## 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 third annual puzzle pack.

In addition to being part of this community, LGBTQIA+ folks come from a variety of diverse backgrounds and life experiences. Experiences that enrich, inform, and shape who we are and what strengths we bring to the community.

This year's showcase is dedicated to that: this is the **Intersectionality Edition.**

Some of our contributors worked that theme into their puzzles, either taking into account the intersections of puzzle components, or using their puzzle content to present people, ideas, and topics that embrace the intersectionality theme.

We hope you enjoy the puzzles! Stay strong!

## Rainbow KenKen
**By Gene**
https://l.puz.fun/lmdgene

Place the digits 1-7 in every row and column. A clue in the top-left of a colored region gives the result of applying the mathematical operation shown to the digits in that region. *(Emoji and region colors are decorative only. Regions alternate border styles to help distinguish them for colorblind solvers.)*

**Solve online:**
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025gene

*For more free KenKen puzzles, visit https://www.kenkenpuzzle.com*

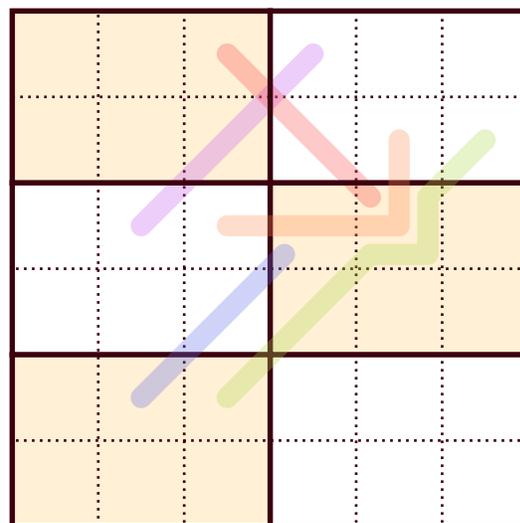*Used with permission from KenKen Puzzle Co. KenKen is a registered trademark of KenKen Puzzle Co.*
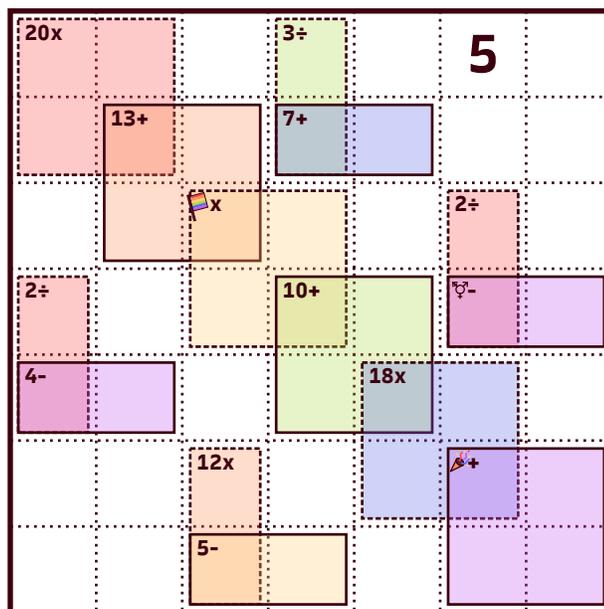
## Unique Factors
**By Cateleya**

Standard 6x6 sudoku rules apply.

Each line has a unique associated digit from 2 to 6. *(Line colors are decorative only.)*

Every digit placed on a line must be divisible by the line's digit.

**Solve online:**
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025uf

## Flag Sudoku
**By TVDK** ▪ https://l.puz.fun/lmdtvdk

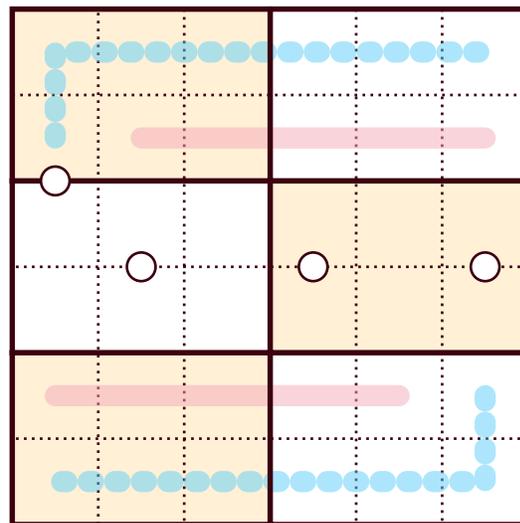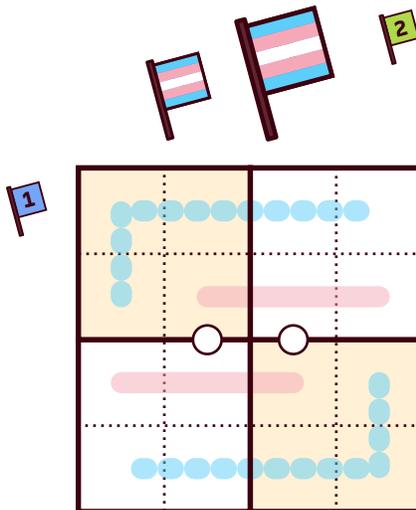Place the digits 1-*n* into each row, column, and box following traditional sudoku rules.

Digits along a pink **Renban** line must form a set of non-repeating consecutive digits.

A blue/*dotted* **Region Sum** line is split by box borders into segments with the same sum.

Digits departed by a hollow Kropki dot are consecutive. Not all possible dots are given.

In the 6x6 puzzle, cells separated by a chess king's move may not contain the same digit.

**Solve 4x4:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025tvdk1
**Solve 6x6:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025tvdk2



Rainbow KenKen grid with clues: 20x, 3÷, 5, 13+, 7+, x, 2÷, 2÷, 10+, ⚧-, 4-, 18x, 12x, +, 5-



Unique Factors grid.



Flag Sudoku grids (4x4 and 6x6).

# Puzzler Pride 2025

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

June 1, 2025

https://pride.puz.fun ▪ @pride@puz.fun

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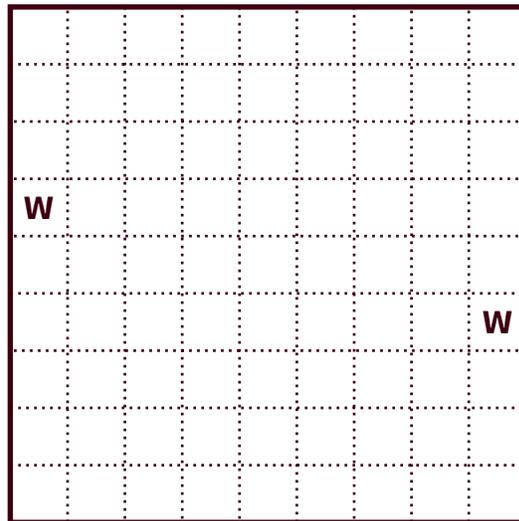
## Scrabble

**By dohz**
https://dohz.itch.io

Place the bank of words into the grid such that each letter occupies one cell and each word appears once, reading left-to-right or top-to-bottom. The words all interconnect via shared letters, and no orthogonal line of adjacent letters forms a string that is not a word from the bank. Some letters are already placed in the grid.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025dohz

Word bank:
- BLACK
- BROWN
- RED
- ORANGE
- YELLOW
- GREEN
- BLUE
- VIOLET

(Grid contains: W placed at one cell, W placed at another cell)

## Web of Change

**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.

Normally, each set of answer blanks has a clue to go with it, but in this puzzle, I removed all the clues and put them in alphabetical order on the side. To make up for that, I wrote a second set of clues!

