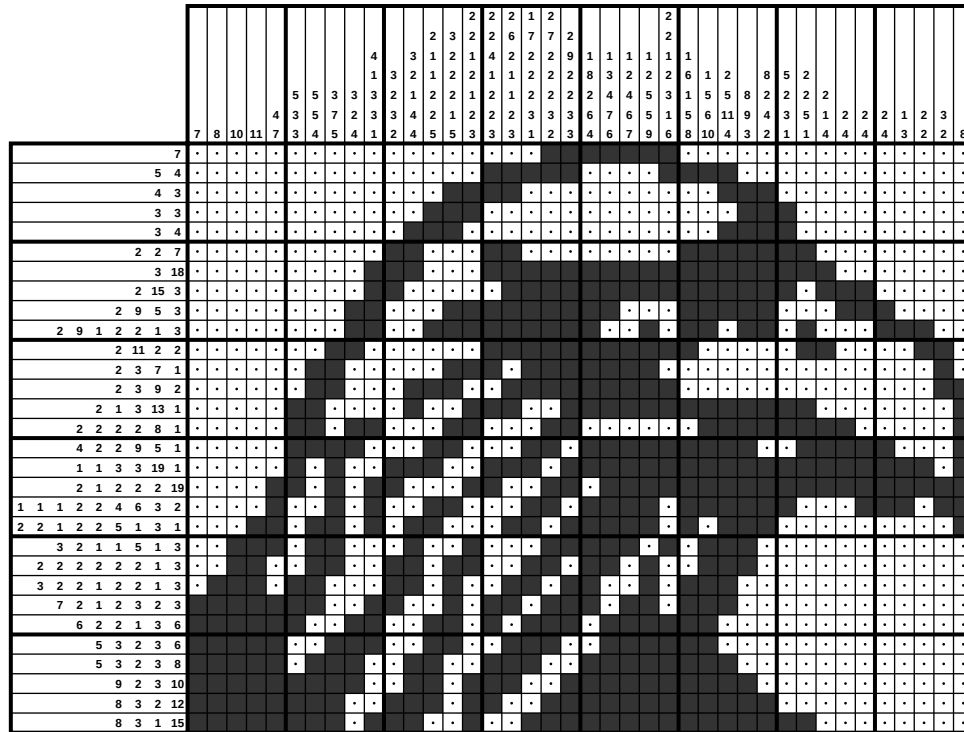


Web Paint-by-Number Sampler

Introductory Puzzles

December 2008



This is a collection of paint-by-number logic puzzles created by users of the webpbn.com website. The solved puzzle above is by Martial Accart. They have been selected from among the thousands of puzzles published there to create a pleasant introduction to paint-by-number logic puzzles. This collection features mostly easy puzzles, with a few harder ones near the end.

Paint-by-number puzzles (which are also called by many other names, including nonograms, griddlers, hanji, and picross), were invented in 1988 by Tetsuya Nishio and Non Ishida. As with sudoku puzzles, you'll need careful logical reasoning to solve these puzzles, but instead of discovering a grid of numbers, you'll end up with a picture.

Webpbn.com is a free website designed by Jan Wolter where people can create, solve, and discuss paint-by-number puzzles. Besides being fun to solve, these puzzles are fun to create: you just draw a picture, and adjust it a bit so that it works as a solvable puzzle. Webpbn.com supplies tools to make this fun and easy. There are thousands of puzzles on the the site, including more challenging puzzles, and multicolor puzzles.

How to Solve Paint-by-Number Puzzles

An example of a paint-by-number puzzle is show below. As you can see, it consists of a blank grid, with some clue numbers given for each column and each row. The goal is to mark each square of the grid black or white. If this is done in accordance with the clue numbers, a picture will appear.

		2			
	2	1		1	2
	1	3	7	3	1
2					
2	1				
1	1				
3					
1	1				
1	1				
2					
1	1				
1	2				
2					

The clue numbers tell what groups of black cells appear in that row or column. For example, the second column has the clue "2 1 3". That means that that column should contain first a group of two adjacent black cells, then one solitary black cell, and then a group of three adjacent black cells. There must be at least one white space between each group of black cells. There may or may not be some white cells at the top and bottom of the column.

