Handout: Two Squares Removed
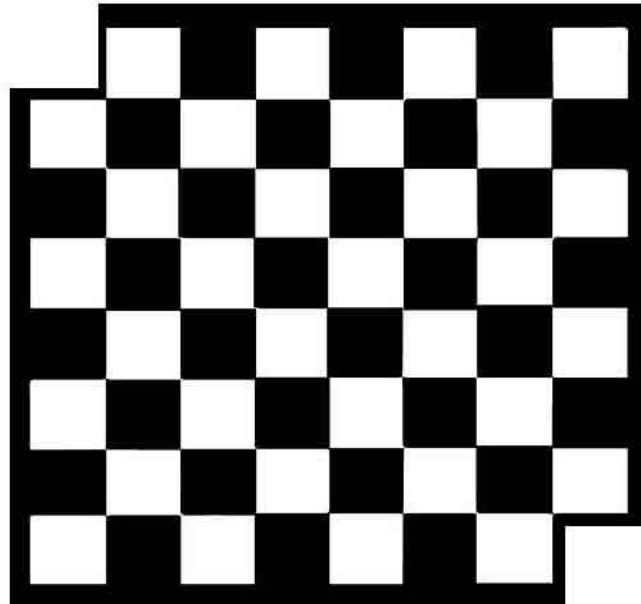
Use dominos to cover a chessboard with diagonally opposite corner removed:

If youre having trouble covering the board, try a little trick that mathematical explorers often do:

Try changing the problem!

Maybe there was something special about the two removed squares.

1. Can you think of a different pair of squares to remove that will still allow the board to be covered?

2. How about two squares that were sitting under any single domino in our original covering of the whole board?

3. What if the two squares you remove aren't touching, for example, could you cover a board with the top right and left corners removed?

4. Can you find **any** other pair of squares that you can't cover the board for?

   [Hint: Maybe the two squares above are somehow very special.]

5. Do you notice anything about the pairs of squares that **do** seem to work, and those that **don't**?