Also there's a big box at the beginning of each set of answer blanks. I'm sure you'll figure out what to do with that.

**Clues**
Consider (your orb?)
Goal
Homes for boats
Item in a garden
Mom or Dad
Movie genre
Previous
Thing between two choruses
Turned off the sound
Type of cuisine

**Also Clues**
Being across
Business deal
Changed
Item inside an EZPass
Moves items
Part of a car that is often automatic
Person who used to live elsewhere
Robot in disguise
See-through
What an unit of blood is for

A ▭
F2 A2 G5 D5 C5 H3

B ▭
C1 I2 H6 D1 J5 I3

C ▭
B1 E2 J4 D2 A5 G4

D ▭
E1 C4 D4 I5 A4 H2 F5

E ▭
B4 C2 F6 J2 H4

F ▭
H1 G3 J3 H5 D7 I4

G ▭
I1 G2 A1 C6 A3

H ▭
F1 D6 A6 E5 F4 B3

I ▭
G1 B2 B6 E3 D3

J ▭
J1 E4 F3 C3 B5

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June 1, 2025

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## Spiral Galactic Clusters

**By Cerise Talis**
https://plus.cerisetalis.com/penpa

Shade some cells to form orthogonally connected regions of shaded and unshaded cells.

All cells with circles are unshaded. An unshaded region can contain at most one circle.
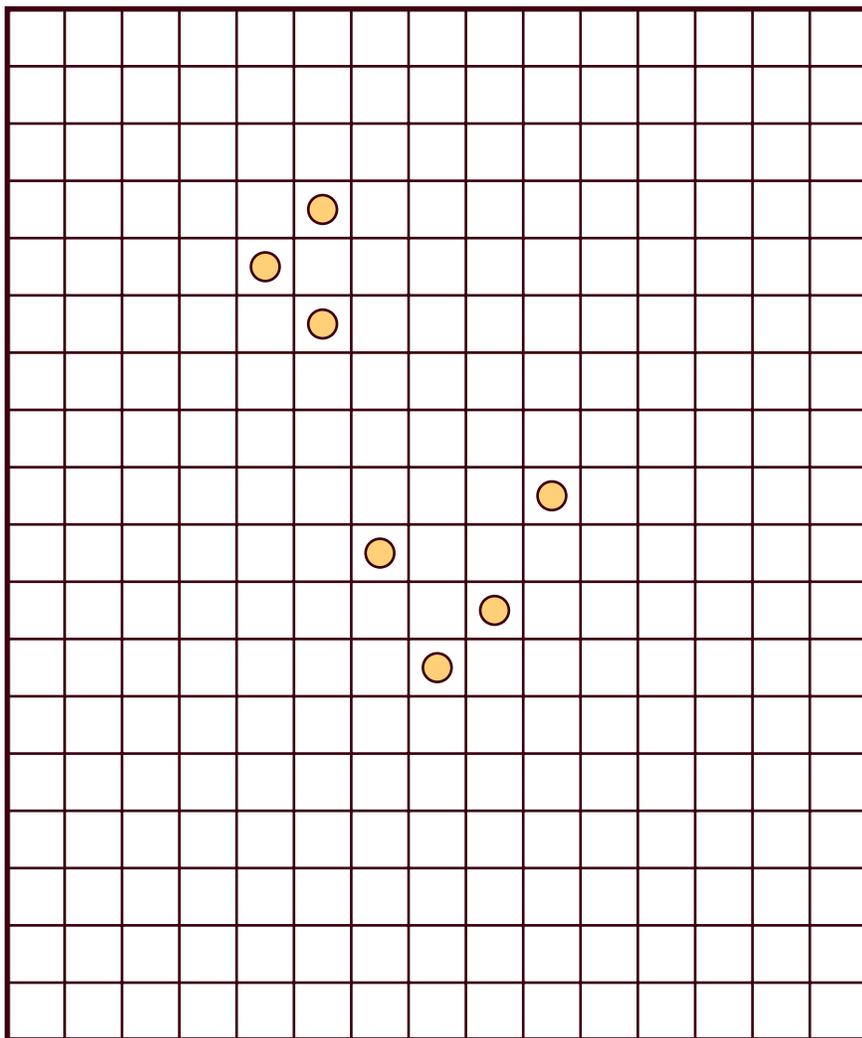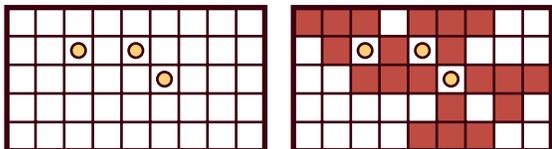
For each region containing a circle, the bordering shaded regions are rotationally symmetric (180 degrees) around the circle.

Each shaded cell must be orthogonally connected to at least one other shaded cell.

Each shaded region borders at least one region containing a circle.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025spiral

### Example & Solution

## Touching Tails (Hex)

**By Cerise Talis**
https://plus.cerisetalis.com/penpa

Draw non-intersecting paths (tails) through the centers of some cells.
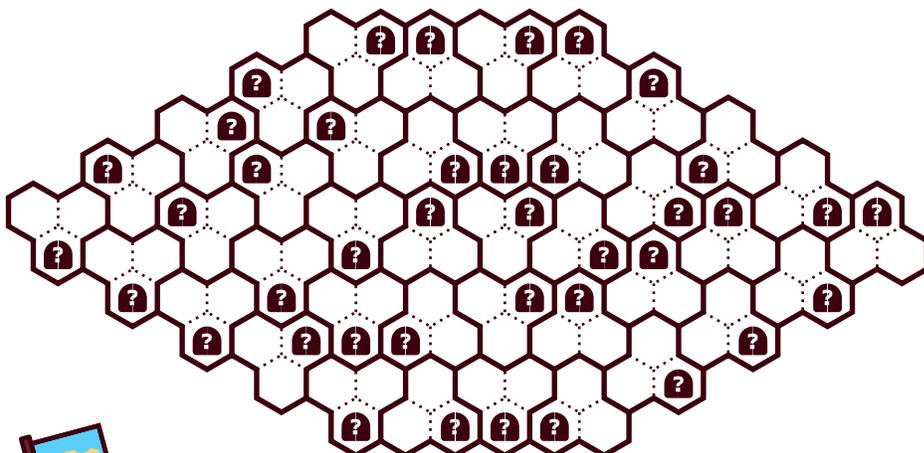
Each mousehole contains one or more mice.