Often a good way to start with these puzzles is too look for rows or columns with large numbers in them. In this case, the center column has a "7", so we know that in that column of 10 cells, there will be 7 adjacent black cells. That means there have to be 3 white cells, but the clue doesn't tell us where they are. They could be all at the top, all at the bottom, or some at the top and some at the bottom. However, if you think about it, you'll see that wherever they are the center four cells of that column must be black. If any of those were white, there wouldn't be seven adjacent cells left in the column, so the clue would be violated. Thus, we can start by filling in the four center cells as black:

		2			
	2	1		1	2
	1	3	7	3	1
2					
2	1				
1	1				
3					
1	1				
1	1				
2					
1	1				
1	2				
2					

Now we can look at some of the rows that cross the cells we just filled in. Rows 5 and 6 have the clue "1 1". Well, one of the black cells is already filled in, and we know that cells on either side of it must be white, since groups of black cells must always be separate by at least one white cell. We mark them as white by putting a dot in the cell. Row 7 has the clue "2", so we know the cells on either end of that row must be white.

		2			
	2	1		1	2
	1	3	7	3	1
2					
2	1				
1	1				
3					
1	1				
1	1				
2					
1	1				
1	2				
2					

If you keep going like this, you will eventually be able to fill in all the cells and reveal the picture. Column 2, with the "2 1 3" clue, might be a good place to look next. You'll be able to figure out where the 2 and the 1 have to be, and fill in two of the cells for the 3.

#4008: A Short-Term Solution to Winter

© 2008 by Tonia Bergh

[illegible]

#4007: Pink

© 2008 by Jane Doe

[illegible]

#4010: She Seems Happy

© 2008 by Agneta

[illegible]

#4006: Can I Interest You In...

© 2008 by Jota

[illegible]

#3645: Forest Baby

© 2008 by Marie-Louise Ambrey

[illegible]

#4048: Cosa Nostra

© 2008 by Marie-Louise Ambrey

[illegible]

#32: At Sea

© 2004 by Jan Wolter

[illegible]

#136: Island Light

© 2004 by Jan Wolter

[illegible]

#24: Egg Beater

© 2004 by Jan Wolter

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

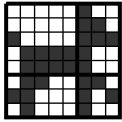
[illegible]

Web Paint-by-Number Sampler

Solutions to Introductory Puzzles

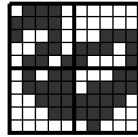
December 2008

#2: A President's Buddy



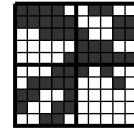
A dog

#791: Kind of Bird



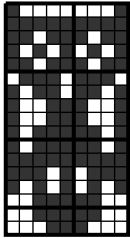
A flamingo

#4039: Special Powers



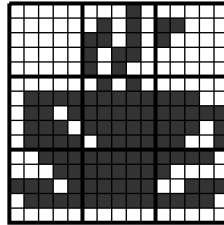
Supergirl
or maybe tinkerbelle

#438: Who?



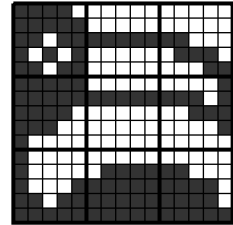
An owl

#4008: A Short-Term Solution to Winter



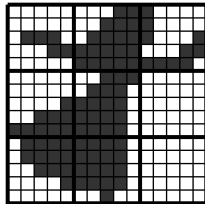
A steaming cup of coffee

#4007: Pink



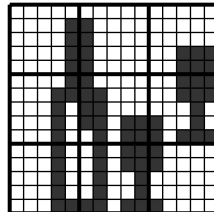
Closeup of a flamingo

#4010: She Seems Happy



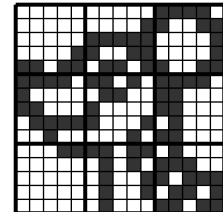
A dancing girl

#4006: Can I Interest You In...



