

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

Halloween Town is taking over Christmas Town's holiday, and their mechanical countdown clock is being readjusted for the countdown to Christmas instead! Help the mayor switch on the clock by coding in the remaining 0's and 1's. There cannot be more than two of the same horizontally or vertically adjacent to each other (more than two diagonally adjacent is accepted). Study the clock from top to bottom... what is everyone waiting for?

0	1	1	0	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>1</i>	0	0	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	1	<i>1</i>	0	0	<i>1</i>	0
<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	0	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	0	<i>1</i>	0
<i>1</i>	0	0	1	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	0	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	1	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	0	1
1	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	0	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	0
<i>0</i>	1	0	1	1	<i>0</i>	1	<i>1</i>	0	<i>0</i>	1
<i>1</i>	0	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	0	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	0	0	1	<i>1</i>
<i>0</i>	1	1	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	1	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	0
0	0	<i>1</i>	1	0	<i>1</i>	0	0	<i>1</i>	1	0

Z E R O

SOLUTION

Use the provided numbers as a start to fill in the rest of the grid, ensuring that there are no more than two 0's and two 1's orthogonally (at right angles to, so horizontal or vertical - there can be more than 2 diagonally) next to each other.

Then use the shaded squares to decipher the binary message reading each line separately downwards, reading each column from left to right.

01111= O

01110 = N

00101 = E

01101= M

01001= I

01110 = N

10101 = U

10011 = S

01111= O

01110 = N

00101 = E

PARTIAL ANSWER: ONE MINUS ONE

$$1-1 = 0$$

ANSWER IS ZERO