The Kitaev Model, Visually

Bond Operators

$$k_{ij} = \sigma_i^\alpha \sigma_j^\alpha$$
$$\alpha \in x, y, z$$

Plaquette Operators

$$\hat{\phi}$$

The Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{\text{bonds}} J^\alpha K_{ij}$$

Bond Types

x
y
z

Loop Operators

$$\hat{W}_p$$