Each tail starts at a mouse and cannot cross a thick border.

Each tail endpoint faces another endpoint one cell away.

Extending all paths forward by one cell would create a single interconnected network of tails.

If any cells are unused by mice, they must all form a contiguous region.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025tails

# Puzzler Pride 2025

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## Stostonewall
**By Seren ☆**

Shade some cells such that all shaded cells form an orthogonally contiguous area.

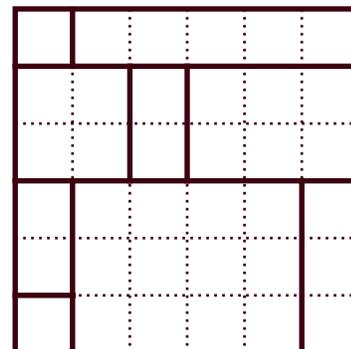No 2x2 area may be completely shaded.

Region borders divide the shaded area into blocks.

Each region contains exactly one block.

If all of the blocks were to fall straight down without changing shape, they must completely fill the bottom half of the grid, leaving the top half unshaded.
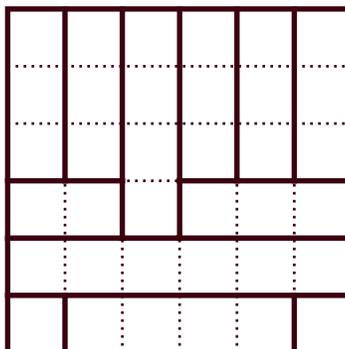
## A Large Integer, Which Must Be Interpreted Based On Non-Bi-nary (And Then Non-BINARY)
**By Violet Xiao**

1323410317070924416705902300716166100875324409476157842524169958156006426994644479285386434914620873907042014540353483235760604780228176483085091634343168994756672379623378793843848382088573198752593356420045618771892010669821672285240588054225877054988183691984957078114038031187489492841586929523894548903541916265
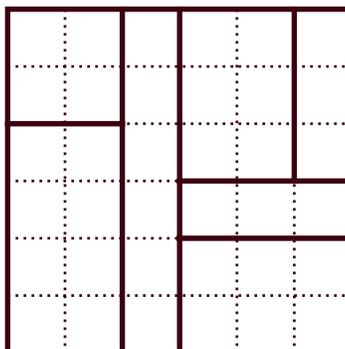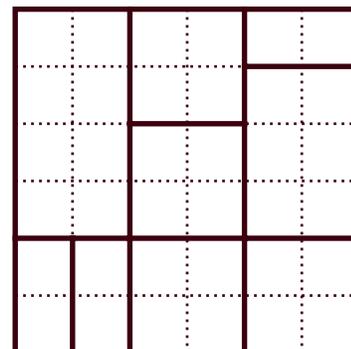
**Answer checker:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025integer

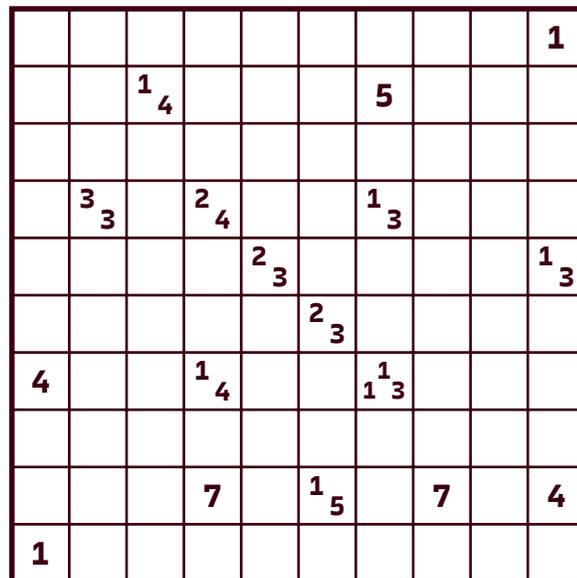- - - - - → *Note: the author suggests that this puzzle might require a bit of programming.*

## Twopa
**By Tane**

As in traditional Tapa, shade some cells to form an orthogonally connected area. Number clues are unshaded and provide the sizes of the shaded groups in the 8 cells surrounding it as separated by unshaded cells. No 2x2 region may be fully shaded.

There are two grids to solve simultaneously; each number clue must have a different arrangement of shaded cells in its eight neighboring cells from its counterpart clue in the other grid.
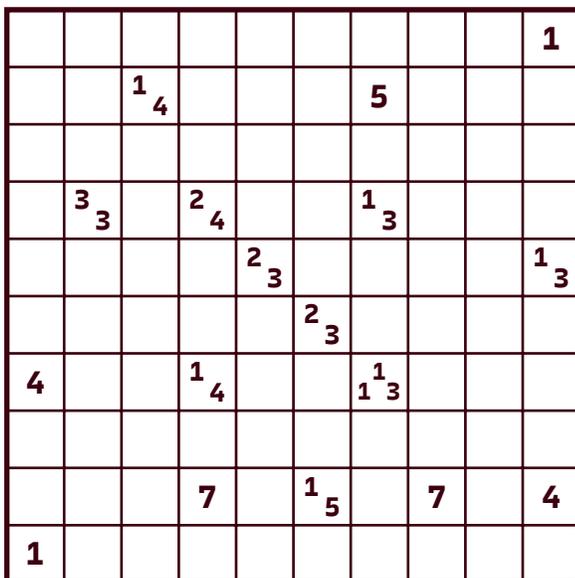
Solve online:
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025seren1

