where you had to lay out the dominoes in a given pattern to meet some goal. Unfortunately, they often require brute-force search to find the solution. Here, I've included similar puzzles from *Creative Puzzles of the World*, by Pieter van Delft. I chose ones where you can use deduction to reduce the search. Neighbouring ends don't have to match, unless the description says so. All the solutions are at the end.

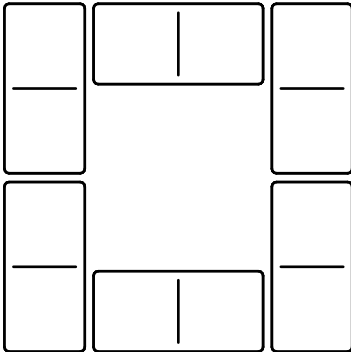
Two Equal Lines

A simple start using only the numbers from blank to two. Arrange them with matching ends so that the sum in each row is the same.



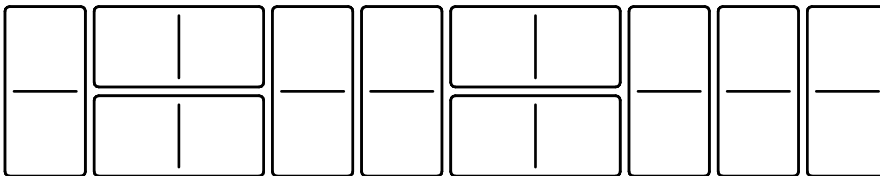
Square of Six

Arrange the same dominoes into a square, as shown. The sums along all four sides must match, but the ends don't have to match their neighbours.



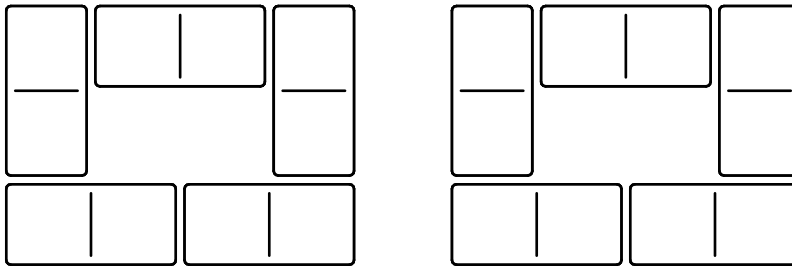
Rows and Columns

Arrange the ten dominoes of the double-three set to form two rows of numbers. The numbers in each row must add up to the same row total, and the numbers in each column must add up to the same column total. The row total and the column total may be different. The dominoes can be in any combination of vertical and horizontal positions, this is one possibility:



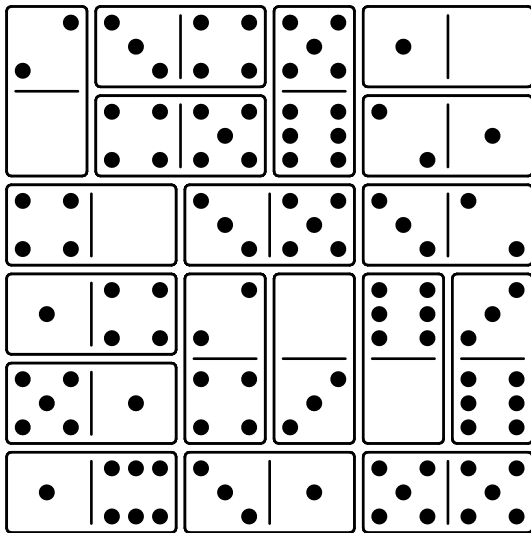
Twin Rectangles

Arrange the same dominoes into two rectangles of five dominoes each, so that each of the eight sides add up to the same total.



The Latin Square

A bit like a Sudoku, arrange 18 of the double-six dominoes into a six by six square of numbers with no duplicated numbers in any row or column. This example doesn't work, because it has two number ones in the left column and two number fives in the bottom row, among other problems.

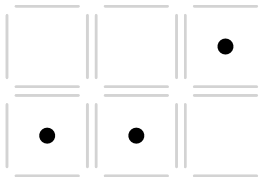


Dominosa

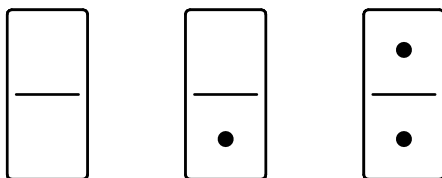
The domino puzzle I most often see in books or online is called either Dominosa or Domino Solitaire. It was invented by O.S. Adler in 1874, and each problem starts with a grid of numbers, you have to lay out the dominoes so they match the numbers, without duplicated or missing dominoes.

Example

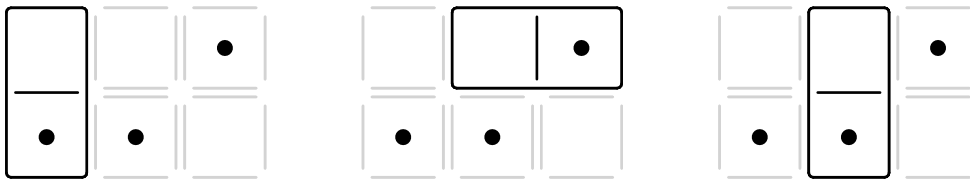
Here's a small problem to start with.



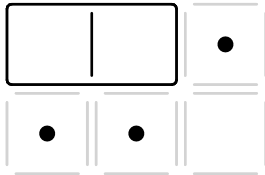
Every problem uses a complete set of dominoes up to the highest number you see. In this small problem, the highest number is one, so there are three dominoes:



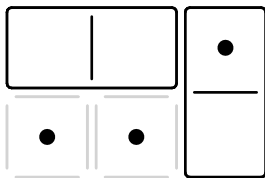
When you start solving, most dominoes will usually have more than one place they could go. For example, the blank/one domino could go in a few different places, including these three:



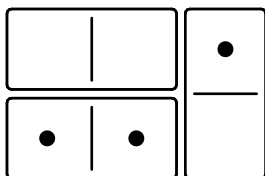
However, some dominoes will only have one possible place, like the double blank:



Once you've placed a domino, check to see if it forces any other dominoes. In this case, the top right corner only has one space it can connect to:



That makes the final domino obvious, and the solution looks like this:

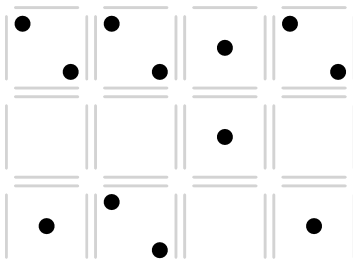


I took a long time to add this puzzle to the collection, because I found it tedious to keep searching for unique numbers. After some research, though, I learned that people have found many other techniques for solving that aren't as tedious. Try to work out your own techniques as you solve these problems, then read my techniques at the end. Let me know if you find any new ones. Even with all those tricks, it's not trivial to solve. (In computer science, it's called NP-hard.)

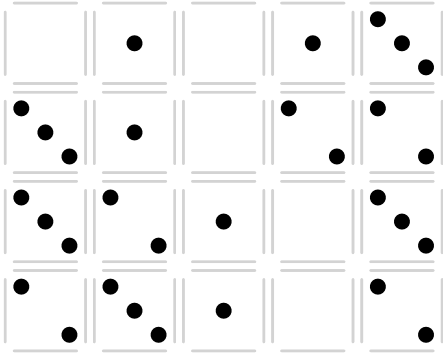
One thing I find interesting about this puzzle is that it's easier to solve with pencil and paper than with a set of dominoes. If you don't want to write in the book, you can photocopy the pages, or just write the numbers in a grid on paper. There's also a PDF version you can print out at <https://donkirkby.github.io/donimoes>.

If you like this style of puzzle, Reiner Knizia published some puzzles called Domino Knobelspass that are very similar to Dominosa.

