



Puzzler Pride 2026

June 1, 2026

Organized by Jamie Hargrove & David Millar
(dave@davegoesthedistance.com)

<https://pride.puz.fun> • @pride@puz.fun

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Welcome to Puzzler Pride!

The puzzle community is host to a wealth of very talented LGBTQIA+ authors, and we're pleased to showcase some of their work in our fourth annual puzzle pack.

To say that the last few years have been pretty crunchy for the LGBTQIA+ community at large would be an understatement. Tired as many of us are, the plan remains the same: **Keep Fighting.**

In fact, when we held brainstorming sessions for this year's theme, **Perseverance** was one of the themes that captured the hearts of many. The other frontrunner, that caused a tie? **Fish, the Ocean, and Aquatic Life.**

Maybe it's the way some of us dream about a taking the stage at a certain club near Santa Monica just a stone's throw from the Pacific. Maybe it's the way seahorses flip the gender norms when it comes to parenting. Maybe it's the way we all wish we could tune out the negativity and enjoy the sun and surf.

Whether your anthem based on those two themes is **Float On** by **Modest Mouse**, **Fighting Fish** by **Dessa**, or **Pink Pony Club** by **Chappell Roan**, we hope you'll keep fighting too.

Please enjoy
Puzzler Pride 2026!

In the Closet 3

By Cute Mage
<https://cutemagestower.com>

In a letter web, letters are shared between answers in a scattered fashion. Whenever you write a letter in a blank, write that same letter in the blank indicated by the coordinates underneath it.

In this letter web, the clues aren't showing everything about them. Until they do so, they won't understand why one of their letters doesn't connect to anything else.

Clues

- A. Alum that includes First World Problems, Tacky, and Word Crimes
- B. Place where you'll find eight plants
- C. What Hole is known for
- D. Writer of a morse alphabet book
- E. Old type of internet form
- F. Letter in the Geek Alphabet that is just a circle
- G. Activity that will create a seat
- H. Company whose TikTok clone is sorts
- I. Movie genre with lots of salons
- J. Seeping all winter
- K. Excalibur Wilder
- L. Northernmost urine creature
- M. Subject with scant calculations
- N. Scale that removes 273 from Kevin
- O. People in a circus who are gooiier than the rest

A	M8	K5	F7	C11	E10	J8	O3	D9	B7	O?	H5	I7
B	N4	D8	J?	L4	K10	E3	A9	G7	M1	J4	E1	
C	L1	N3	E5	D11	G6	K3	M4	O1	L8	J5	D2	L?
D	N2	A4	I1	J7	F5	E12	K4	L2	A8	K?	M12	
E	B11	I2	B6	N7	C3	J11	G1	A?	H2	A5	M11	D6
F	M7	A1	J2	G5	G4	D?	A3					
G	E7	G2	H7	D5	N1	C5	B8	M?				
H	C?	E9	K9	M10	A11	L6	G3					
I	D3	E2	O6	K7	B?	L9	A12					
J	H?	F3	H6	B10	C10	M6	D4	A6	K2	O5	E6	
K	K1	J9	C6	D7	A2	F?	I4	K8	H3	B5		
L	C1	B2	N?	B4	M2	J3	M9	C9	I6			
M	B9	L5	N5	C7	I?	J6	F1	F2	L7	H4	E11	C4
N	F4	D1	O2	B1	M3	E?	E4					
O	C8	C2	A7	G?	J10	I3						



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Roommates 3

By TVDK

<https://l.puz.fun/lmdtvdk>

Place the digits 0-9 once each in every row, column and 3x3 box.

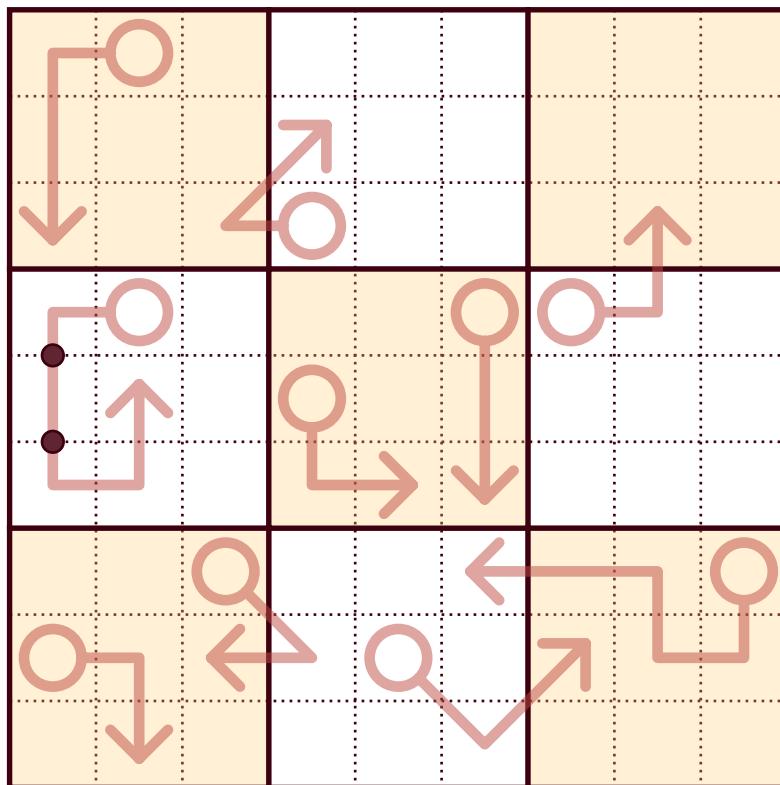
Each 5 in the grid has a different roommate, a digit that shares the same cell as the 5. The value of a cell with a roommate is the sum of the 5 and the roommate digit.

