

Example

Using "playfair example" as the key, (assuming I and J are interchangeable)

P	L	A	Y	F	^A
I	R	E	X	^A M	^{PLE A}
B	C	D	^{EF} G	H	^{I=J}
^{LM} K	N	O	^P Q	^R S	
T	U	V	W	^{XY} Z	

Encrypting the message "Hide the gold in the tree stump":

HI DE TH EG OL DI NT HE TR EX ES TU MP

1. The pair HI forms a rectangle, replace it with BM

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

HI

Shape: Rectangle
Rule: Pick Same Rows,
Opposite Corners

BM

2. The pair DE is in a column, replace it with OD

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

DE

Shape: Column

Rule: Pick Items Below E; Letter, Wrap to Top if Next

OD

3. The pair TH forms a rectangle, replace it with ZB

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

TH

Shape: Rectangle

Rule: Pick Same Rows, Opposite Corners

ZB

4. The pair EG forms a rectangle, replace it with XD

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

EG

Shape: Rectangle

Rule: Pick Same Rows, Opposite Corners

XD

5. The pair OL forms a rectangle, replace it with NA

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

OL

Shape: Rectangle
Rule: Pick Same Rows, Opposite Corners

NA

10. The pair EX (X inserted to split EE) is in a row, replace it with XM

P	L	A	Y	F
I	R	E	X	M
B	C	D	G	H
K	N	O	Q	S
T	U	V	W	Z

EX

Shape: Row
Rule: Pick Items to Right of Letter, Wrap to Left if Needed

XM

BM OD ZB XD NA BE KU DM UI XM MO UV IF