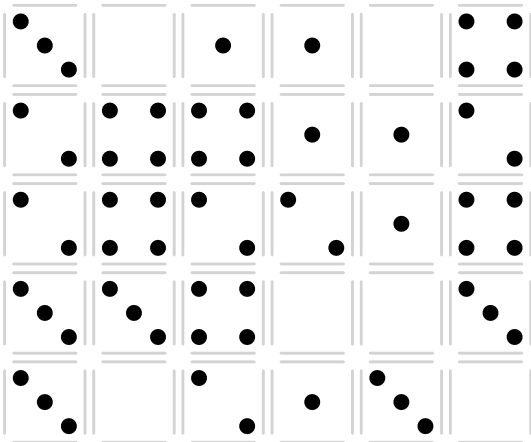
Problem 1



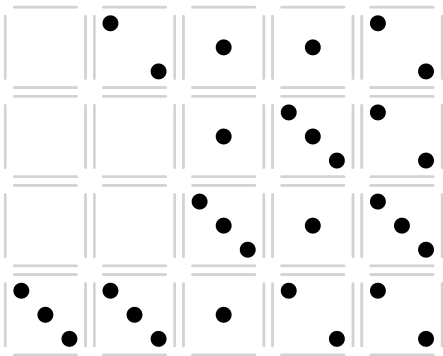
Problem 2



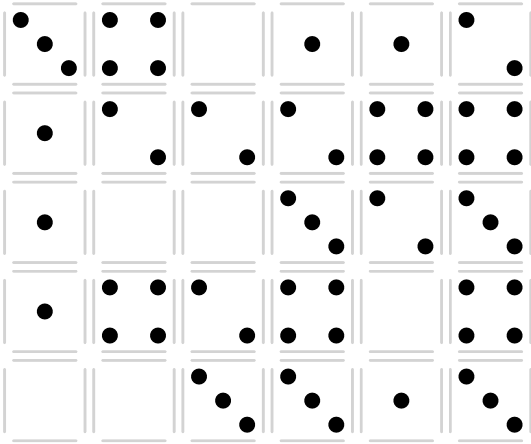
Problem 3



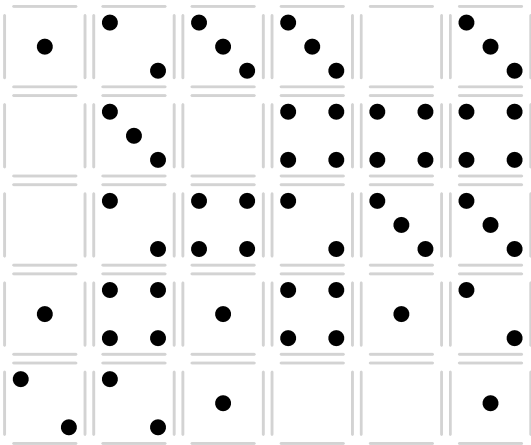
Problem 4



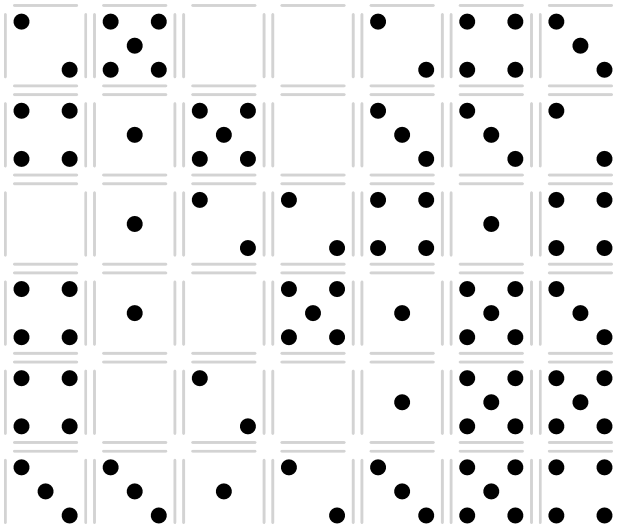
Problem 5



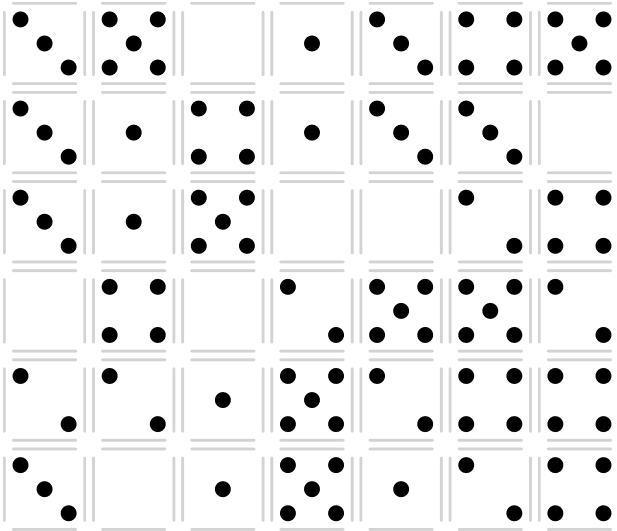
Problem 6



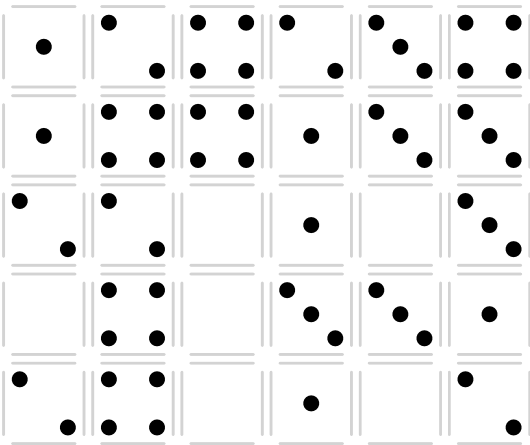
Problem 7



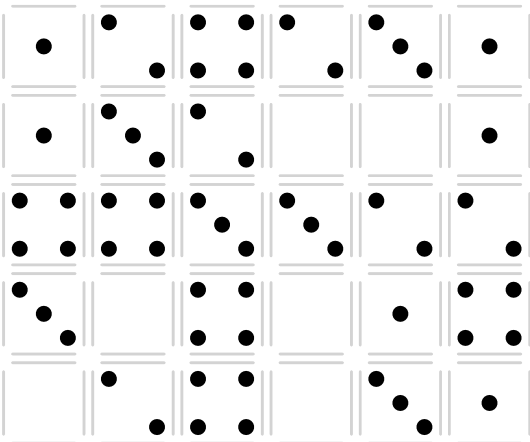
Problem 8



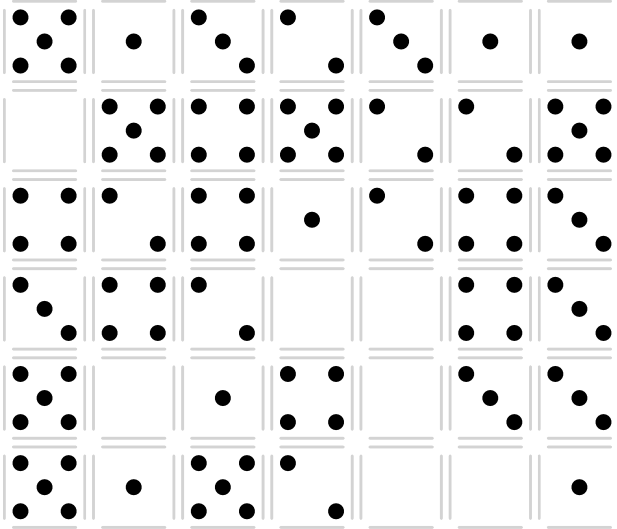
Problem 9



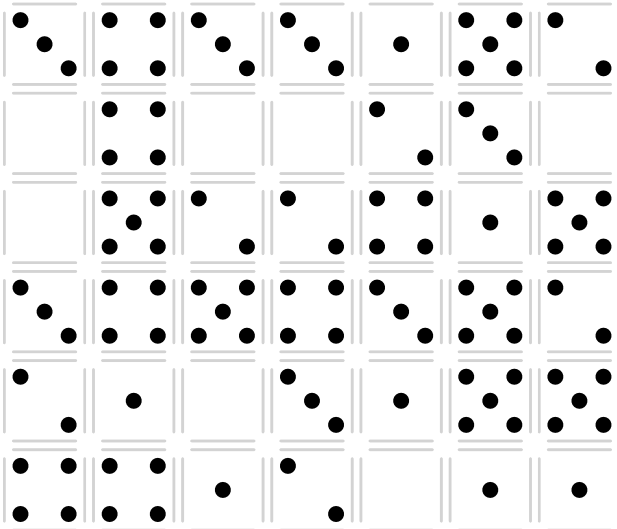
Problem 10



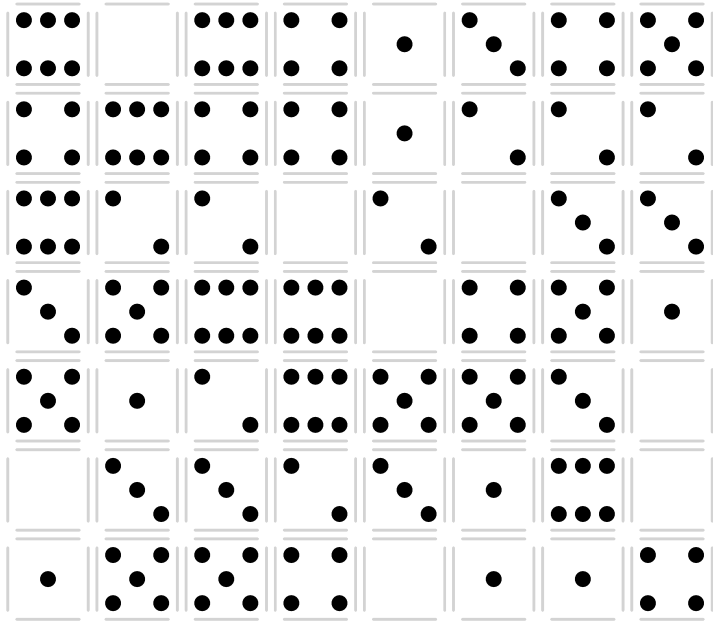
Problem 11



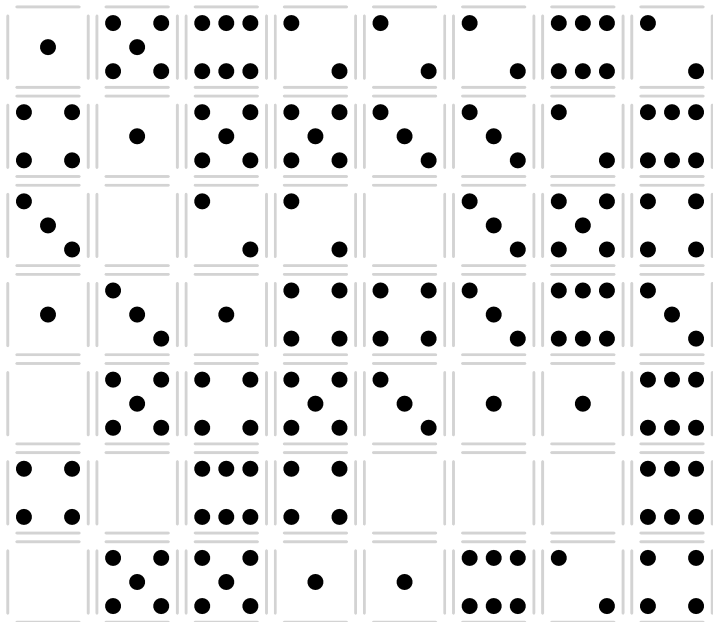
Problem 12



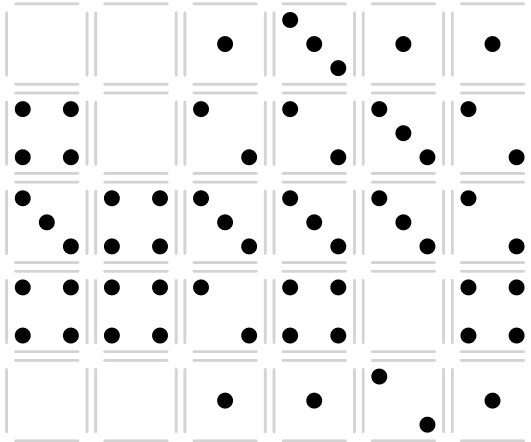
Problem 13



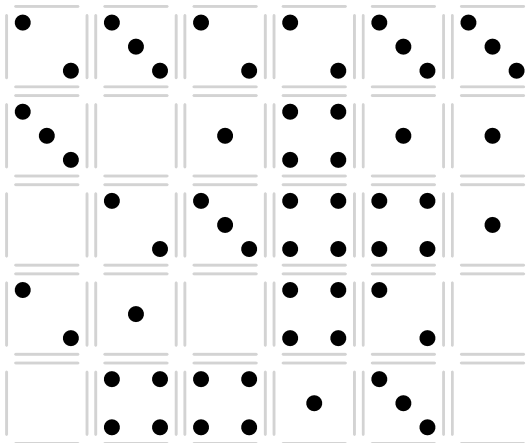
Problem 14



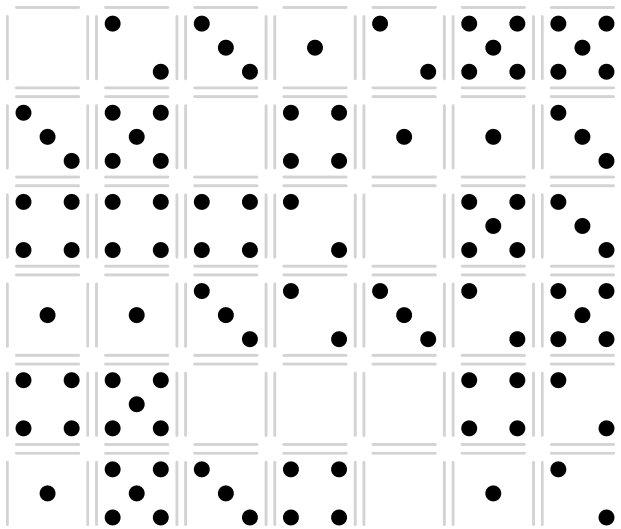
Problem 15



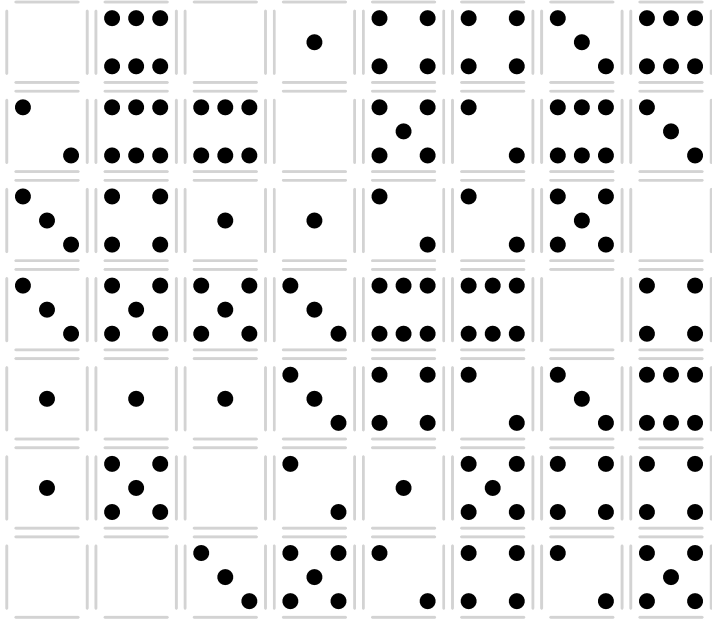
Problem 16



Problem 17



Problem 20

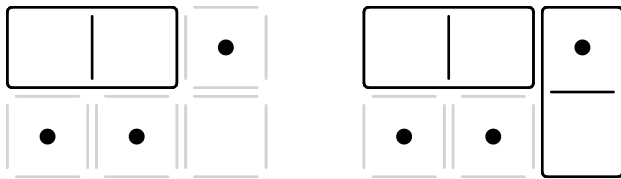


Dominosa Strategy

There are several methods to deduce where the dominoes must be placed, and it's helpful to write notes on the puzzle. Often, you can tell where a domino can't be before you know where it must be. The following are some rules to help you make progress. The easiest puzzles in this collection only require a couple of these rules, and then the later puzzles require more and more different rules to solve.

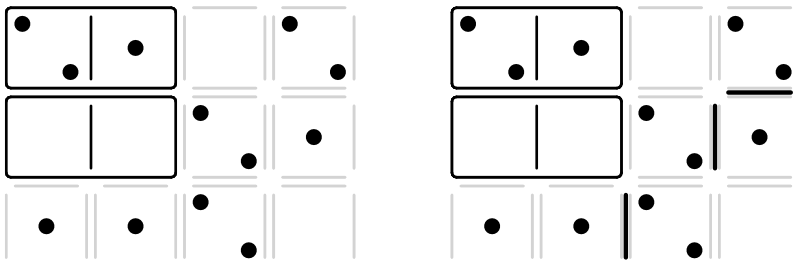
In each section below are two diagrams. The one on the left shows a puzzle in progress where some of the dominoes have been placed using some combination of rules, and the diagram on the right shows the next step that uses that section's rule.

Rule 1: One Neighbour



Look for a number that only has one neighbour, and join it with its neighbour. Particularly check near the last pair you joined. In this example, the top right corner only has one neighbour.

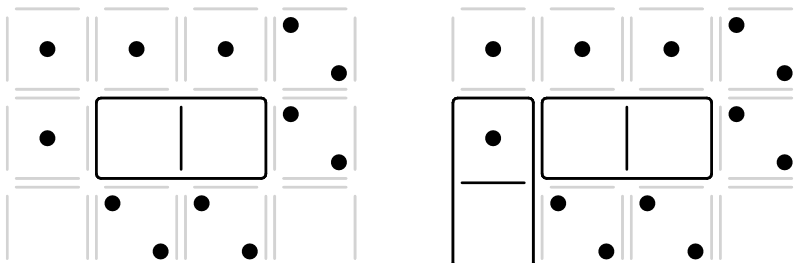
Rule 2: Newly Joined



If you have a newly joined pair of numbers, check if the same pair appears elsewhere. Split the other locations, because you can't have two dominoes the same. Also check all of the other neighbours that the newly joined pair might have joined with, and treat those pairs as newly split. In

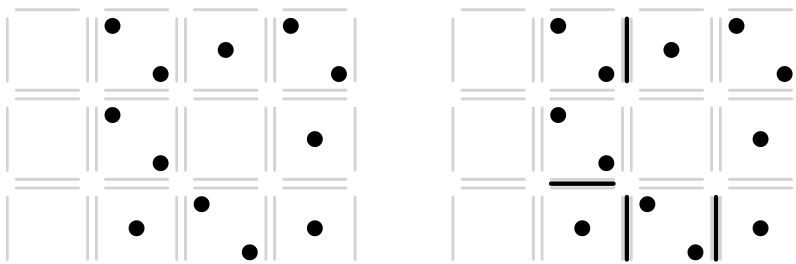
this example, the two/one domino in the top left corner has just been joined based on rule 1. That means that the two and one in the top right corner cannot be joined, along with a few other two and one pairs. The easiest way to remember that is to draw the boundary between the dominoes there. Fill in the gap between the two grey lines.

Rule 3: Newly Split



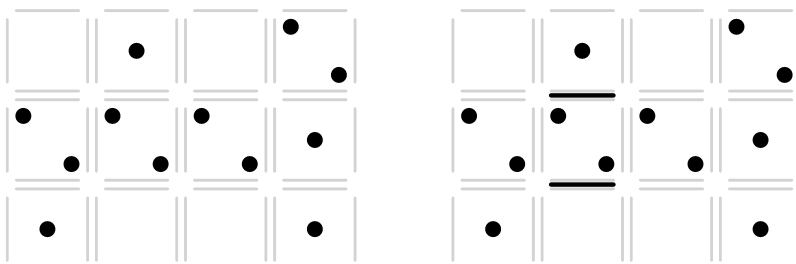