Solve online:
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025seren2

Solve online:
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025seren3

Solve online:
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025seren4

**Puzzler Pride 2025**

June 1, 2025

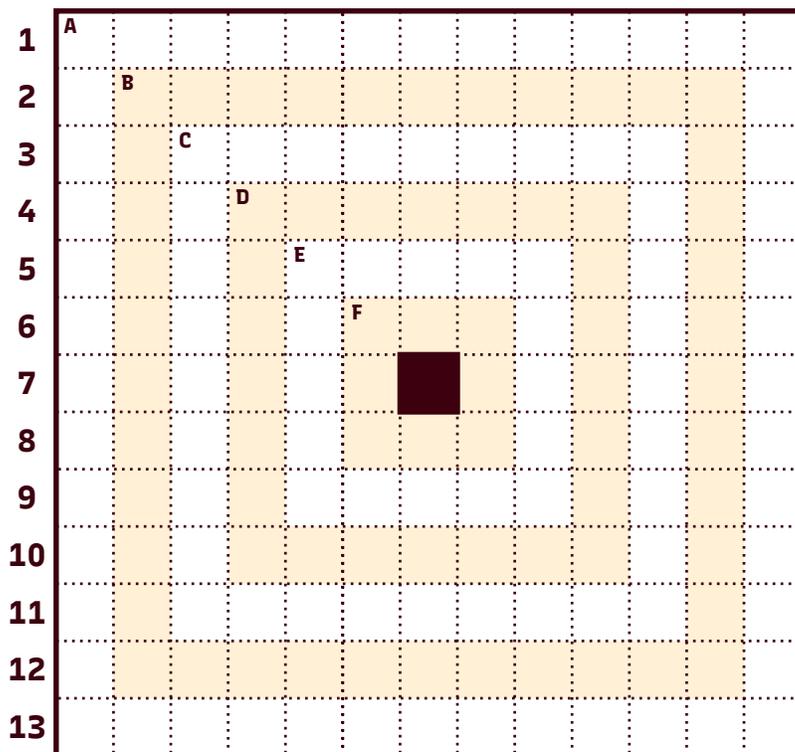Organized by Jamie Hargrove & David Millar
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## March Madness

### By Mark Halpin

In **Marching Bands**, use the provided clues to fill the grid with letters spelling the answers. Answers to rows should be entered left to right, and bands should start in the lettered cell and proceed clockwise around the grid along the shaded or unshaded band.

Five entries in this puzzle do not match their corresponding clues; instead, they comprise a certain set of marchers.

When the grid is filled, circle the first letter of each word in the affected clues. Read in clue order, these will identify the marchers as well as the person who set them marching, who is also this puzzle's dedicatee.

### BANDS

**A.**
- Spaceman Spiff's alter-ego
- Yokel, slangily
- Some bridge doubles or to-go meals
- Touched up a do
- Dory's Pixar pal
- Pavarotti or Domingo
- Furniture in a cathedral
- Swinish remark
- Serengeti stampeders

**B.**
- Site of some canals (2 wds)
- Someone who inspires loyalty
- Is boiling mad
- Ways of earning a living
- Sardine, by another name
- TV studio alert (2 wds)

**C.**
- Cause of ruination
- Random guess
- Black-and-white treats
- Upsilon preceder
- World Series MVP Manny
- Bupkes, aught, nada
- Dresden denial

**D.**
- Like illicit activity, maybe
- Motown's Terrell and others
- Cinematic swamp-dweller
- Most like an easy, lucrative job

**E.**
- Loses traction
- From Iran's northern neighbor
- Fine, soft leathers

**F.**
- Online commerce (hyph)
- Villainous general from Krypton

### ROWS

1. Dropping a little lower? / Mafioso's code of silence
2. One straying from the path of righteousness / Tag for a certain use
3. Most cosmopolitan / Not deigning to stoop to
4. Stealthy assassins / "The Heartland Province"
5. Canter, trot, etc. / Whence taters for tots, maybe? (2 wds)
6. Israel's legislature / Maximally (2 wds)
7. "Please, don't bother" (2 wds) / Van Gogh masterpiece
8. Musical with a repetitive name (4 wds) / Far from a top-tier celeb (hyph)
9. Eurydice's lover, in myth / Having or shaped like a handle
10. Woodpecker with a bright belly / Befuddled responses
11. Friends and lovers, say / Turkish hostel
12. Overshadowed, in a way / Pretentious or affected
13. Frequently exhibiting (2 wds) / English test topic, often

**Answer checker:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025madnessac
**Get .jpz file*:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025madnessjpz
**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025madnessonline

*\* As of publication date, the JPZ file works in Crossword Nexus Solver and GNOME Crosswords. It does not work in Crosswords for iOS and may spoil the puzzle when the app tries to load the puzzle.*

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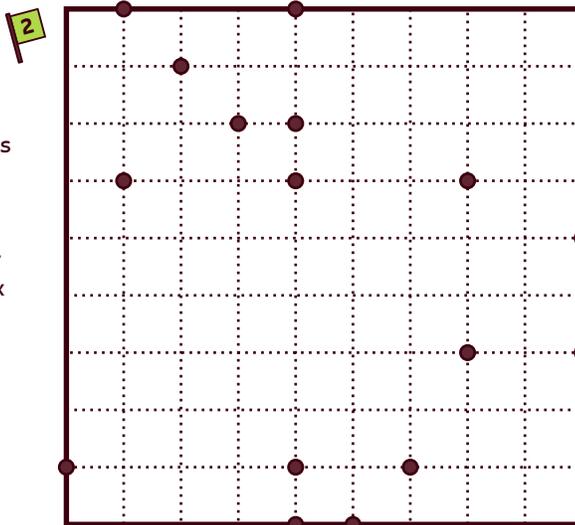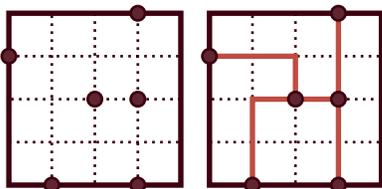
## Three-Ways
**By Trevor Birenbaum**

Divide the square grid into 9 regions, each containing 9 cells. If and only if three borders meet at a point, a dot is drawn. There are no points where four region borders meet.
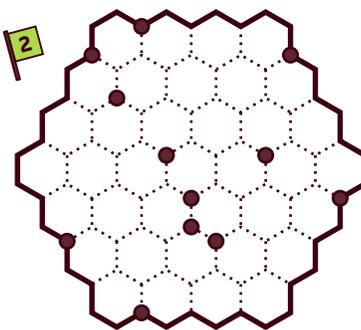
**Solve square:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025trevor
**Solve hex:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025trevorhex

### Example & Solution

Divide the hex grid into 6 regions of 6 cells each, plus 1 region of 1 cell. If and only if three borders meet at a point, a dot is drawn.

## Panpoly Pearls
**By lumia**
https://iam.lumia.gay

Draw a non-intersecting loop passing through all pearls. The colors red, green, and blue (**RGB**), in some order, each correspond to one of three rules:

**X:** The loop travels straight through all X pearls and turns on all non-X pearls.
**Y:** The loop turns on either the cell before or after it passes through a Y pearl, and travels straight through the cells before and after a non-Y pearl.
**Z:** The loop must alternate between passing through Z pearls and non-Z pearls.