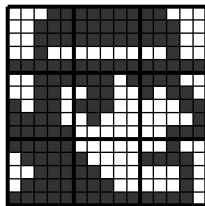
...A drink

#3645: Forest Baby



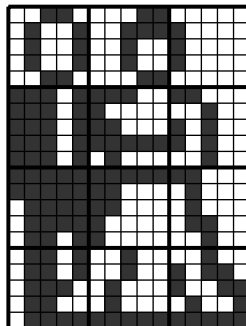
A fawn

#4048: Cosa Nostra



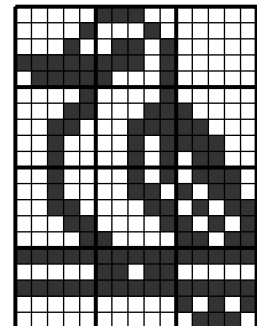
A Sicilian Gangster.

#531: Hitched



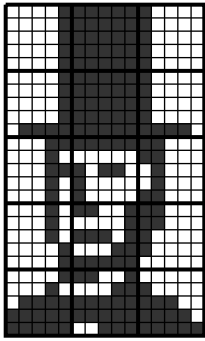
Bride and Groom.

#1752: Happy Bird



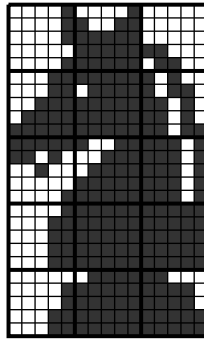
A Kookaburra.

#44: Honestly



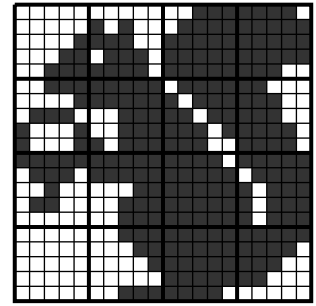
Abraham Lincoln

#56: No Pawn



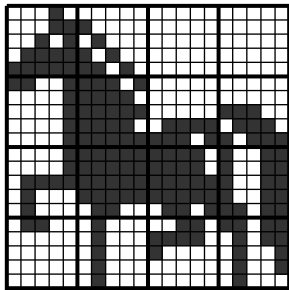
A Chess knight.

#978: Nutty little critter.



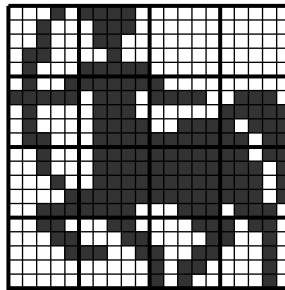
A squirrel eating an acorn.

#3938: Of Course



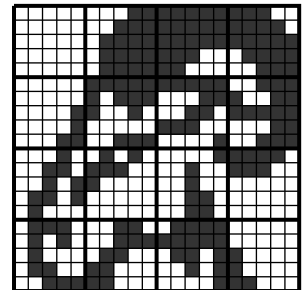
it's a horse! :)

#3840: Zodiac #9



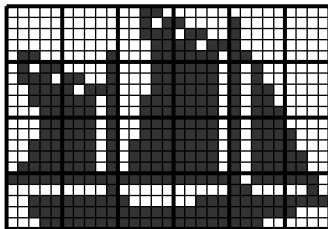
Sagittarius, The Archer

#3847: Zodiac #10



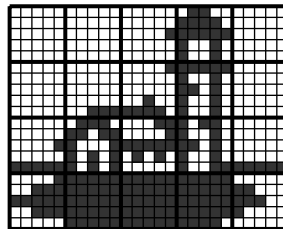
Aries, The Ram

#32: At Sea



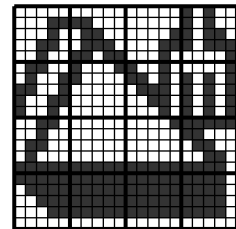
A sailing ship

#136: Island Light



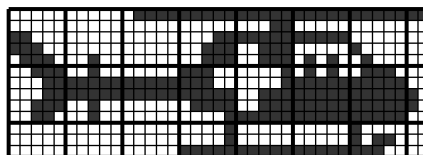
A Lighthouse on an Island

#4088: Where is the whipped cream?