If you have a newly split pair of numbers, look for the same pair elsewhere on the board to see if there is only one pair like them. If so, join them. In this example, the double blank domino has just been joined, because there's only one position for it. After that, you can treat all of its neighbours as newly split. Several of the neighbours form one/blank pairs, so look to see if there is only one pair like that left. In fact, the only one/blank pair left is in the bottom left corner, so you can join them.

Rule 4: Duplicate Neighbours



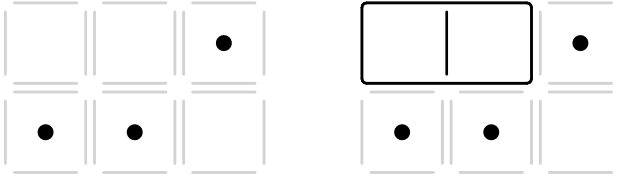
If all of a space's available neighbours are the same, you know it will join one of them and use up the domino with those two numbers. Look for the same pair of numbers elsewhere on the board, and mark them as split. In this example, the top right corner is a two with a one on either side of it. You know that the two/one domino is going to go in that corner, either vertically or horizontally. Therefore, you can split the two and one in the bottom right corner, as well as several other two/one pairs.

Rule 5: Shared Space



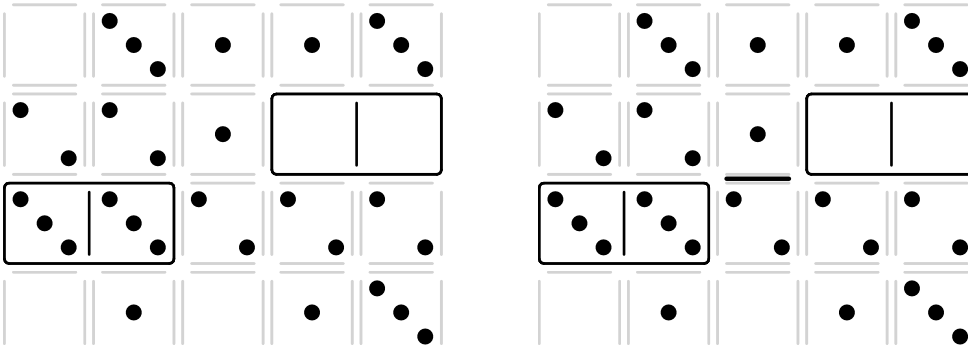
If a pair of numbers appears more than once on the board, but all of the pairs share one space, then you know that space must join to the other number. Mark any other available neighbours as split. In this example, the double two domino must be in the group of three twos in the middle row. The two possible positions both use the middle two, so you know it won't join to the blank below or the one above, and you can mark those as split.

Rule 6: Unique Pairs



Look for unique pairs of numbers, and mark them as joined. (This is the tedious part, so I try to only require it a few times in each problem.) In this example, the only place with two blanks next to each other is in the top left corner, so you can join them. All problems will start solving with this rule or rule 4, but once you've started solving, it's faster to try the other rules before this one.

Rule 7: Neck



If two unsolved areas are joined by a narrow neck, you know that both areas must have an even number of spaces in them. That will tell you where you can split or join the spaces in the neck. In this example, the unsolved areas at the top and bottom both have eight spaces in them, so the centre must be split.

Rule 8: Guess

If none of the other rules apply, guess at a domino's placement by marking a pair as joined. If it later causes a contradiction, backtrack and mark it split. (This would be very frustrating when solving, so none of the problems in this collection require it.)

Solutions

Unmatched Donimoes Solutions

Here are the solutions to the Unmatched Donimoes problems. For each step, move the listed domino left, right, up, or down.

