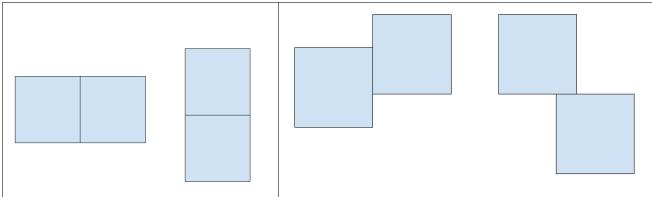
Dominoes and Tetrominoes

Suppose we put together squares of the same size. Squares are allowed to touch each other along an entire edge but can't touch on just a partial edge.



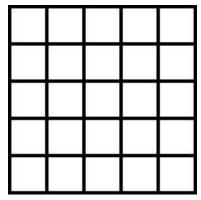
These are allowed, but they would both be considered the same shape.

These are NOT allowed.

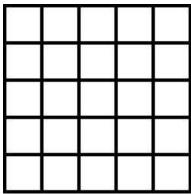
- 1. Consider 3 squares of the same size. Put them together so that each square is touching at least one other square along an entire edge. How many different shapes can you make?
- 2. Consider 4 squares of the same size. We want to create shapes with them in the same way. How many different shapes can you make?
- 3. We say that shapes tile a board if they completely cover the board with no overlap and no hanging off the edge. Can you tile a 3×3 board with dominoes? A 4×4 board? In how many ways?

1 Tiling with dominoes

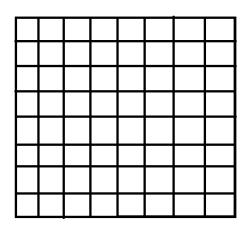
1. Is it possible to tile a 5×5 square board with dominoes?



2. Is it possible to tile with dominoes a 5×5 board from which one square has been removed? Does it matter which has been removed?



3. Is it possible to tile with dominoes an 8×8 square board from which two opposite corners have been removed?



2 Tiling with tetrominoes

For each of these cases, show a way to cover the board or explain why it cannot be done.

1. Can you tile a 20×1 board with all the tetrominoes, using each one once?

2. A 10x2?

3. A 4x5?

3 Extensions for kids who finish early or have already seen this

1. What are all the pentominoes?

2. Is it possible to tile an 8 by 8 chessboard that has one square removed by L-shaped triominoes? Does it matter which square is removed?

3. Is it possible to tile an 8×8 chess board, with one square removed, with straight triominoes? Does it matter which square is removed?

