

PUZZLE MINUTE

Five puzzles. One curious mind.

Logic, numbers and visual reasoning
Answers explained, one step at a time.
For teens and adults.

FREE SAMPLE EDITION

English PDF | Personal use
No timer required. Bring a pencil and curiosity.

Make room for a little thinking.

Try each puzzle before opening the answer section. Use the stated rules; do not add hidden assumptions.

These five puzzles are a sample from the full 60-puzzle edition.

Score each puzzle: 2 points for a correct answer with your own explanation; 1 for a correct answer without a clear explanation; 0 if you needed the solution. Alternative valid reasoning earns full credit.

The grids are illustrations, not to scale. For counting questions, use the dimensions in the text.

This is a recreational puzzle collection, not an IQ test. No improvement in intelligence or health is promised.

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Find more challenges: youtube.com/@PuzzleMinuteHQ

The symbol ledger

Circle + Square = 11

Square + Triangle = 13

Circle + Triangle = 16

Find Circle + Square x Triangle.

Your answer / reasoning

Across and down

Each step right changes the number by +3.

Each step down changes it by +2.

Fill the missing cell.

2	5	8
4	7	10
6	9	?

Your answer / reasoning

Four seats

Four people sit in a single row.

Cam is immediately right of Bea.

Dee is immediately right of Cam.

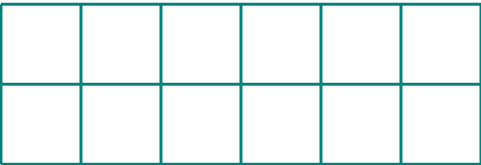
Ari is to the right of Dee.

Write the order from left to right.

Your answer / reasoning

Rectangle detective

This grid has 6 columns and 2 rows.
How many rectangles of any size have sides on the grid lines?
Count squares as rectangles.



Your answer / reasoning

Can you know?

A positive whole number is less than 10.

It is odd and is not divisible by 3.

Is there enough information to identify it? List every possibility.

Your answer / reasoning

The reasoning

01 The symbol ledger

Answer: 43

Add all three equations: twice the sum of the shapes is 40. Their sum is 20. Subtract Square + Triangle to get Circle = 7; subtract Circle + Triangle to get Square = 4; Triangle = 9. Multiply before adding: $7 + 4 \times 9 = 43$.

The reasoning

07 Across and down

Answer: 12

From the cell to its left: $9 + 3 = 12$. From the cell above: $10 + 2 = 12$.
Both stated rules give the same answer.

The reasoning

16 Four seats

Answer: Bea - Cam - Dee - Ari

The first two clues form the three-person block Bea, Cam, Dee. Only one seat remains and Ari must be to its right. This fixes the whole row.

The reasoning

27 Rectangle detective

Answer: 63

A rectangle needs two of the 7 vertical lines and two of the 3 horizontal lines. There are 21 vertical-line pairs and 3 horizontal-line pairs. Multiply to get 63.

The reasoning

60 Can you know?

Answer: No: 1, 5 or 7

The odd positive integers below 10 are 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. Remove 3 and 9 because they are divisible by 3. The remaining 1, 5 and 7 all fit. A good solution recognises when clues are insufficient.