1. 24R, 24R, 23D
2. 24U, 02L, 02L, 02L, 24D, 46D
3. 53L, 53L, 63D, 24L, 34D, 24L, 24L, 24L, 34U, 63U, 30L, 53L
4. 20L, 63L, 62L, 54U, 20L, 63L, 62L, 05U, 20L, 20L, 20L, 05D, 54D, 63L, 62L
5. 65L, 65L, 52D, 14D, 53D, 34D, 04R, 04R, 60U, 10U
6. 04D, 04D, 43R, 43R, 43R, 04U, 50U, 06L, 51U, 02L, 00U
7. 06L, 54L, 06L, 06L, 06L, 06L, 43U, 46L, 43U, 54L, 46L, 46L, 16U, 54L, 54L, 43D
8. 22R, 22R, 22R, 22R, 34D, 50D, 54L, 25D, 50U, 54L, 54L, 34D, 46R, 54R, 54R, 50D, 46R, 46R, 34U
9. 21L, 06R, 16R, 21R, 62R, 64U, 64U, 24L, 62L, 04U, 04U, 11L, 11L, 13D, 03D
10. 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 31U, 43U, 25U, 30R, 53U, 30R, 25U, 53U, 53U, 00R, 25U
11. 23L, 52R, 12R, 34R, 23R, 23R, 05D, 10L, 40L, 45L, 60L, 41L, 64L, 65U, 65U, 52R, 12R, 34R
12. 12R, 66R, 10D, 16L, 63L, 12R, 54D, 63R, 16R, 10U, 66L, 62D, 10D, 16L, 12R, 63L, 60L, 12L, 16L, 10U
13. 11D, 22D, 11D, 22D, 40R, 40R, 63U, 63U, 20R, 50R, 01U, 21R, 21R, 01D, 50L, 23D, 61D, 20L, 63D, 63D, 40L, 40L, 22U, 11U
14. 31R, 40L, 44D, 46R, 31R, 23U, 56U, 55L, 55L, 33L, 33L, 63L, 63L, 54D, 54D, 11R, 11R, 44D, 25L, 25L, 41D, 25L, 44U, 11L, 11L, 54U, 54U, 63R, 33R, 55R
15. 55R, 21R, 65D, 65D, 33R, 33R, 43U, 66U, 45L, 25L, 35L, 00D, 44L, 44L, 44L, 11U, 61U, 00U, 35R, 25R, 45R, 66D, 65D, 21L, 55L, 11U, 61U, 13R, 32R, 40R, 43D, 33L, 22L, 05L
16. 32U, 42L, 46L, 32D, 12L, 56L, 50L, 52U, 52U, 20R, 20R, 04R, 04R, 34U, 13U, 55R, 55R, 66U, 55R, 13D, 55R, 34D, 04L, 20L, 52D, 04L, 20L, 52D, 50R, 56R, 12R, 32U, 66U, 26L, 33L, 45L, 46R, 42R
17. 45R, 42R, 02D, 42R, 06R, 06R, 64D, 64D, 11L, 51L, 66L, 11L, 51L, 66L, 10U, 10U, 42R, 42R, 61U, 14U, 35R, 25R, 45R, 65U, 65U, 65U, 40R, 45L, 25L, 14D, 35L, 42L, 61D, 42L, 62L, 33L, 10D, 10D, 66R, 51R, 11R
18. 60R, 53U, 53U, 43R, 15R, 60R, 40U, 40U, 25L, 25L, 46U, 42U, 05L, 41L, 13U, 13U, 41R, 05R, 42D, 46D, 32R, 61R, 03R, 25R, 25R, 40D, 40D, 60L, 15L, 43L
19. 41U, 22L, 35U, 35U, 13L, 13L, 66D, 40D, 43D, 66D, 40D, 43D, 60R, 60R, 55U, 55U, 52R, 62R, 10R, 05U, 45R, 61U, 05U, 64R, 61D, 45R, 64R, 64R, 45R, 05D, 45R, 05D, 10L, 62L, 52L, 55D, 55D, 60L, 60L, 43U, 40U, 66U
20. 53L, 66L, 23L, 53L, 22D, 22D, 60R, 44R, 50R, 60R, 42R, 44R, 50R, 42R, 33U, 33U, 66L, 66L, 51U, 52U, 54U, 55R, 55R, 11U, 11U, 01L, 65L, 63L, 64L, 16D, 20R, 16D, 40U, 41U, 16U, 20L, 40U, 41U, 16U, 64R, 63R, 65R, 55R, 54D, 01R, 11D, 52D, 51D, 66R, 66R, 33D, 33D, 42L, 50L, 44L, 60L

Capturing Donimoes Solutions

Here are the solutions to the Capturing Donimoes problems. For each step, move the listed domino left, right, up, or down. Then make captures for any matching numbers.

1. 10D, 14R, 23D, 14R
2. 60R, 10R, 12D, 12D, 53R
3. 21R, 34U, 45R, 34U, 16U
4. 03L, 46L, 05R, 34U, 45R, 46L, 45R
5. 54R, 20D, 46D, 06L, 36R
6. 34L, 64L, 55L, 35D, 50R, 60D
7. 61D, 43R, 55R, 53D, 53D, 20R, 36R
8. 26R, 24L, 65L, 01L, 30L, 06U, 30L
9. 40D, 65D, 54L, 01D, 36D, 15R, 23D
10. 30U, 56L, 30D, 10U, 10U, 63R, 30D, 41R, 60D, 25R, 41R, 41R
11. 21L, 23L, 60L, 05L, 65L, 33D, 42R, 42R, 01R, 30L, 60R
12. 30D, 54L, 20L, 54L, 54L, 20L, 20L, 64D, 25R, 15L, 15L, 12R
13. 63L, 01L, 50L, 50L, 21D, 66R, 64D, 40R, 40R, 15R, 43U

14. 50D, 45D, 36D, 22D, 66U, 46R, 46R, 60D, 30L, 01D, 01D, 26R, 12R
15. 12R, 44R, 44R, 33U, 20U, 05U, 46U, 56L, 56L, 30L, 45L, 15U, 36R, 15U
16. 21L, 61L, 04L, 04L, 20D, 15D, 52R, 01R, 32U, 46D, 65L, 41U, 34U, 01R, 35R
17. 54D, 60L, 60L, 25D, 02L, 02L, 01L, 01L, 55L, 62L, 11U, 11U, 40R, 44U, 46R, 22R, 46R, 22R, 16L
18. 61D, 60L, 60L, 31L, 31L, 03D, 04D, 10L, 54D, 26L, 10L, 26L, 24D, 51D, 51D, 41L, 36D, 41R, 34U, 34U, 12L, 20R, 34U
19. 41D, 30R, 12L, 61U, 61U, 20R, 26D, 13L, 34L, 06D, 34L, 55L, 35U, 35U, 11R, 64R
20. 25U, 40D, 10D, 63D, 60R, 60R, 32D, 20R, 31D, 65R, 62D, 21R, 51R, 34L, 53R, 51R

Mirror Donimoes Solutions

To distinguish the four different pawns in each solution, the top left is labelled as a regular (P)awn, the bottom left is a k(N)ight, the top right is a (B)ishop, and the bottom right is a (R)ook. Each pawn move has two letters and each domino move has three letters.

- The first letter identifies the pawn that will move or one of the pawns on the domino that will move.
- For a domino move, the second letter is "d" for (d)omino.
- The last letter shows the direction: (L)eft, (R)ight, (U)p, or (D)own.
- If the move gets repeated, there's a number to show how many times.

For the small example given in the rules, the solution is BdD, BL, RdU.

Here are the Mirror Donimoes solutions:

1. PD, BL, BD, BdD, BL, RL
2. PD, BD, BL, BdD, BL, RL
3. NdL, PD, BD, RdL, RU, PdU, RdL2, NU, NdR2, PdD
4. PdL, PR, PD, BD, NR2, PD2, PR, NR, PR, RU, RdD, BdD
5. BdR, NU, NR, PR, NU, RU, BL, BD, RL, BdR, RdU2, RD, RdU, BdL, BL2, BdU
6. PdL, BdU, RdU, PR, NR, RL, BD, RL, RU, RL, RdU2, PR, PdD, BL, PdD, BdL, BL
7. NdD, PdD, PR, BL2, BdL2, PdU2, BR, BdD2, PR, PD, NU, NR2, RL
8. NR, NU, RU, RL, NdL, RdL, RU, PdU, RdL2, NL, NU, NdR2, PdD, PR2, BL
9. RdD, PR, RU, RL2, BD, RU, RR, RdR2, BD, BdL2, NU, BD, RdR, NdR, RdR, NdR, BR, BU, NdL, RdL, NdL, RdL, NU, NR, RL
10. RdD, NR, NU, NR, NdR2, RU, NR, RU, RdL2, RL, BD, NdR2, BD, BdL2, RD, BL, RL, BdD, NdL, BU, RdD, BdL, RU, NU, NL
11. NdL, RdD, BdD, NR, PD2, PR, PdD2, PU, PR, PdD, PU, PL, PdD, NdR, BD, PR, PdU, RU, RL, RU, RdD, RR, RdD, RL, RU, BdD
12. RdR, NR2, NdR, PD, PR2, PdU, PR, NR, NU, PR, NU, NdR, ND, NL, NdR, NU, RL, NdR, BdD, ND, NdR, BdD, RU, RdU, NdL, PdR, NdL
13. BdU, PR, BD, BL3, BdU, PR, PdD, PD, BD, PD, BD, PL, BD, PL, NdL, PD, NdR, PR, NR, RL, PR, NR
14. PdU, NR2, NdD, PD, PR, PD, PR, RL2, RU, RdL, NU, RU, BL, RR, RU, RdU, RU, BL, BdD, BD, RD, BL, RD, BD, RL
15. NR, PR, PD, PR, PU, PR, PD, PR, PU, PR, RL, BD2, BdR, PdD, BL, BD, BL, BdR, BD, BL, PdD, BdR, BD, PdD, RdR, PdD, RL, RdD, PL, RdU, BL, RU, BL, PL, BdD, RL, BU, PL, RL, BL
16. NdL, BdU, NR, NU, NdL, PD3, PR, PdD, BD, BL, BdU, BD, BL, BdU, BD, BL3, BdD, BD, BR, NR, BR, BU, BdR3, BD2, PdD, NR, PdU, NR, ND, PU, PR, ND, PD, NR, PD, RU, RdD, RL2, BdD, BL2
17. NU, NR, NdD, NR, NdD, NU, NR, NU, NR, NdD, NL, NdD, NU, NR, NdD, RdL, RU, RdL, RR, RD, NL, NU, NL, ND, NL, NdD, NU, NR, NdD, NU, NR, NdD, RdL, RU, RdL, RR, RD, RdL, RU, RdL, RR, RD, RdL, RL2, RU3, NdU, NR, NdU2, NU, NR2, NU, BdU, BD, NdU, NL2, NU, NL, ND2, BL, BD, BL, BU, BL, BD, BdU, BL, BdU2, ND, NL, NdU2, NU, NL, ND, RdL, NdD, ND, NdL, RD, RdR, NU2, RR, RU, RdU2, BD
18. RU2, RdR, RL, RD2, RL, RU, RL2, RU, RdR, RR2, RD2, RL, RU, RL2, RdU, BD3, BdR, BL, BU, BL, BU, BL, BD2, BdR, RdU, RL, NR, NU, NR, ND, NR, NU2, NL2, NdL, ND2, NR, NU, NR, ND, NR, NU2, NdL, RdD, RR, RdD, RU, RL, RdU, RU2, RL, RdU, NU, NdU, NL2, NdL, PD2, NdR, PR, PU, NR2, NdD, RdD, RR, RD2, BdL, BL
19. PdL, PR, PD5, PdL, NU, PdR, PU2, PR2, NL, NU2, NdL, PdL, PL, PD, PR3, NR, ND, NR, NdL, PdL, NR, NdR, PR, NdL, PdL, NL2, NU, NR, NU3, NL, PL4, PU, PR, PU3, NdR, PR4, NR4, BdR, NdR, PD, PR, NR, ND, NdR, ND, NL2, ND, NdL, PL, PdL, BL, BD, PdR, PD, PL2, PU, PdD, NR, NdD, PR2, NU,

