

Adalogical Ænigmas

No. 16

Gentle patron,

I have spent some *considerable* effort conceiving methods for staving off dark thoughts during these dismal days of winter. One such technique is to formulate plans for how I might transform my garden when Spring once again *deigns* to return.

In this worthy cause, I should like to enlist your assistance, rendered in the form of a solution to my latest ænigma.

The grid below represents my garden plot. I would like to *completely* remake the pathways among my plants, using a set of square paving stones I've acquired.

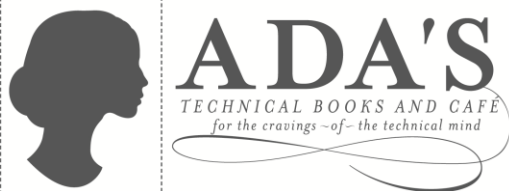
I have already placed some of the stones, as denoted by the *black* squares in the grid; your task is to place the remainder, such that it is possible to walk, horizontally and/or vertically, from *any* stone to any *other* in the garden, stepping *only* on stones. The *circles* in the grid represent spaces where no stone may be placed; the initial circles locate my beloved shade trees, but you will, no doubt, introduce many more such spaces.

To prevent the creation of any long and *tedious* straight paths, I must constrain your placements a bit: within any row or column, there may be no more than *three* adjacent stones.

Once you've completed this task, you can move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma by *walking* in the garden. Start at the stone labeled "S," facing into the garden, and proceed by the *shortest* path to the stone labeled "E," turning *only* when necessary. As you walk, whenever you find your path blocked by a white square, *before* turning, note its letter. (Ignore letters that have already been noted earlier in your walk.) Reading those letters in order will reveal a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

Ada



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Example

	B	O		U	R	
Ⓢ	T	R			O	E
P	H	E		D	E	S
S	M	O	N		R	
T	Ⓢ		C	A	L	
A	A	C	O	U	D	
E	Y	O	N	N	L	Y

↓

		Ⓢ		U	R	
Ⓢ		R			O	E
P		E		D	E	S
S	M	O	N		R	
T	Ⓢ		C	A	L	
A	A	C	O	U	D	
E	Y	O	N	N	L	Y

→

		O				R
S		R			O	E
P				D	E	
S	M		N			
S	I			A		L
E					N	L
						Y

Answer:
MEANDER

Need assistance with Ada's ænigma? Hints and other help are available at <www.pavelspuzzles.com/adas/16>

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

Fill in your answer and give to a cashier for your prize.

This month's prize: **one free non-alcoholic drink!**

(Limit one per solver. Offer available through 2/28/2015.)