

```
import random
```

```
def calculate_cost(board):  
    n = len(board)  
    attacks = 0  
  
    for i in range(n):  
        for j in range(i + 1, n):  
            if board[i] == board[j]: # Same column  
                attacks += 1  
            if abs(board[i] - board[j]) == abs(i - j): # Same diagonal  
                attacks += 1  
  
    return attacks
```

```
def get_neighbors(board):  
    neighbors = []  
    n = len(board)  
  
    for col in range(n):  
        for row in range(n):  
            if row != board[col]: # Only change the row of the queen  
                new_board = board[:]  
                new_board[col] = row  
                neighbors.append(new_board)  
  
    return neighbors
```

```
def hill_climb(board):  
    current_cost = calculate_cost(board)  
    print("Initial board configuration:")  
    print_board(board, current_cost)  
  
    iteration = 0  
    while True:  
        neighbors = get_neighbors(board)  
        best_neighbor = None  
        best_cost = current_cost  
  
        for neighbor in neighbors:  
            cost = calculate_cost(neighbor)  
            if cost < best_cost: # Looking for a lower cost  
                best_cost = cost  
                best_neighbor = neighbor  
  
        if best_neighbor is None: # No better neighbor found, we're done  
            break
```

```

        board = best_neighbor
        current_cost = best_cost
        iteration += 1
        print(f"Iteration {iteration}:")
        print_board(board, current_cost)

    return board, current_cost

def print_board(board, cost):
    n = len(board)
    # Create an empty board
    display_board = [['.' * n for _ in range(n)]]

    # Place queens on the board
    for col in range(n):
        display_board[board[col]][col] = 'Q'

    # Print the board
    for row in range(n):
        print(' '.join(display_board[row]))
    print(f"Cost: {cost}\n")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    n = int(input("Enter the number of queens (N): ")) # User input for N
    initial_state = list(map(int, input(f"Enter the initial state (row numbers for each column, space-separated): ").split()))

    if len(initial_state) != n or any(r < 0 or r >= n for r in initial_state):
        print("Invalid initial state. Please ensure it has N elements with values from 0 to N-1.")
    else:
        solution, cost = hill_climb(initial_state)
        print(f"Final board configuration with cost {cost}:")
        print_board(solution, cost)

```

Enter the number of queens (N): 4

Enter the initial state (row numbers for each column, space-separated): 0 1 2 3

Initial board configuration:

```
Q . . .  
. Q . .  
. . Q .  
. . . Q
```

Cost: 6

Iteration 1:

```
. . . .  
Q Q . .  
. . Q .  
. . . Q
```

Cost: 4

Iteration 2:

```
. Q . .  
Q . . .  
. . Q .  
. . . Q
```

Cost: 2

Final board configuration with cost 2:

```
. Q . .  
Q . . .  
. . Q .  
. . . Q
```

Cost: 2