NR, BL, BD, RU2

20. NU, NR6, RL7, RU, RR4, NdR, RdR, NL, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, NL2, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, RD, RR5, NL3, ND, NR3, RdR2, NdR2, RL, NdL2, NL2, RdR2, NdR2, RL2, NdL2, NL2, RdR2, NdR2, RL2, NdL, NU, NR6, RL, RU, RR4, NdR2, RdR2, NL, RdL2, RL2, NdR2, RdR2, NL2, RdL2, RL2, NdR2, RdR, RD, RdR, RL, RU, RdR, RD, RR5, NL3, ND, NR3, RdR2, NdR2, RL, NdL2, NL2, RdR2, NdR2, RL2, NdL2, NL2, RdR2, NdR2, RL2, NdL, NU, NR6, RL, RU, RR4, NdR2, RdR2, NL, RdL2, RL2, NdR2, RdR2, NL2, RdL2, RL2, NdR2, RdR, RD, RdR, RL, RU, RdR, RD, RR5, NL3, ND, NR3, RdR, NdR, RL, NdL, NL2, RdR, NdR, RL2, NdL, NL2, RdR, NdR, NU, NR6, RL3, RU, RR4, NdR, RdR, NL, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, NL2, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, RD, RR5, NL3, ND, NR3, RdR, NdR, RL, NdL, NL2, RdR, NdR, RL2, NdL, NL2, RdR, NdR, NU, NR6, RL3, RU, RR4, NdR, RdR, NL, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, NL2, RdL, RL2, NdR, RdR, RU, RL5, RU3, NL3, NU, NL5, NU2, RdU, NdU, NR, ND, RD, RR, RdU2, NdU2, NL, ND, RD, RL, RdU2, NdU2, PR2, PdD3, RdD3, PD, PR3, PU, PR2, PU, PL, ND2, NR3, NU, NR2, NU, PdR, PU, NL, RD3, RR3, RU, RR2!

Bee Donimoes Solutions

Remember that these solutions use the advanced rules: the only blank you can land on is the one on the queen bee's domino. The moves are described with the number of a die, a direction, and a distance. For example, 1R3 means move the 1 die to the right, 3 spaces.

1. Total moves: 4. Moves for 3: 1R3, 2D2, 1D2, 2R3D1.
2. Total moves: 6. Moves for 3: 1D1, 1R3, 1D2, 2R1U3, 1U3L3, 2L3D1.
3. Total moves: 8. Moves for 3: 1L3, 1U1R2, 1U1, 1R2, 1D3, 2R3U2, 1U2L4D1, 2L4U1.
4. Total moves: 10. Moves for 3: 2L3, 1D2, 2D2, 1L3, 1U1. Moves for 4: 3R3, 2D4R1, 1D2, 3D2L2, 1L3.
5. Total moves: 14. Moves for 3: 2R1, 2D1R3, 2U2, 2L1, 1R1D3, 2D3L2, 1L2U1L1. Moves for 4: 2R1, 2D1R3, 3R3D2, 2D2L5, 3L5U4, 1L3D2, 3D3.
6. Total moves: 16. Moves for 3: 2R1, 2D2, 2L2, 2D1, 1L5D1, 2U2, 1U3R3, 2R4D1. Moves for 4: 2R1, 2D2, 2L2, 2D1, 1L5D1, 2U2, 3L4D3R1, 2D2.
7. Total moves: 18. Moves for 3: 1D4, 1R1U2, 1R1, 1D1, 2L2U3, 1U3L2, 2L1, 1D4, 2D4L2. Moves for 4: 3R2U2, 3R1, 2U1L5, 3L1, 2R4D2L1, 3D2L2, 2U4, 1R2D3, 2D4.
8. Total moves: 18. Moves for 3: 1L3, 2R2, 2U2, 2L6, 1D2R6, 2R6D1L1. Moves for 4: 1L2, 1D3, 3L6, 3D1, 2L4U2, 3U1. Moves for 5: 3L2, 4R2D1L3, 3D1L4, 2L3D1L1, 1L3, 1D4R1D1R1.
9. Total moves: 20. Moves for 3: 1D3, 1L1, 1U1, 1R6, 2D3L3, 1L4. Moves for 4: 1D3, 3D2, 1L1, 3L2U4, 2L6D4R4, 3D4R3, 1R4D1. Moves for 5: 4U4, 2L1D1, 4D4, 1R4D3L5, 2D3L5D1, 4L5D1R2, 3D3L1.
10. Total moves: 22. Moves for 3: 2R2, 2U3, 2L1, 2D1, 1L2D3, 2D3L2, 1L2U2L2, 2U2L1. Moves for 4: 2R2, 2U4L1, 2D2, 1L2U2, 2U1, 1L2, 3U3R2, 1R1. Moves for 5: 2L3, 4D3, 3R3U1, 1L1D1L5, 4U1L5, 3L4.
11. Total moves: 27. Moves for 3: 2D3, 2L1, 2U1, 2R4U3, 1U3L6, 2L6D1, 1D4, 2D3R2, 1R3. Moves for 4: 2L3, 2D1, 2R1U2, 2R5, 1U3L6, 1D4, 3L4U2, 1U4, 2L6D1. Moves for 5: 2L3, 1U4L1, 1D1, 1L5, 2U1R1, 4U2R3, 3U4L1, 2R5, 1R5.
12. Total moves: 25. Moves for 3: 1R2, 2L6, 1U1, 1L3, 2U2R1, 1R3, 2R2D3, 2L1, 1D3. Moves for 4: 1R2, 2L6, 1U1, 1L3, 2U2R1, 1R1U1, 2U1R2, 1R4, 2R2U1L1, 3U5R1D1R1. Moves for 5: 4L5, 2L6, 2U4R2D5, 3L2U5L2D1, 2U5L1, 1U2.
13. Total moves: 22. Moves for 3: 1U3, 1R1D4, 1R2, 1U5, 2U3L3, 1L3D1. Moves for 4: 1L2, 3R2, 2U2L6, 3L6U1, 3R1, 1U4L1. Moves for 5: 4R7, 4D6, 4L4, 1D1R1, 4R1U3, 1U3R2. Moves for 6: 4R6, 4D4L1, 5D1L1, 3D2L1.
14. Total moves: 26. Moves for 3: 2D1L3, 2U3, 2R6, 1D3L5, 2L4, 1D3, 2D3. Moves for 4: 2D1L3, 3L3U4, 2U3, 2R6, 1D3L5, 2L5U2, 3R1. Moves for 5: 2D1L3, 3L3U4, 2U4L1, 3R5, 2R6D1R1, 1D3L1U2, 4R3D2L1. Moves for 6: 5D3, 1L3, 5L2U6L1, 2U5L1D3, 3U6L1D2.
15. Total moves: 26. Moves for 3: 1L2, 1D6, 1R4, 2D5L4, 1L4U1. Moves for 4: 1L2, 1D5, 1R7, 1D1, 1L3, 1U3, 2D2L3, 3U3R1. Moves for 5: 4D2, 4L1, 1D5R5, 4R5U4L1, 2R2D1, 1U4L1D1L5, 3U4R5U2, 1R6. Moves for 6: 2R3D3, 5D3L7, 1D4L2D1, 2L6, 3U2R1U1.
16. Total moves: 28. Moves for 3: 2R2, 1L3, 2U1R1, 2D3, 2L5, 1D4R6, 2R6U3, 1U3L2D1, 2L2D2. Moves for 4: 1L3, 3L2, 2U1R3, 3R2, 2L1D2, 3D2L4, 1D3R4U5, 3R4U5R1, 2U5R2. Moves for 5: 3L2, 4D1L1, 4D1, 2U1R4, 1R3U1, 3R4D1. Moves for 6: 3L2, 5U1L5, 4L5D3R1, 5D3R1U1R1.
17. Total moves: 32. Moves for 3: 1L4, 1D5, 1L2, 1U2, 2L7U2, 1D2, 2D4R4, 1R2, 2L2U6R1, 1U5. Moves for 4: 3L2, 3D5, 3R3, 3U4, 1L3D4, 3D4L3, 1L3U1, 2L7D1R4D1, 1D1R4D1L1, 3R3. Moves for 5: 3L1, 2L2D2, 3D4, 3R4D2R1, 1D5L3, 3L1U2L1, 2L1. Moves for 6: 5L3, 3D4R5U1L1, 5R5U1L2, 1D2L2, 4U2R3U1.

18. Total moves: 31. Moves for 3: 2R1, 2D4, 2L2, 1D5R3U1, 2R2. Moves for 4: 1L2, 2R1, 1D2, 1R6, 1D1, 1L2, 2D2L4, 1L4U1, 2D2, 3L5U4, 2U2. Moves for 5: 1L2, 3R2, 3U6, 3L1D2, 3L6, 2L3D2, 1D3R6, 2R6U4R1, 3R6, 1U1, 4R5U2. Moves for 6: 5D6, 5L1U3L2, 4R3, 3U3L2U2.
19. Total moves: 34. Moves for 3: 1R5, 2R2, 1U2, 2U1R1, 1R1, 2D6, 2R2, 1D4L4, 2L4U6, 1U5. Moves for 4: 1R5, 3D2, 1U2, 3R2D4, 1D4L3, 1U5, 2R1U1, 1D5, 2D6R4, 3R1U2, 1R4U4, 2U3. Moves for 5: 3D5, 3R1, 4D3L3U4, 2R3D4R3D1, 2L1, 4D4R3D1, 3R3D1L2, 1R7. Moves for 6: 3D5, 2D4, 4D3L6U2, 5L5.
20. Total moves: 36. Moves for 3: 1D3, 1L3, 2L3, 2D1, 2R5, 2D2, 2L1, 1D1R2, 2R2D2, 1D2L4, 2L6, 1L2U4, 2U5. Moves for 4: 1D3, 2L3, 2D5, 2R6, 2U1L1, 2U3, 3R4D3, 2D1, 1L2D2R1U1, 2D1. Moves for 5: 1D4L1, 1D1L5, 3D3R6, 1L1, 2L3, 2D4R7U1L2, 1R7U1L1. Moves for 6: 5U4L2, 1L2D6L3, 5D6L4, 3D4R3, 5R2, 2D5R3.