**X, Y, and Z** effects stack the way colored light mixes.

*(Grid shading is decorative and thematic but does not provide additional meaning to be used in the puzzle. Pearl colors are **RGB** for red, green, and blue, and **CMYK** for cyan, magenta, yellow, and black.)*

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025lumia
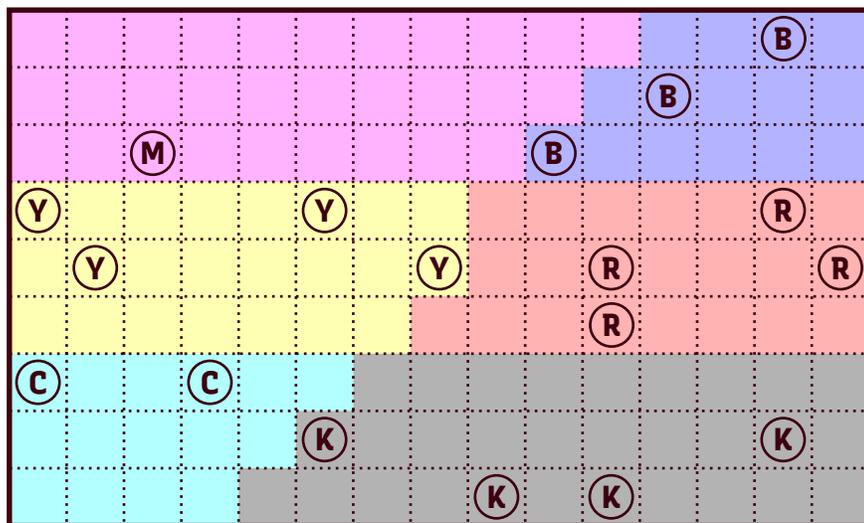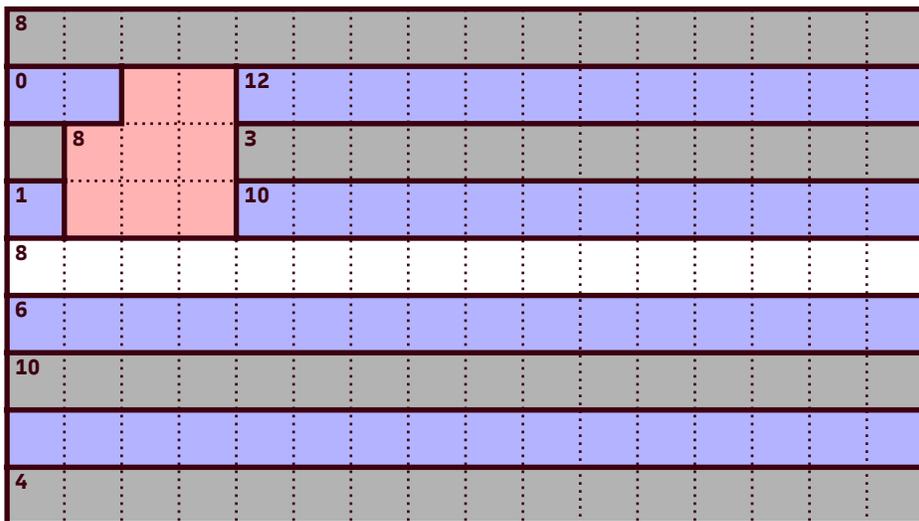
## Detour
**By Jamie Hargrove**
https://deceptivepuzzles.wordpress.com

Draw a loop that visits every cell in the grid. Each room containing a number must contain exactly that number of turns.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025detour

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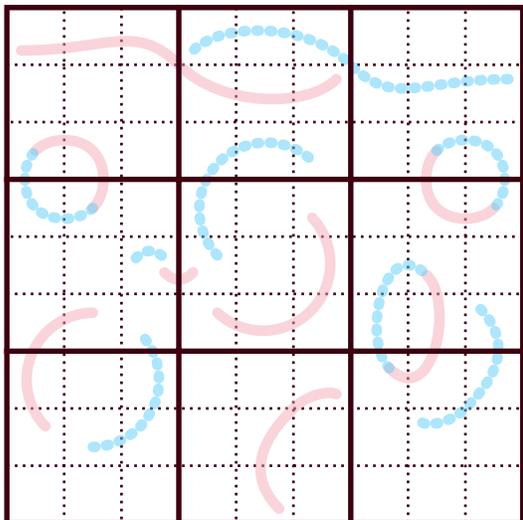
## Cracked Eggs
**By Nell Gwyn**  `2`

Traditional sudoku rules apply.

Digits along a pink **Renban** line must form a set of non-repeating consecutive digits.

A blue/*dotted* **Region Sum** line is split by box borders into segments with the same sum. (*A blue line in a single box is for cosmetic purposes only.*)
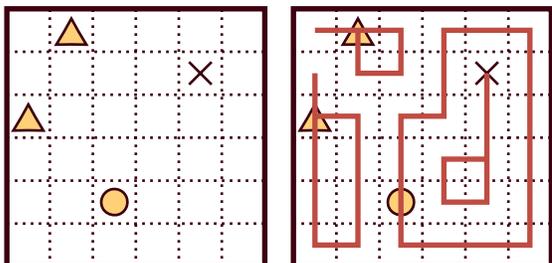
**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025eggs

## Asexual & Non-Binary Pride
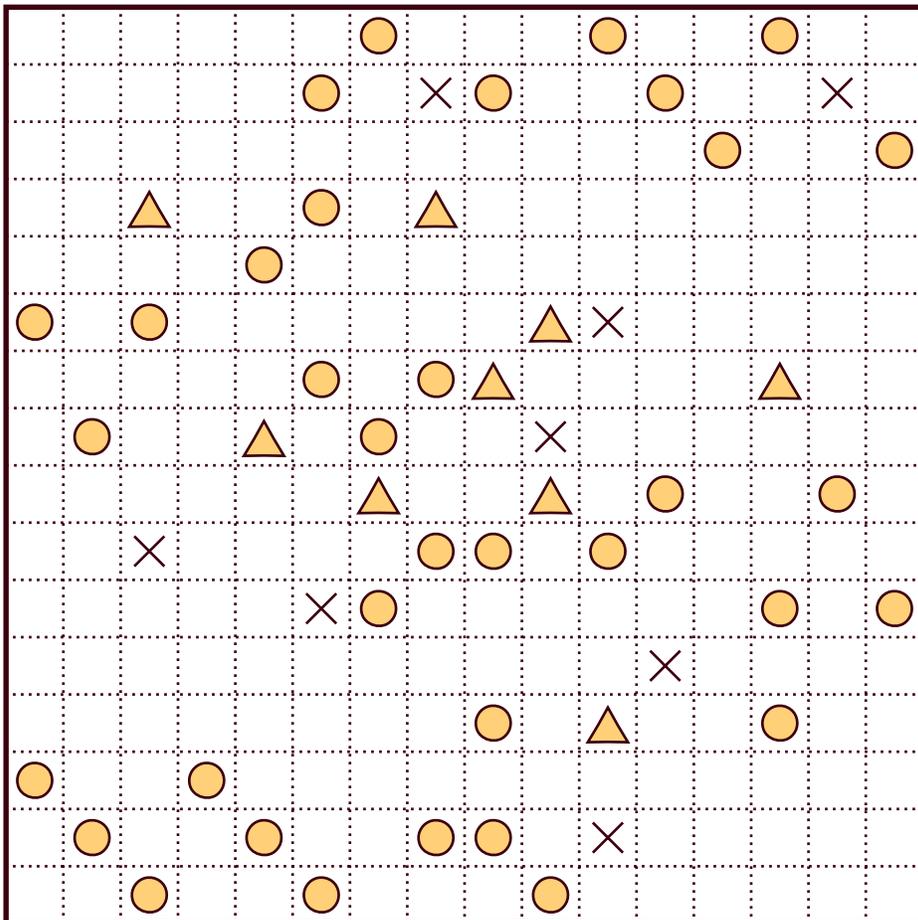**By PhoenixAki**  `3`

Traditional sudoku rules apply.