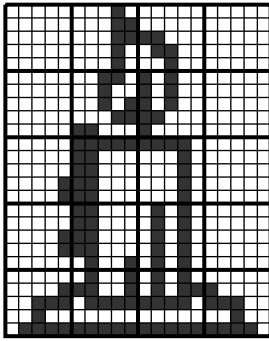
A piece of Pumpkin Pie

#24: Egg Beater



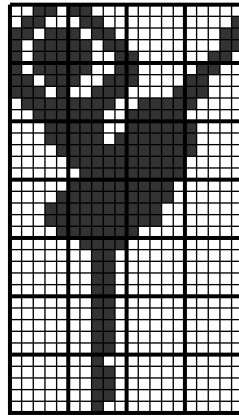
Helicopter

#753: Cosy casting



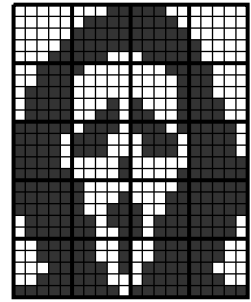
Candle

#979: Classical dancer



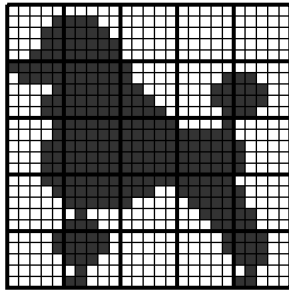
Ballerina.

#4014: Fear!



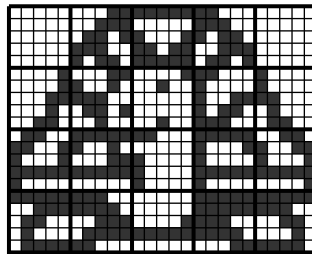
Scary movie

#752: Straight from the Salon



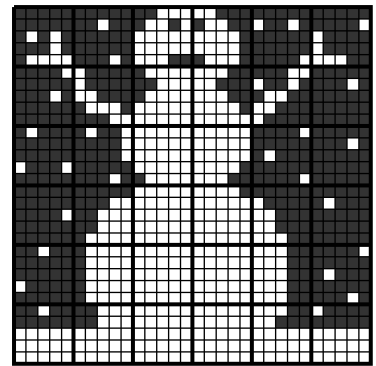
Poodle dog

#1033: And the winner is....



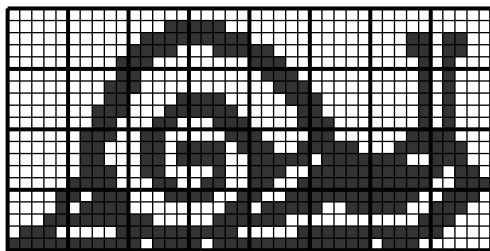
...The Tortoise

#2207: Snow Day



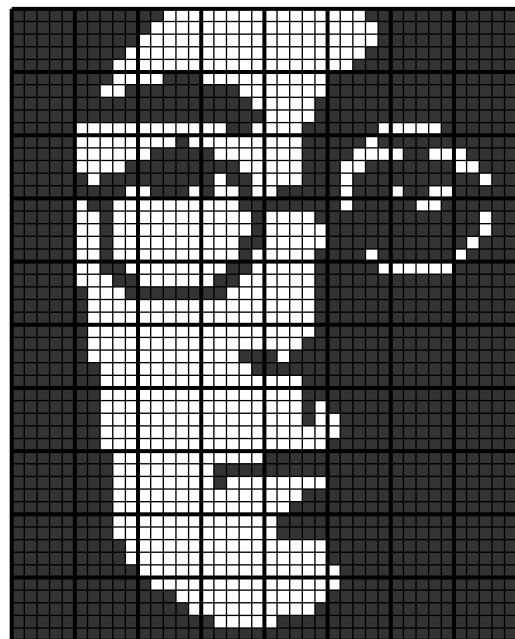
A snowman

#611: Tasty when prepared.



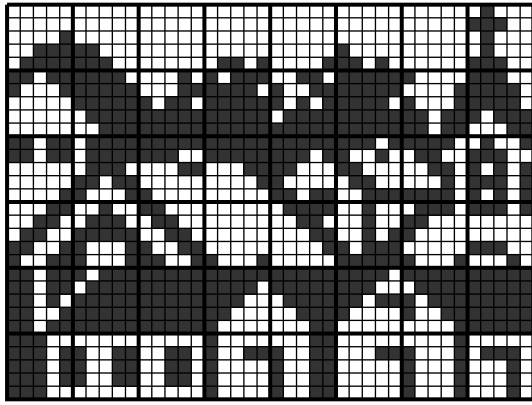
Snail

#3172: "Give Peace a Chance"