Fujisan Solutions

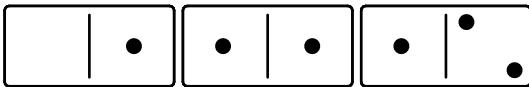
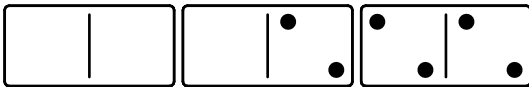
Here are the solutions to the Fujisan problems. To distinguish the four different pawns, the top left is labelled as a (P)awn, the bottom left is a k(N)ight, the top right is a (B)ishop, and the bottom right is a (R)ook. The direction of each move is (L)eft, (R)ight, (U)p, or (D)own, and the numbers say how far to move. PR3 means move the pawn three steps to the right, without hopping over any other pieces. PR3(+2) means move the pawn three steps to the right, including hopping over two other pieces, meaning that it moves five spaces in total.

1. NR4, NR2, PR2, PR1, PD, PR3(+1), BL1, BL2, BD, RL5(+3), RU, RR1, PU, BL3
2. NR1, NU, BL1, BD, BL3, RL4(+1), RU, BU, BL5(+1), RL5(+1), PR1(+3), NR2(+3), ND, PR2, RR3(+2), RD, BR3(+1)
3. NR5, NR4, RL4(+1), NL5(+1), NU, PR3(+1), NR1(+1), PD, PR4(+1), RR3(+1), RU, PU, NR4(+1), BL2(+3), RL2(+3), PL1(+2), PD, RD, NL2(+1), BL1(+1)
4. RL4, RL5, RU, PR4(+1), PD, RD, NR5(+2), NU, RR4(+1), RR3, RU, PU, PR5(+1), BL1(+2), PL4(+2), PD, PR4, PU, BL2(+2), BD, PL2(+1), RD, RL5
5. NR5, NL2, NL2, NU, RL3, RL5, RU, RL1, PR3(+2), PD, PR3, PU, NR3(+1), RR1(+1), NR4(+2), ND, PR4, NU, BL1(+2), NL1(+1), NL3(+1), NR1(+1), BD, BL4, PD, PL5
6. NR4, NU, NR1, NL2, ND, NL1, NU, PR2(+1), PD, ND, NR2(+1), NR5, NU, NL2, NR4, ND, PR2, PR5, PU, PL2, RL1(+1), RU, NU, BL3(+3), BD, NL3(+2), PL1(+1), RD, RL4(+1)
7. BL1, BL2, BD, BL2, PR2, PR3, PD, PR4(+1), BR3(+1), RL2(+2), BL2(+2), BU, BL3, RU, RL5(+1), BL3(+1), BD, RD, PL2, PL5(+1), NR1(+3), RU, PU, PR4(+1), PD, RR4, NU, BU, BR3(+1), NR1(+1), ND, BR1
8. RL3, RU, RL1, RL5, RL1, RR2, RL4, RD, NR1(+1), NU, RU, PR1(+2), RR2(+2), RD, NR2(+1), PD, PR4(+1), RR5(+1), RL2, ND, NR3(+2), RU, RR3, PU, PR3, NU, BL1(+3), PL1(+2), PL2, PR, NL2(+2), ND, BL2(+1), RD, RL5
9. RL1, RL1, RU, RL2, RL4, RD, RL1, RU, PR4(+1), RD, RR5, RU, PR4(+1), PD, RL1, RR3, PU, BL2(+2), PL1(+1), RL4(+2), BL4(+2), PL5(+2), PD, RD, RL3, BD, NR1(+3), PU, PR5, PD, BU, RU, RR4(+1), RD, BR4, NL3, NU, NR5
10. RL3, RU, RR2, RD, RL4, RL5, NR3(+1), NR4, NL5(+1), NU, RR2, RL4, RU, PR1(+2), PD, ND, RD, RR2(+2), NR4(+2), NU, NR1, ND, PR4(+1), RR3(+2), RU, NU, NR2(+1), PL5, PR2, PU, PR5(+1), BL1(+3), ND, NL4, NL1, RD, PD, PL3(+2), PU, PR, BL2(+1), RL3(+1)
11. NR5, NU, NL3, ND, NR2, NR4, NU, NR1, ND, NR1, RL4(+1), RR3(+1), NL5, RL4, RL4(+1), RU, RL2, NU, NL3, PR1(+2), RR2(+2), RD, NR2(+1), PD, PR4(+1), RR3(+1), PR1(+1), PU, RU, NR4(+2), BL2(+3), ND, NL4, BD, RD, PD, PL4(+3), NU, BR3(+1), BL5(+1), BU, PR4, RR3, RL5(+1)
12. RL3, RU, RL1, RL1, RD, RL5, RR2, RL4, NR3(+1), NR4, NL5, NR2, NU, NL3, RU, PR1(+2), PD, ND, RD, RR2(+2), NR4(+2), NU, NR1, ND, PR4(+1), RR3(+2), RU, NL5(+1), PU, NR2, NU, NR4(+2), ND, PR3(+1), NU, BL1(+3), ND, PD, PL5(+1), PU, NL5, RL1(+1), RD, BD, BL1(+1), BU, RL1
13. BL1, BL1, BD, BL1, BU, BL2, BL3, BD, BL3, BU, PR1, PR2(+1), PD, PR5, PL1, PR3, PU, PR1, PD, BR2, BD, BR5, BL1, BR3, RL1(+2), RU, BU, PU, PL2(+2), PL3, PD, PL4, BL2(+1), BL3, BD, RL2, RD, RL4(+1), RU, BL3, RD, NR2(+3), PR2(+3), PU, BR3(+2), RR2(+1), NL4, NU, NR5(+1)
14. NR3, NR2, NU, NL3, ND, NR2, NR5, NU, NR1, NR2, BL1(+1), NL1(+1), ND, NL2, NU, BL1, BL5(+1), BL1, BD, BR2, BU, ND, NR4, NU, NL1, NL1, NL5(+1), NL1, ND, NR2, BL4, NU, NL3, PR1(+2), PD, ND, BD, BR2(+2), NR5(+2), NU, PR5(+1), BR5(+1), NR1, ND, RL2(+3), RU, RL2, PL3, PR, NL3(+1), BU, BL4
15. PR3, PL2, PR3, PD, PR1, PU, PR5, PD, PL1, PU, PR3, PD, RL1(+1), PL1(+1), PL1, PU, RU, RL2(+1), PL3(+1), RL3(+1), RD, PR5, PL2, PD, PL5(+1), PU, RU, RL2(+1), RD, PD, NR2(+2), PU, PR3, PR5, PD, PL1, NU, RU, RR3(+1), NR5(+1), PU, RR4(+2), BL2(+3), ND, NR1, NL4, NU, RD, RL5, BD, PD, PL5(+2), PR4(+1), BL5(+2), RU, BR5

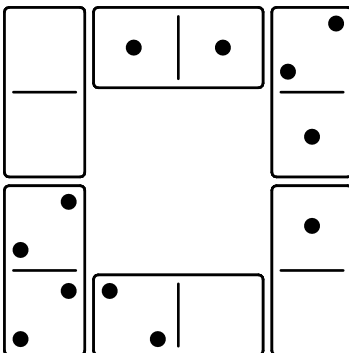
16. PR3, PD, PR2, PU, PL3, PR2, PR5, PD, PR3, PU, BL1(+1), PL1(+1), PD, BL3, BD, PL5(+1), PU, PR5, BU, BR1(+1), PD, BD, BL5(+1), BL1, BR2, BU, BL4, BD, PL5, PL1, PR2, PU, PL3, PD, NR1(+2), PR2(+1), NU, BU, BR2(+1), NR5(+1), ND, NR3, BR5, BD, PR4(+1), RL2(+3), PU, PL3, PD, BU, RU, RR1(+1), NU, NL4(+2), ND, BR1(+1), BL4(+1), RL3
17. RL3, RL2, RU, RL5, RR1, RD, RR1, RL3, NR2(+1), NU, RR2, ND, NR1(+1), NR4, NU, NR1, ND, NL2, RR4(+1), NU, NR3, ND, RU, RR1, RD, RR1(+1), RU, NU, BL1(+2), BD, ND, RD, RL2(+2), RU, RL5, RR1, RD, NL2(+1), NU, NL5, ND, BL2, BL5(+2), BU, NU, RR1, RL3, RU, PR1(+3), PD, PR1, PU, ND, NR4, NL, NU, PR1(+1), BD, BR5, RD, RR4(+1)
18. BL4, BL5, BD, BL1, BU, BL2, PR2(+1), BR3(+1), BR4, BL5, PL2, PR3(+1), BR4(+1), BD, PD, PR4(+1), PU, PL2, PD, BU, BL5, BD, PL5(+1), BL1, BU, BL2, BD, NR1(+2), PU, BU, BR3(+1), BR4, BD, PR3, PD, PR4(+1), PU, PL2, PD, BU, BL5, BD, NR1(+1), BR4(+2), BU, BL2, BR3, BD, NR4(+1), PU, PR4, PD, RL1(+3), RU, PU, PL5(+1), BU, BL2(+1), NU, NL1(+2), ND, RL1(+1), BD, BL1(+1)
19. BL4, BD, BL5, BU, BL1, BL2, BD, NR2(+1), BR3(+1), BU, BR4, BD, BL5, NU, NL2, ND, NR3(+1), NU, BU, BR4(+1), BD, ND, NR4(+1), NU, NL2, BL5, ND, NL5(+1), NU, BU, BL2(+1), PR1(+2), ND, BD, BR3(+1), BU, BR4, BD, PL2, PD, PR3(+1), PU, NR3, NR4(+1), NU, NL2, ND, BL3(+1), BR4(+1), BU, NU, PR4(+2), ND, NR4, PD, BD, RL1(+3), BU, NU, NL5(+1), BL2, BL1, BD, RL3(+1), PL5(+2), PR1(+1), RU, RR1(+1)
20. NR3, NR2, NU, NR5, ND, RL3(+1), NL1(+1), RL4(+1), RU, NU, NL5(+1), ND, RD, NR2(+1), NU, RU, RR5(+1), RL1, RD, RL1, RU, RL5(+1), ND, NL3, NL1, NU, PR2(+2), PD, NR2(+1), RD, RR2(+1), RU, NR5(+1), NL1, ND, PU, PR5(+1), PL1, NL1, NU, RR4(+2), RD, PD, PL1, PL4, PU, NL5(+1), PD, ND, NR2(+1), NU, PU, PR5(+1), PD, ND, NR5(+2), NU, PU, RU, BL1(+3), BD, PD, PL2(+1), PU, BL2, RD, ND, NL4(+2), NU, RL4(+1)