Digits in a **Killer Sudoku** cage must sum to the shown total.

Adjacent digits on the green/*dotted* **German Whispers** line must differ by at least 5.

Along the **Cloned Lines**, the digits along lines of the same color must be the same and appear in exactly the same order. (*The cloned lines are as follows: **Black** in rows 1 and 8, **White** in rows 3 and 6, and **Purple** in rows 4 and 7. All other lines used as flag elements are purely cosmetic.*)

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025phoenixaki
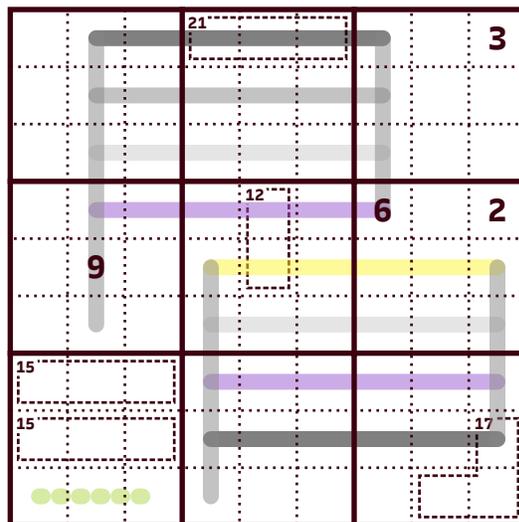
## P-RIDE
**By TheGreatEscaper**  `4`

Draw lines such that every cell is either part of a P or the 'RIDE' (a single closed loop). Circles indicate that a line segment passes straight over that cell, triangles indicate that cell is a three way intersection, and crosses indicate that cell is a dead end.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025tge

## Example & Solution

## Throwing Shade 🏴‍2
### 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 clues are listed in alphabetical order by corresponding answer.

**ROWS**
- Emotion
- Exclamation
- Type of beer (acronym)
- Skate trick
- Adhesive
- Lemonade color
- Mishap
- Flavoring agent
- Limited resource

**COLUMNS**
- Afflicts
- All Americans, per an executive order
- Hold
- Close
- Country in South America
- "Horse kitten"
- Vocalize
- Bugle tune
- Group

Solve online: https://l.puz.fun/pp2025shade

| S | G | S | N | A | F | L | U | E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A | Y | E | N | E | P | S | P |
| U | P | I | N | A | C | K | N | K |
| T | L | A | G | I | M | E | I | R |
| E | X | N | T | R | A | C | T | A |
| T | O | H | A | L | L | E | I | E |
| A | N | G | E | L | E | R | N | U |
| P | N | A | A | S | F | P | T | E |
| S | Y | Y | R | Y | E | U | G | P |

## Intersections 🏴‍4
### By Neville Fogarty

At four intersections in this cryptic crossword puzzle, across and down entries disagree; you'll need to decide which one has the right of way. Enumerations have been withheld, but annotations are provided.

Get .ipuz file: https://l.puz.fun/pp2025nfipuz
Solve online: https://l.puz.fun/pp2025nfonline

**ACROSS**
1. Child of Adam and Eve in Islam nearly becomes queen
7. Wren and others chirp excitedly
8. Spoken for all, essentially
10. Wrongly rig vote for spinning sensation
11. Server's opportunity to win a racket (2 words)
14. Left a tip for bread
16. Nightmarish, exotic spiny toad
18. Old Norse character quickly travels east, not south
19. Hinged tool gripping unopened pasta sauce goes down (3 words)
20. Stop rage and risk

**DOWN**
2. Snowboard gear's last piece is placed in shed
3. French article follows bisexual humor
4. Jerk after quartet of entertainment awards gives performance fit for a diva (2 words)
5. Really walk
6. Fantastic as thespian or playwright
7. No bravery or detachment following hostility in *Call of Duty*
9. Stress removing red spot
10. Supposed perfectionists hacked irs.gov
12. Aide on broadcast couldn't tell ya (2 words)
13. Material from New York and west side of London
15. User intrinsically supports X, not Slack
17. "Gas cap" removed from language

## What is one of the most helpful qualities for coming out? 🏴‍4
### By Alon Levy

Check answer: https://l.puz.fun/pp2025alon

#2 give away around Colorado (6)
Rodent hormone grade (4)
Group flipped ambush, yes? (5)
Bottom grade Icelandic hot shark or barracuda (4)
External intelligence around you hundreds of years ago (7)
Noisy loss of urgent deadline, at first (4)
Perhaps cage our nerve (7)
Victory in observed digit (5)

## Traaaans
**By jennyaa**

Standard 8x8 sudoku rules apply.

Digits along a pink **Renban** line must form a set of non-repeating consecutive digits.
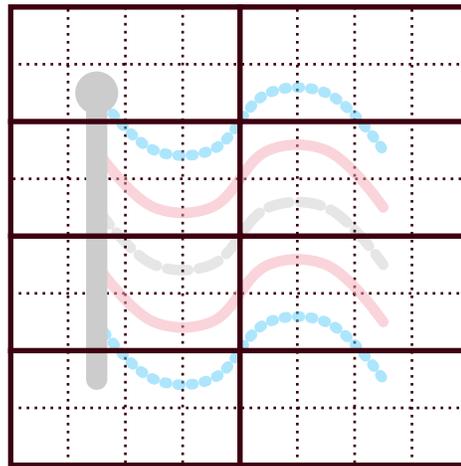
A blue/*dotted* **Region Sum** line is split by box borders into segments with the same sum.

Digits along the light gray/*dashed* **Palindrome** line in the middle must form a palindrome.

Digits along the gray **Thermometer** (flag pole) must strictly increase from bulb to tip.

