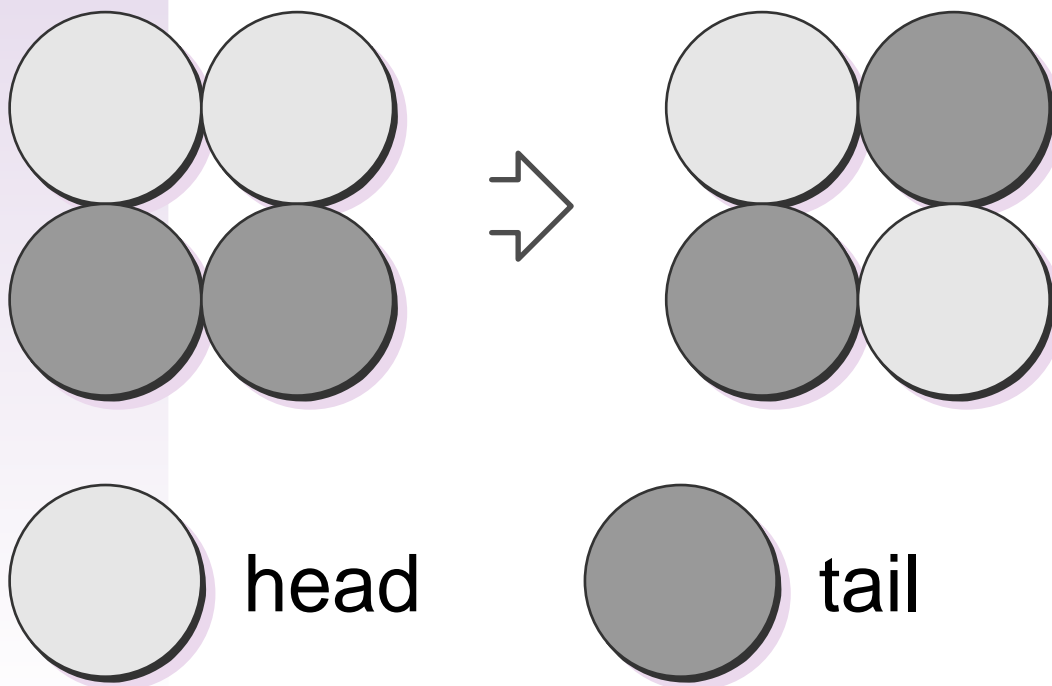


Treasure of Classic
and Modern Puzzles

Coin Puzzles



Coin Squad

by Serhiy Grabarchuk, Jr.

Take four coins of the same size and make a square as shown in the left square in the illustration; two coins - heads up in the top row, and the other two - tails up in the bottom row.

The object is to make another square with two coins heads up on one diagonal and with two coins tails up on the other - as shown in the right square in the illustration. This should be performed in the shortest possible number of moves.

A move consists of sliding a pair of the two adjoining coins to a new place. You have to slide the coins only orthogonally; it means that you are not allowed to rotate the pair of coins while you move it. The final square not necessarily needs to be formed exactly at the same spot as the start square was.

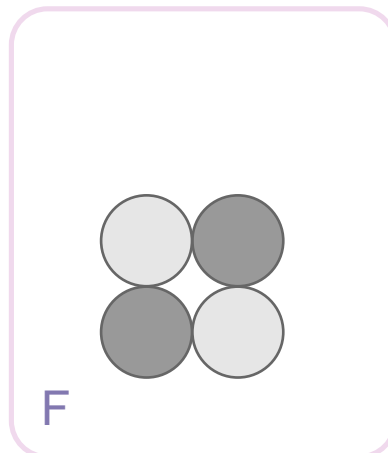
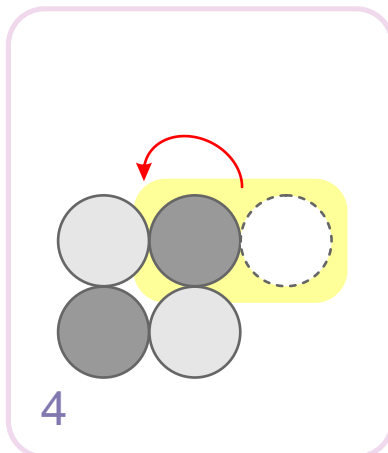
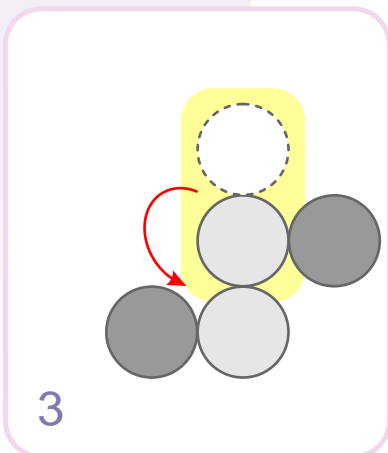
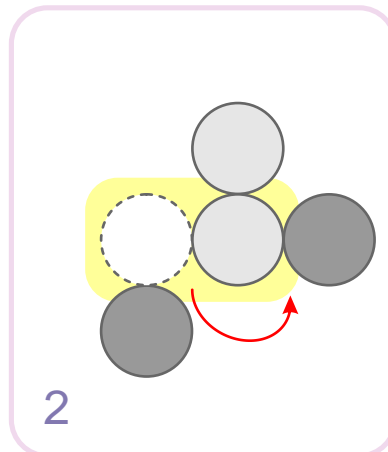
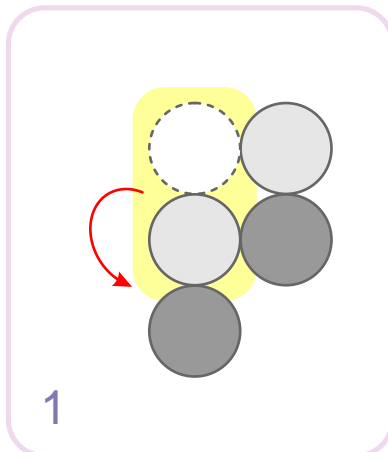
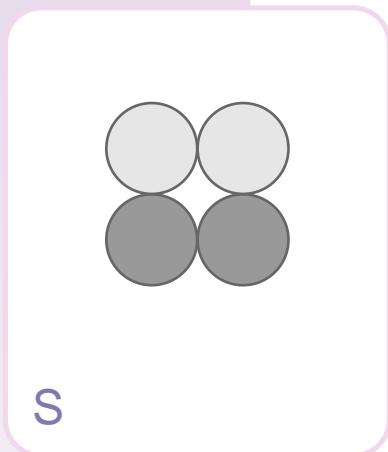
November 9, 2004

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Coin Squad (solution)

This puzzle can be solved in four moves as shown.