Classic Puzzle Solutions

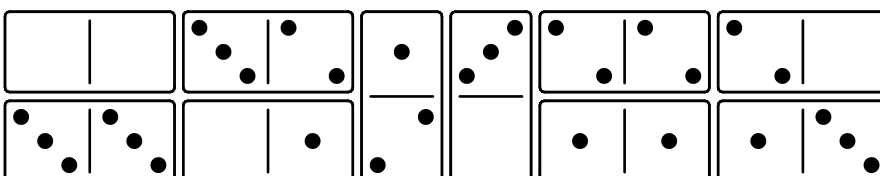
Two Equal Lines



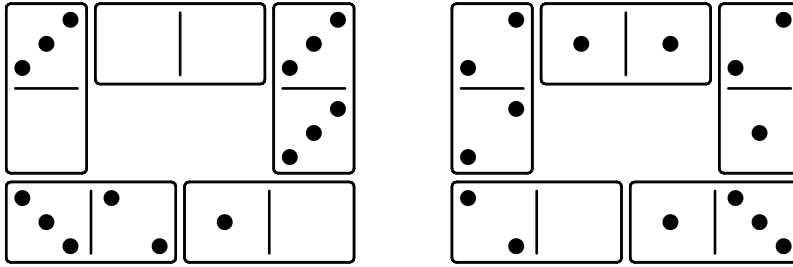
Square of Six



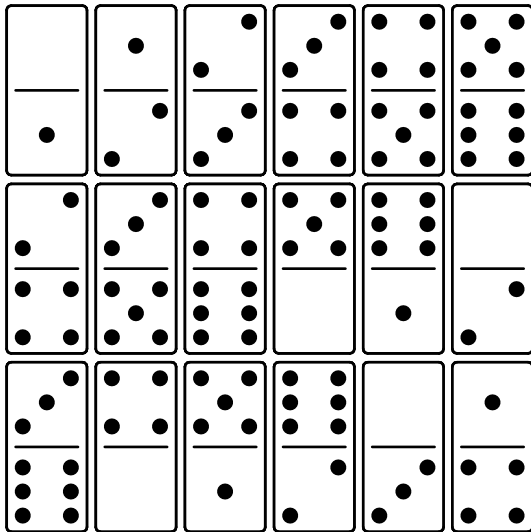
Rows and Columns



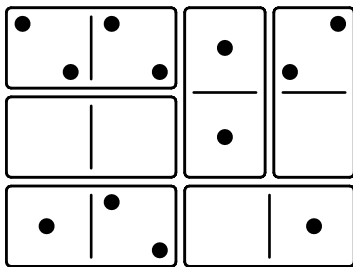
Twin Rectangles



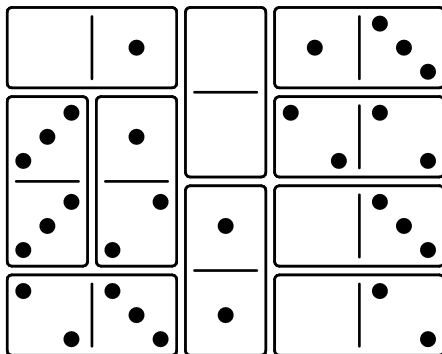
The Latin Square



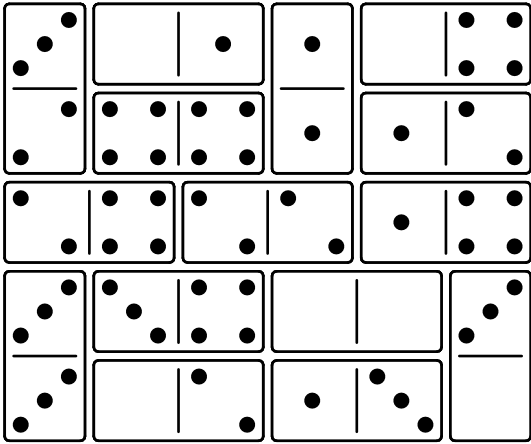
Dominosa Solution 1



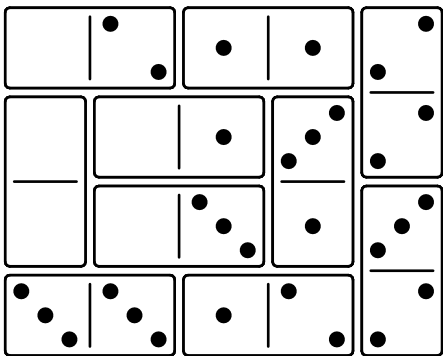
Dominosa Solution 2



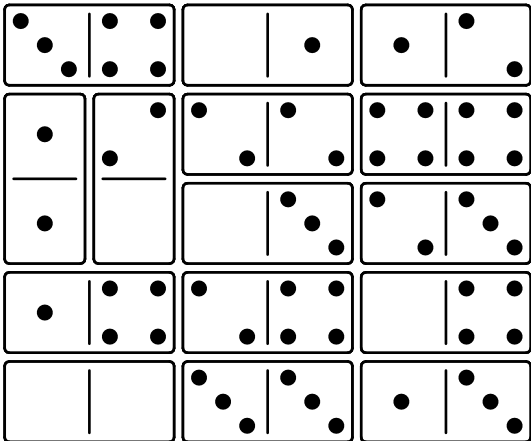
Dominosa Solution 3



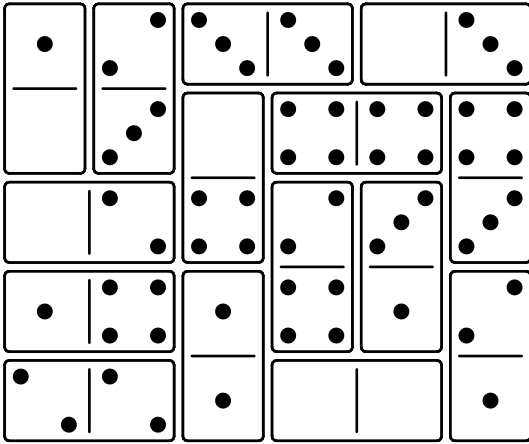
Dominosa Solution 4



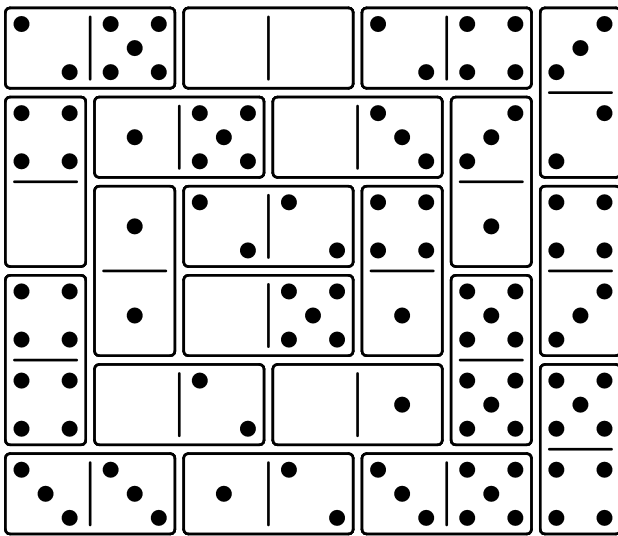
Dominosa Solution 5



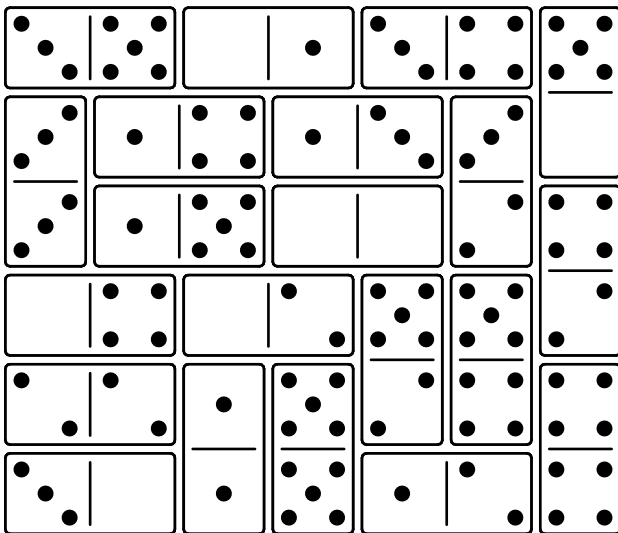
Dominosa Solution 6



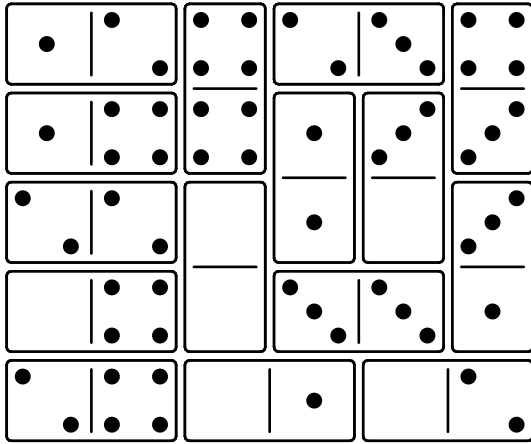
Dominosa Solution 7



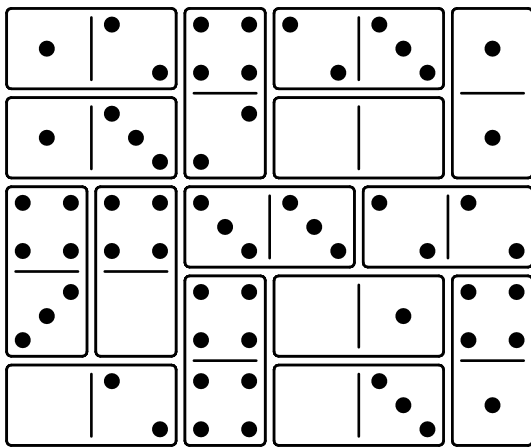
Dominosa Solution 8



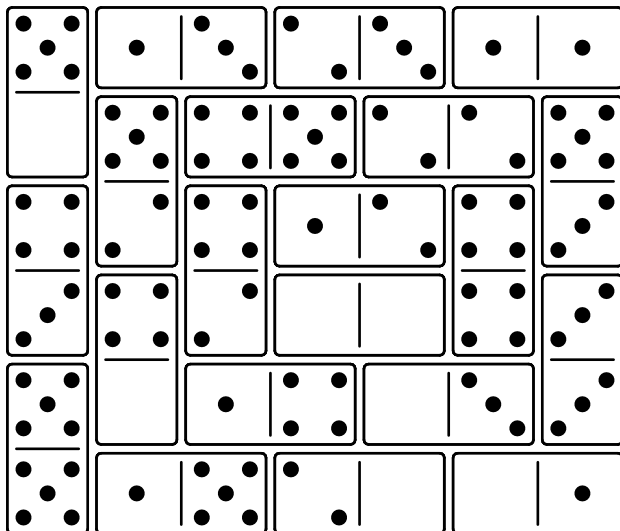
Dominosa Solution 9