Digits along the marked diagonals must sum to the provided total.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025traaaans
**LMD Page:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025traaaanslmd

**23**

**31**

### Example

6

3
1
2

## Cipher X-Sums
**By Gene**
https://l.puz.fun/lmdgene

Place the digits 1-7 in each row and column. Clues outside the grid denote the sum of the first *X* digits of the respective row/column seen from this direction, where *X* is the digit in the cell nearest to the clue. Each letter denotes a different digit 0-9. ? can stand for any digit. Sums may contain leading zeroes.
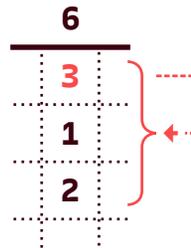
**Solve online:**
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025cipherx
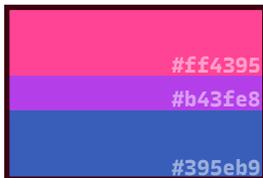
HA PP Y ?I

PR
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D
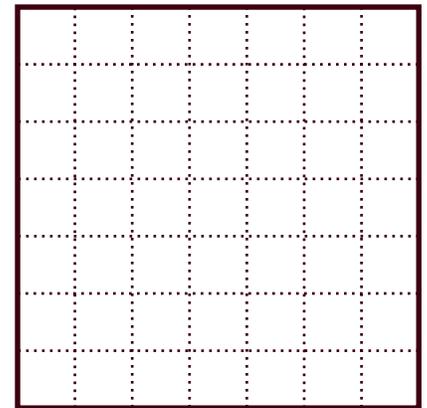
20 25

## Identity Theft
**By epsalon**

*(Hex color codes are provided for accessibility purposes and do not contribute any additional meaning to the puzzle.)*

**Answer checker:**
https://l.puz.fun/pp2025identity

**2**

#ff4395
#b43fe8
#395eb9

#bfbfbf
#e0dcdd
#bfbfbf

**5**

#000000
#7f7f7f
#ffffff
#660066

#3da542
#a8d379
#ffffff
#a9a9a9
#000000

#fef433
#ffffff
#9a59cf
#000000

**6**

#ff0000
#ff8c00
#ffed00
#008026
#004dff
#750787

#5bcefa
#f5a9b8
#ffffff
#f5a9b8
#5bcefa

**7**

#ff218c
#ffd800
#21b1ff

#0000ff
π #ffed00
#ff0000
#000000

- Reservoir / Aquatic bird
- High Commissioner for Egypt: 1919-25 / Everything
- Fancy home / Friend
- Board game by Hasbro / Kissing disease
- An Annamese narrow flat-bottomed boat / This puzzle's solver
- Turned on / Pre-owned
- Racist / Acquired
- Lying across / Part of poetry
- Flamboyance / Pain
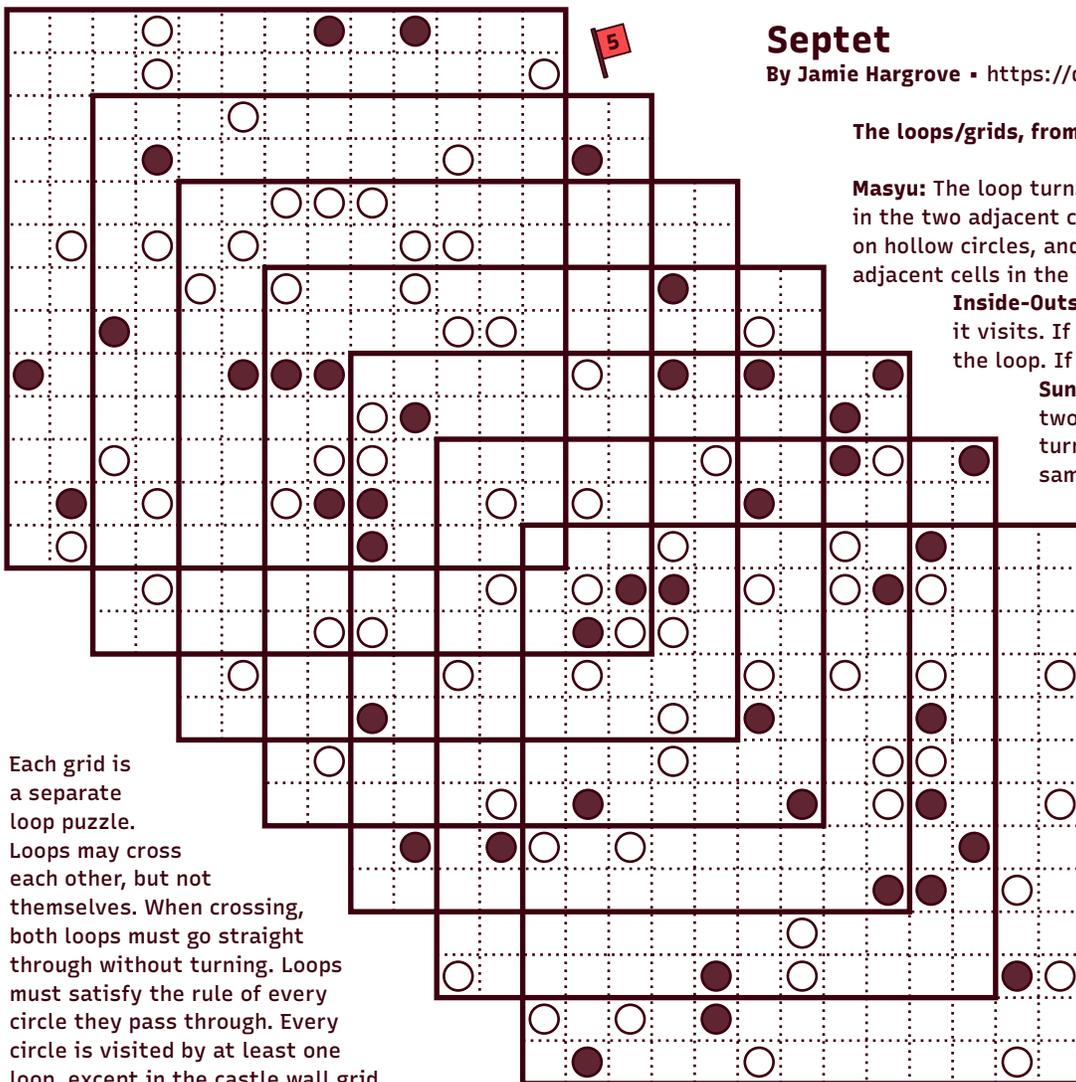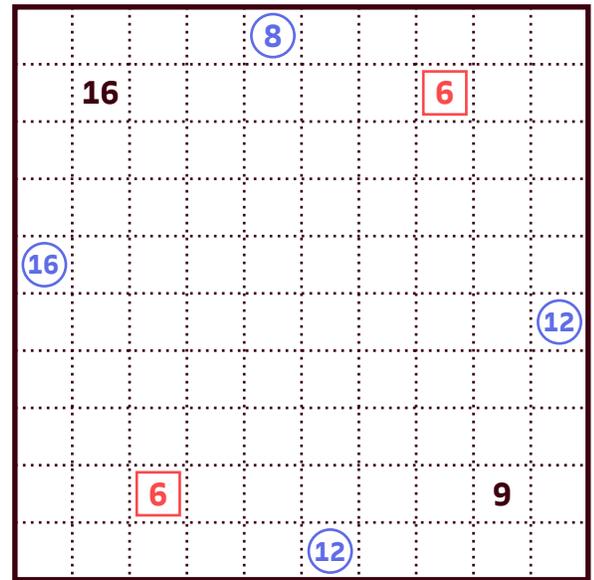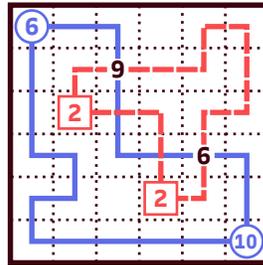
## Multiplication Link (Two-Loop)
By Walker

