

# Analysis Of r/place 2022

Tyler Pham

## Introduction

Starting on April 1, 2022 r/place started user submissions to place a pixel on a canvas, 2000 x 2000, with a cool-down period of 5 minutes. Of the 4 million possible coordinates, the top 3 are (0, 0), (359, 564), and (349, 564) with 98,807, 69198, and 55230 pixel placements respectively.

## 1 Connection Lost (0,0)

### 1.1 Why (0,0) Was The Most Painted Corner?

The most frequently placed pixel is in the upper left (0,0). The location (0,0) was easy to reach in a 2000 x 2000 grid and a highly recognizable location since it was in a corner. Since the corners were easy to reach and recognizable, users valued these locations more. I tested this by checking the activity in the other corners. Since the canvas expanded twice, the other corners were only available after some expansions. As a result, the upper left corner is at the top since it was accessible since the begin.

Top Right	Bottom Left	Bottom Right
22763	30882	31437

(a) Corner Placements (In Pixels)



(b) Top Left Corner

Figure 1: Table of the number of placement in corners and a 100x100 of the top left corner

### 1.2 Why This Corner?

Since corners are considered valuable spaces, what was created here? In the top left, users created the "Connection lost" sign from RuneScape which also appeared in the top left. This sign was created by r/2007scape community from this iconic message appeared which in the top left of RuneScape. Hence it was created in the same place on the r/place 2022 canvas. With the top left corner as the most available corner and r/2007scape determined to maintain this image for its historic value (a continuation of the same sign from r/place 2017), the conflict focused user activity onto (0, 0).



Figure 2: Clean "Connection Lost" Image  
r/place figtan

## 2 Cross Bones Eyes (349,564) and (359,564)

### 2.1 10 Pixels Apart?

The next two most contested pixels are exactly 10 pixels apart in the x axis. Due to their close proximity, I hypothesized these two pixels correlated with the same art piece. So, I viewed the pixels placed around them to determine their correlation. From figure 3, it is clear that both pixels correlated to the eyes of the skeleton.

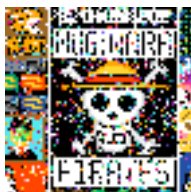


Figure 3: Most recent pixel placements in a 70x70 grid around centering on (349, 564)

### 2.2 Why So Much Focus On The Eyes?

Despite encompassing an area roughly 35 x 65 pixels, the eyes drew the most user placements. From this, I assumed that it may have been a conflict between two groups that wanted different eye colors for the skeleton. To verify this assumption, I looked into to the top colors used at the locations. If a conflict occurred, then the two top colors should be the same for both eyes and should be relatively much larger than the other colors. From figure 4.b, it can be seen that black and light blue were orders of magnitude greater than the next most common color and that it was likely the product of the conflict between two groups.

color	(349, 564)	(359, 564)
black	27804	34726
light blue	19404	26940
red	2120	1656

(a) Top 3 Colors Used

(b) Left Eye Animation

Figure 4: Animation of the left eyes with the top 3 most used colors.

Note: The center of the eyes remain black due to the fierce defense. The blue is more seen around the eyes due to the looser protection.

### 2.3 Why Black And Blue?

The original art piece is One Piece's Crossbones maintained by r/onepiece and the other group is from r/Undertale. The r/Undertale community attempted to convert every skeleton into Sans with blue eyes and they focused on Crossbones. The fierce defense and attempt to convert Crossbones drove user activity specifically at the eyes.