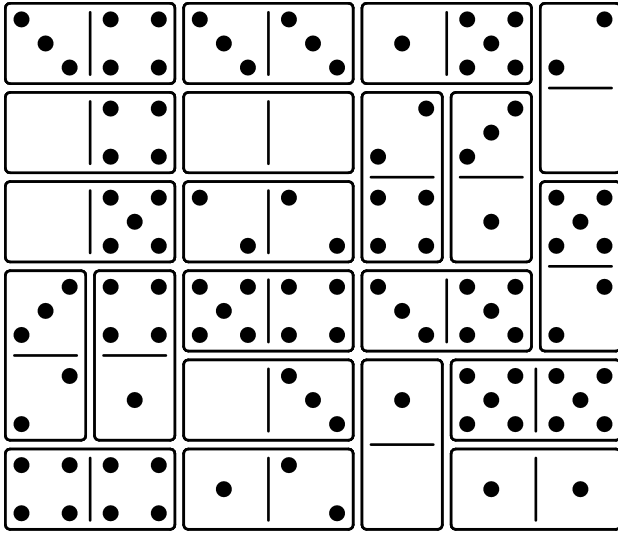
Dominosa Solution 10



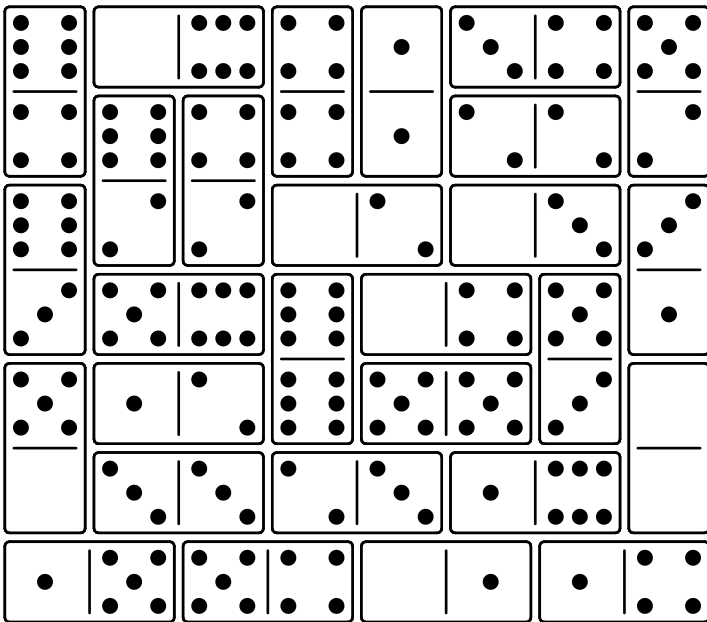
Dominosa Solution 11



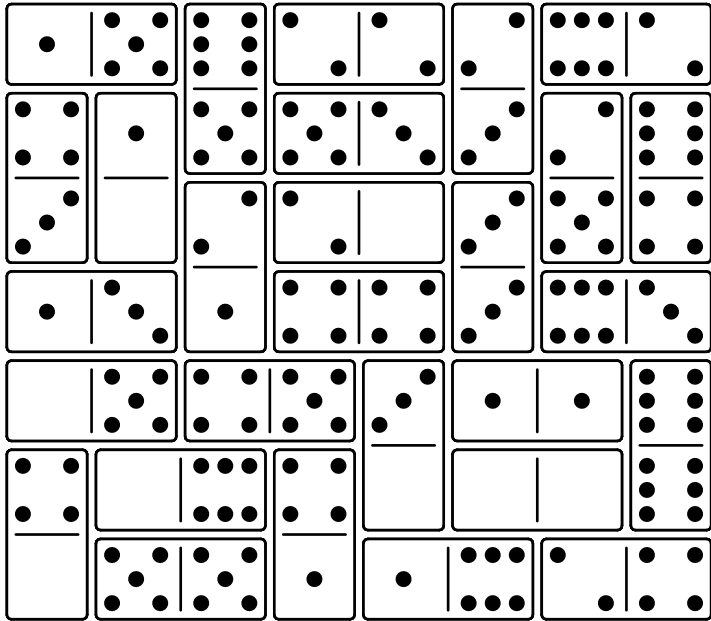
Dominosa Solution 12



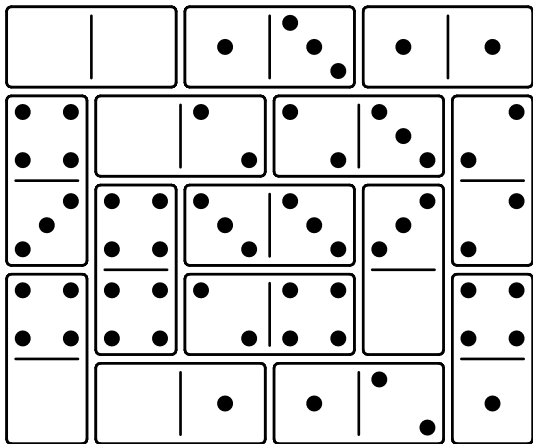
Dominosa Solution 13



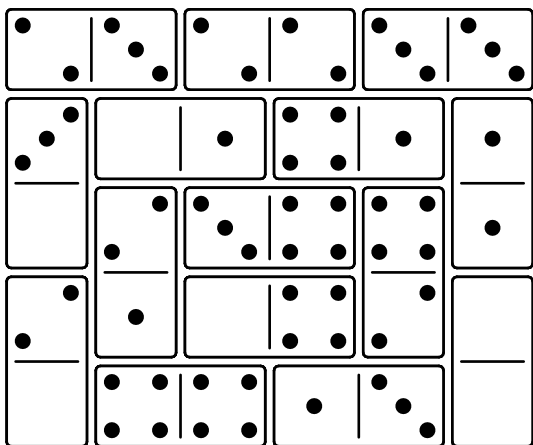
Dominosa Solution 14



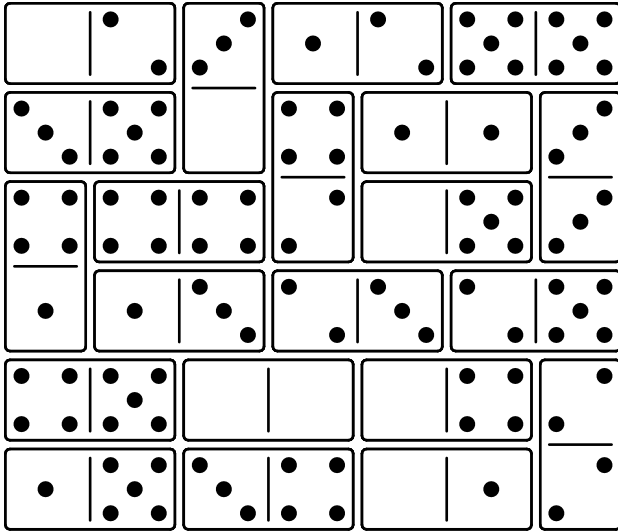
Dominosa Solution 15



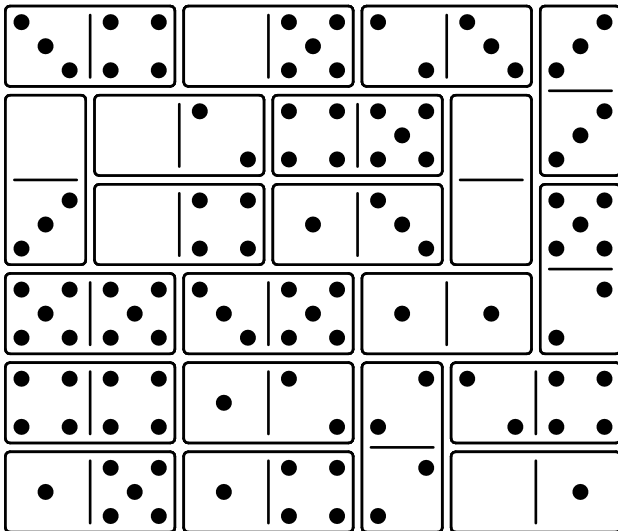
Dominosa Solution 16



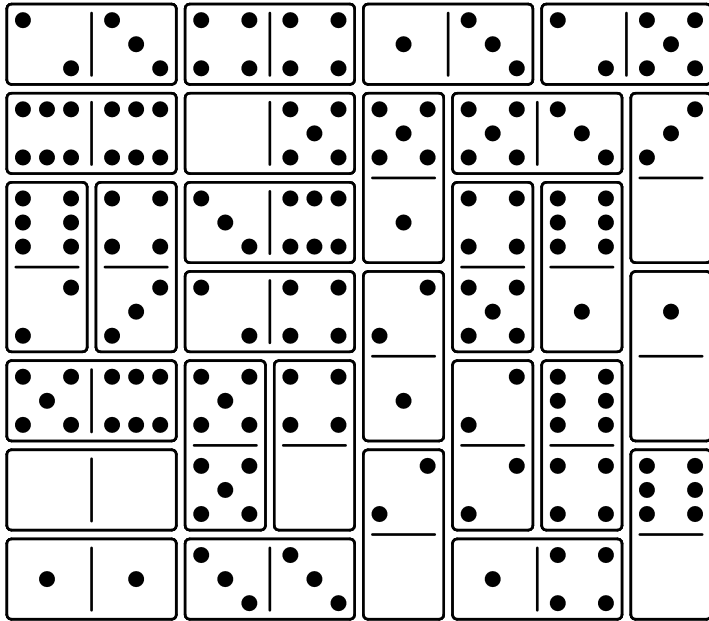
Dominosa Solution 17



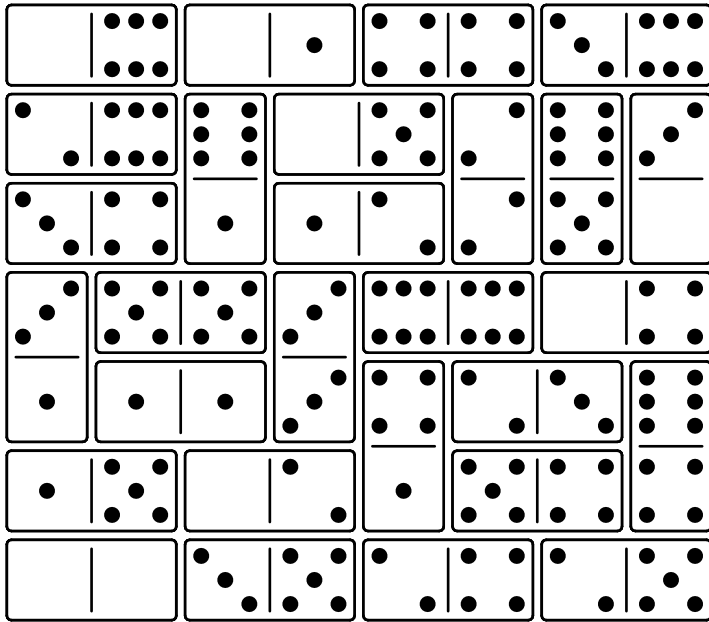
Dominosa Solution 18



Dominosa Solution 19



Dominosa Solution 20



Contributing

Found some interesting problems to solve? Ideas to share? Get in touch at <https://donkirkby.github.io/donimoos>.

Unmatched, Capturing, Mirror, and Bee Donimoos, as well as Tetradominoes and Domino Finder are original puzzles and games designed by Don Kirkby.



2022