Draw two orthogonal closed loops, a red and a blue loop, through the centers of some cells. The loops can't cross themselves, but can cross straight through each other.

At a blue number *(in a circle)*, the blue loop turns. At a red number *(in a square)*, the red loop turns. At a black number *(no circle or square)*, the blue and red loops cross.

Numbers equal the product of the lengths of the two loop segments meeting at that clue. (Lengths are measured between cell centers; a segment through 3 cells would have length 2.)

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025twoloop

### Example With Solution

## Septet
By Jamie Hargrove ▪ https://deceptivepuzzles.wordpress.com

**The loops/grids, from top-left to bottom-right:**

**Masyu:** The loop turns on filled circles and must go straight in the two adjacent cells in the loop. The loop goes straight on hollow circles, and must turn on at least one of the adjacent cells in the loop.

**Inside-Outside:** The loop must turn on every circle it visits. If it's a hollow circle, it's mostly outside the loop. If shaded, it's mostly inside the loop.

**Sun and Moon:** If the loop goes between two circles of different colors, then it turns once between them. If they're the same color, then the loop doesn't turn.

**Castle Wall:** The loop does not visit any circles. Any unvisited hollow circles must be inside the loop, and any unvisited shaded circles must be outside. *Unvisited circles may only be present in the castle wall grid.*

**Dutch Loop:** The loop turns on shaded circles and goes straight through hollow circles.

**Alternating Loop:** The loop must alternate between hollow circles and shaded circles.

**Balance Loop:** When the loop goes through a hollow circle, both loop segments extending from the circle must be the same length. Whenever the loop goes through a shaded circle, both loop segments extending from the circle must be different lengths.

Each grid is a separate loop puzzle. Loops may cross each other, but not themselves. When crossing, both loops must go straight through without turning. Loops must satisfy the rule of every circle they pass through. Every circle is visited by at least one loop, except in the castle wall grid.

# Puzzler Pride 2025
June 1, 2025

**Organized by Jamie Hargrove & David Millar**
(dave @ davegoesthedistance.com)
**https://pride.puz.fun** ▪ **@pride@puz.fun**

*All puzzles copyright their respective author(s). Sharing encouraged! Streaming of solves is permitted; please let us know if you do!*

## 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; cells with an hollow circle must not.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025statue
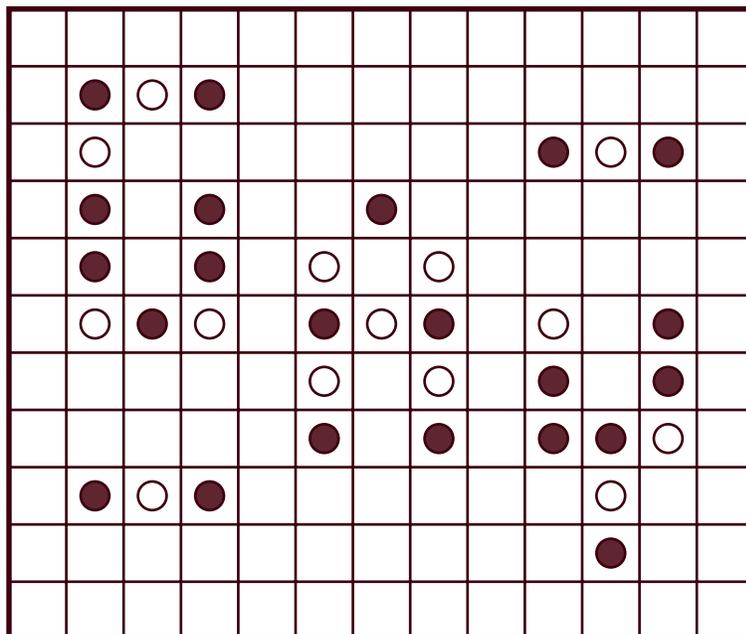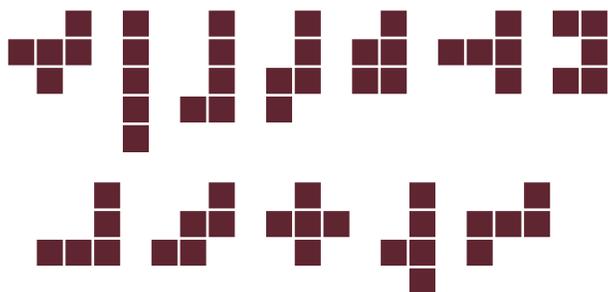
## Special Thanks

Thank you to **proxentauri** who designed our mascot **Darryl Scroggins**, a puzzly lion we've grown to love.

Thank you to ArrowType and contributors that created and refined the typefaces **Recursive Sans and Mono** which we've adopted this year for our new look.

Thank you to the developers behind **Inkscape**, the amazing software we use to design this PDF, and the developers behind **Ingrid, kotwords, Crossword Nexus, Sudoku Maker, Sven's Sudoku Pad, Kudamono Editor, Puzz.Link, Penpa+,** and **Client-Side Answer Checker**, whose tools allow us to share versions of puzzles that can be solved digitally/online.

Thank you to our test-solvers, **Kusane, Mad Hatter, SoftToken, Sophie, 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 showcases from 2023 and 2024, news about future installments of Puzzler Pride, and links to more puzzles from our collaborators.

Until next time!

*Jamie Hargrove* DAVE *and friends*

## Going Both Ways

**By Clover** ▪ https://patreon.com/sudokuclover
**& Gliperal** ▪ https://l.puz.fun/lmdgliperal

Normal sudoku rules apply. Clues outside of the grid swing in more than one direction. Of the three directions pointing out from each clue (one straight, two diagonal) at least two must satisfy **Numbered Rooms**: If the first cell seen in that direction is $n$, then the $n$th cell in that direction must match the value of the clue. The arrows for each clue correspond to the cell directly adjacent to the clue as well as its two neighbors as shown in the example.

**Solve online:** https://l.puz.fun/pp2025bothways