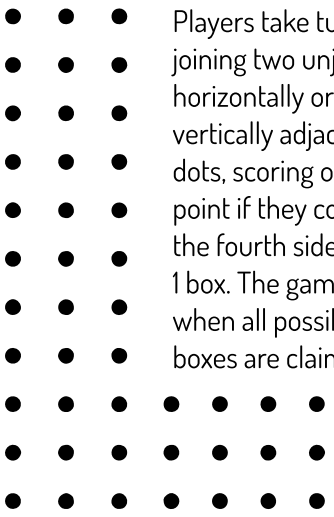
MathsJam Shout

January 2025
Leeds MathsJam

As the birthplace of card and board game manufacturer Waddingtons, Leeds is a city with a proud history of gaming. Here we present some of our favourite grid based games on non-standard square grids...

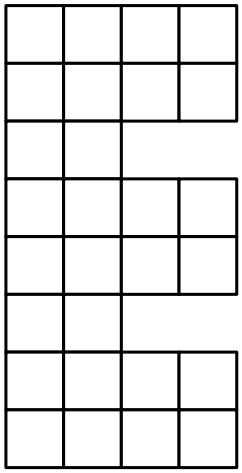
Play Dots & Boxes



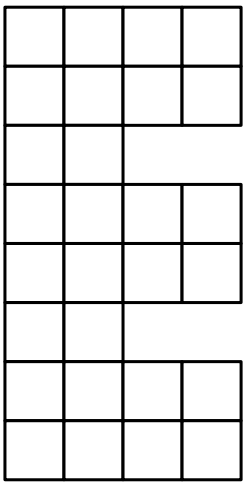
Players take turns joining two unjoined, horizontally or vertically adjacent dots, scoring one point if they complete the fourth side of a 1 × 1 box. The game ends when all possible boxes are claimed.

Printable dot paper:
incompetech.com/graphpaper

Play Snort



A game devised by Simon NORTon. Two players take turns writing their initial into a square on the same grid. The letter cannot share an edge with an opposing letter. The last to place a letter wins.

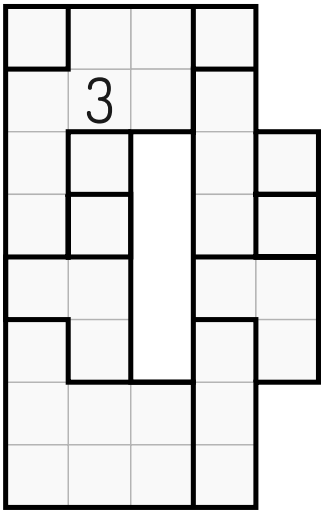


Ponder Knight's Tour

A knight's tour is a sequence of moves in which the "knight" chess piece visits every square exactly once. On which irregular grids is a knight's tour possible?

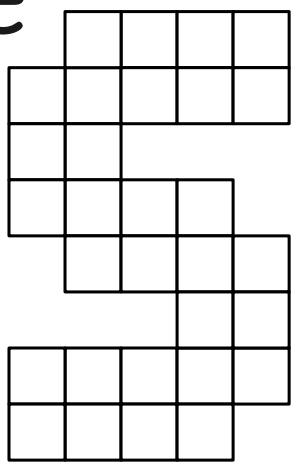
Puzzle D Block

Inspired by Jane Street's "Block Party" puzzle, fill each area outlined in bold with the digits 1 to N, where N is the number of small squares that make up the area. Complete the puzzle so that, given an integer D, if D is written in a square, the nearest value of D (looking only horizontally or vertically) can be found exactly D squares away.



Make Your own game!

Try making your own grid-based game from the remaining S, or using letters from your own city!



MathsJam Shout is a monthly sheet of ideas for activities to do at a MathsJam night. It's created using suggestions from a different MathsJam each month, and if you'd like to submit suggestions for a month in the future, email **katie@mathsjam.com** for details.

MathsJam is a monthly opportunity for like-minded self-confessed maths enthusiasts to get together in a pub and share stuff they like. Puzzles, games, problems, or just anything they think is cool or interesting. Monthly MathsJam nights happen in over 70 locations around the world, on the second-to-last Tuesday of each month. To find your nearest MathsJam, visit the website at **www.mathsjam.com**.