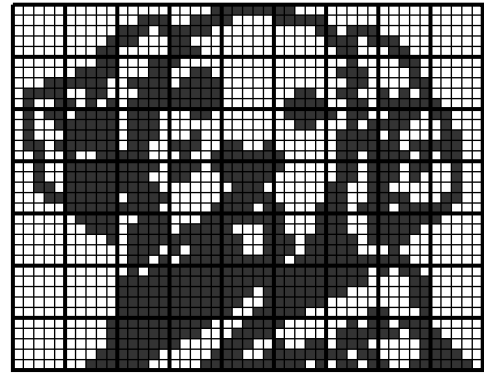
John Lennon

#445: Town



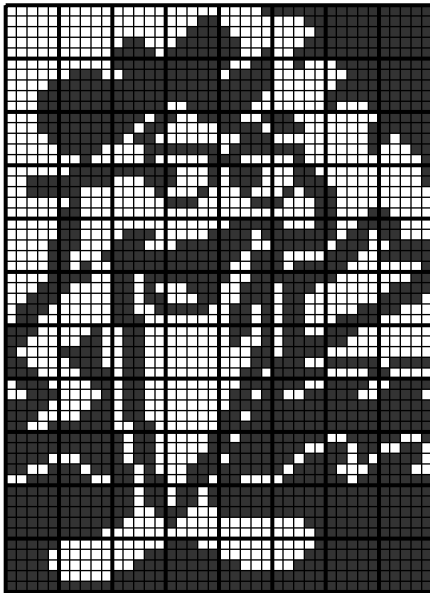
A village

#688: Cuddly-looking



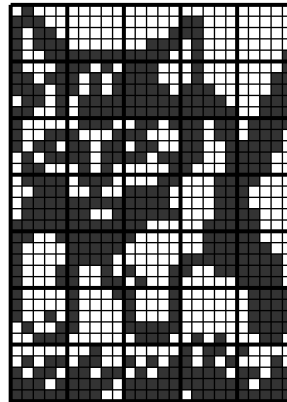
A labrador puppy

#3663: My full name is Charles Theodore Una



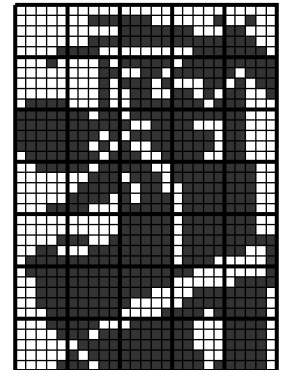
Charlie Tuna, mascot for StarKist Tuna

#2881: cute and jumpy



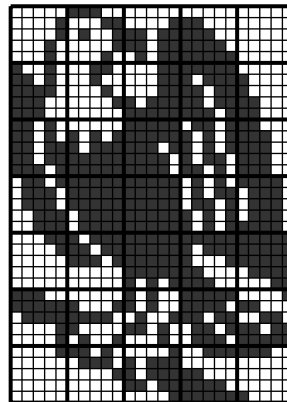
a playing baby cat

#1500: You know F. F.



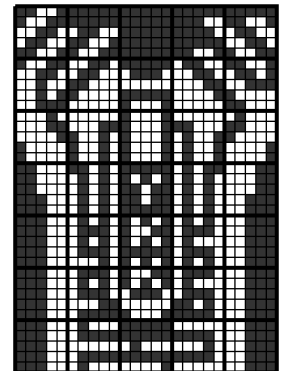
Fred Flintstones

#765: predatory



an eagle

#225: Zip



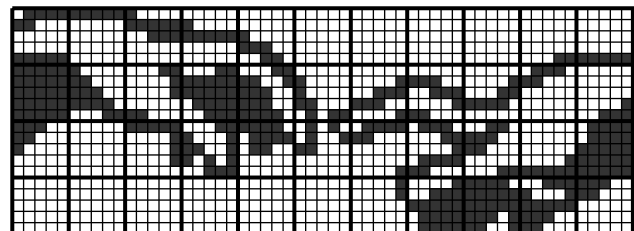
A zipper

#1461: dreaming



A sleeping child

#2813: Touch



Hands of Adam & God from Sistine Chapel