Each 5 in the grid has a 1 in the cell above, or a 9 in the cell below. (A 5 *may* have both, but does not *need* both.)

Values along an arrow sum to the value in the bulb.

Values separated by a shaded dot have a 1:2 ratio (one is double the other).

Solve online: <https://l.puz.fun/pp2026tvdk>



Squish Sudokus 1

By Grace Sours

<https://paypal.me/CherrySourLaGata>

Place the digits 1-9 into each 3x3 corner of each puzzle. Digits may not repeat in any row, column, or 3x3 corner.

Note: These puzzles do not necessarily have unique answers.

3	7	6	2
4	8	3	7
1	5	2	6
8	4	1	5

		6	
		4	
7	5	8	2
		1	
		3	

5		8	
	9	4	
6	1	7	2
8	2	5	
3	4	9	

4	2	6	8
6			2
		1	
7			5
9	5	7	3



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Square Root

By Seren ☆

Draw a network of lines connecting orthogonally adjacent cells that doesn't enter any cell more than once and doesn't contain loops.

The network begins by traveling down from the sprout. Whenever it enters a cell from above, it must either continue straight, terminate, or branch into two paths - one traveling downwards and the other horizontally. The horizontal path must then continue straight without branching until it turns downwards, and its length until the turn must be equal to the length of the straight segment of the other path until its termination.

Cells containing circles cannot be entered. A number indicates how many of the cells in the 3x3 area centered on the number are visited.

Solve online:

<https://l.puz.fun/pp2026rootleft>

<https://l.puz.fun/pp2026rootright>





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Statue Park

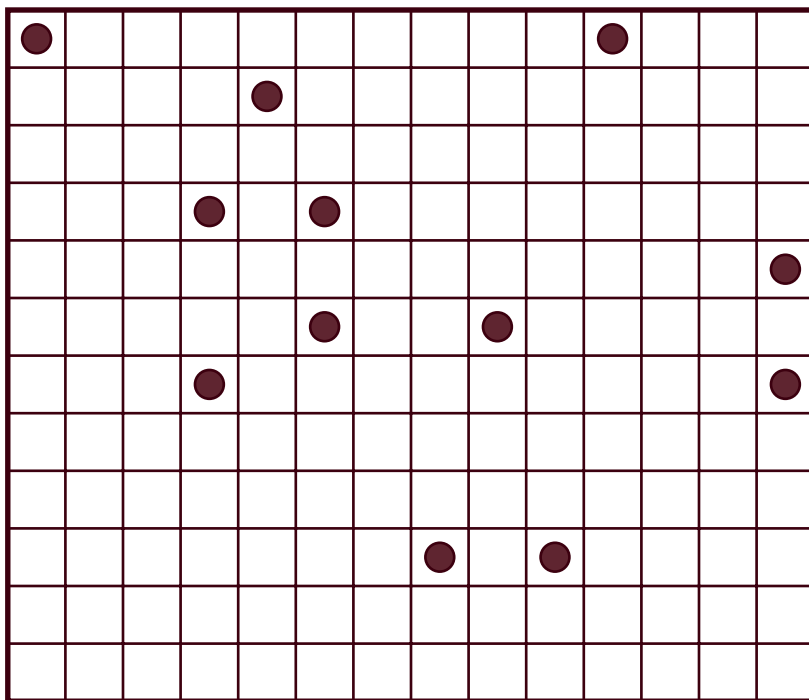
By Jamie Hargrove

<https://deceptivepuzzles.wordpress.com>



Place each of the shapes exactly once into the grid. Rotations and reflections are allowed. No two shapes can overlap or be orthogonally adjacent, and all of the space not occupied by shapes must be connected. Cells with a shaded circle must be part of a shape.

Solve online: <https://l.puz.fun/pp2026statue>



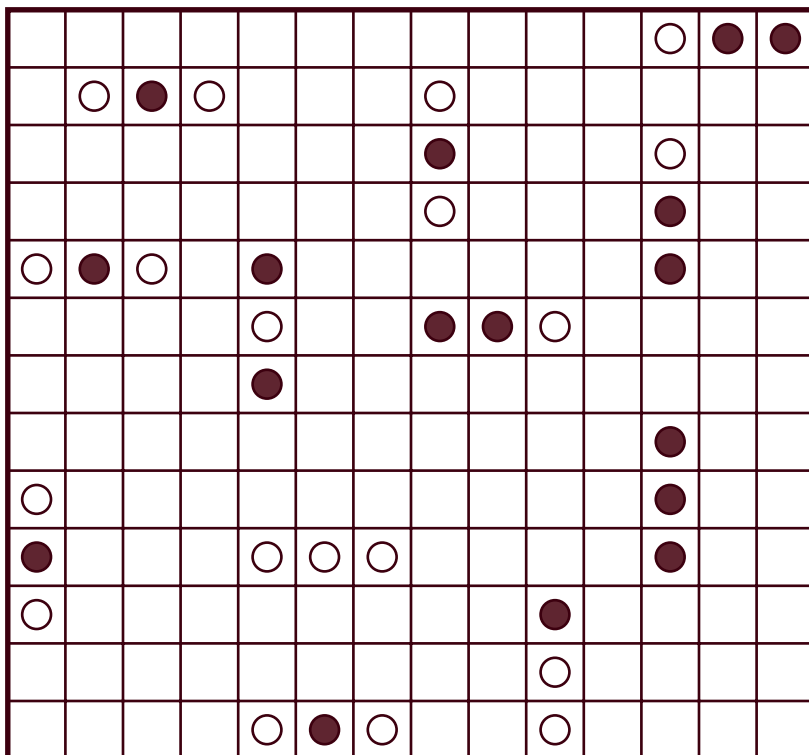
Baker's Doesn't (Statue Park)

By BedWords



Place each of the shapes exactly once into the grid. Rotations and reflections are allowed. No two shapes can overlap or be orthogonally adjacent, and all of the space not occupied by shapes must be connected. Cells with a shaded circle must be part of a shape.

Solve online: <https://l.puz.fun/pp2026statue2>





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Throwing Shade

By David Millar



Shade some squares in each row and column so that the letters in the remaining unshaded squares spell answers to the provided clues.

The provided clues are listed in alphabetical order by their corresponding answer.

Solve online: <https://l.puz.fun/pp2026shade>

ROWS

- Buy-in
- Deep-fried treat
- Place to find a sub
- Act involving a pair
- Digital liquid asset
- Turn over
- Commodity sometimes found under the sea
- Uproar
- Prepare to mail

COLUMNS

- Famous boxer
- Build or make
- Deep item in Chicago
- Female deer
- Lodging
- Animal-based gay body type
- A sea turtle, snake, or similar friend
- Backside
- Japanese delicacy

A	C	T	H	U	B	R	R	O
C	A	D	M	U	R	U	E	T
D	R	I	O	N	E	U	G	T
O	U	S	T	R	A	M	P	B
A	A	D	I	N	U	E	T	E
D	M	O	E	I	L	M	I	I
E	F	L	L	I	I	P	P	A
O	P	R	A	L	I	I	L	E
E	T	H	U	E	R	N	E	R

(Anglers)

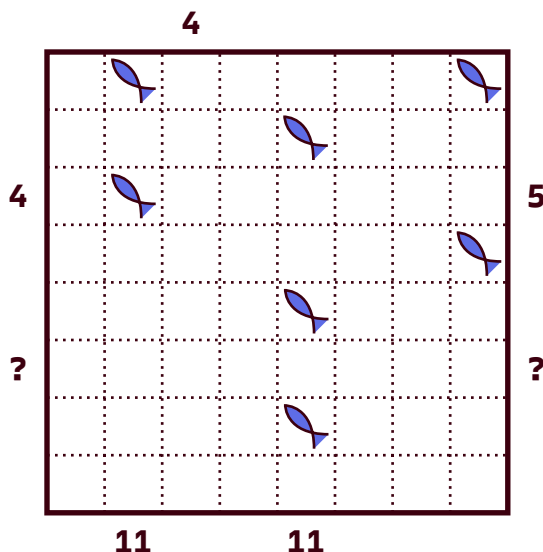
By BedWords



Draw lines connecting each fisher (represented by a number or ?) is connected to a fish. Lines must connect adjacent grid cells moving up, down, left, or right, and may not branch or loop. Every grid cell must contain fishing line, and the length of the fishing line must match its fisher. (A fisher marked ? may have any length of fishing line.)

Solve online:

<https://l.puz.fun/pp2026anglers>



Special Thanks

Thank you to **proxentauri** who designed our puzzly lion mascot **Darryl Scroggins**, **ArrowType** and contributors for the typefaces **Recursive Sans** and **Mono**, the developers behind **Inkscape**, and the developers behind **Sudoku Maker**, **Sven's Sudoku Pad**, **Puzz.Link**, and **Penpa+**, whose tools allow us to share versions of puzzles that can be solved digitally/online.

Thank you to our test-solvers, including **Kusane Hexaku**, **PjoeterBliep**, **Sophie**, **Walker**, **woomyrogue**, the packet authors, and other members of our community.

Thanks for solving!

We hope you've enjoyed the puzzles in our showcase!

Check out our site at <https://pride.puz.fun> where you can find our previous packets, news about future installments of Puzzler Pride, and links to more puzzles from our collaborators.

Until next time!

Jamie Hargrove  and friends