## Adalogical Ænigmas

Gentle solver,

As you may be aware, I am at present engaged in an effort to raise funds to publish a book collecting some of these ænigmas. Consequently, I find my mind quite consumed, even moreso than usual, with numbers. Truly, they are entirely ubiquitous in my consciousness, to the extent that even my dreams have become numerical!

It is therefore not to be wondered at, that this obsession of mine has leaked, as it were, into the present ænigma.

In the grid below, I pray you will blacken some squares, never blackening those containing numbers, leaving all remaining unblackened squares horizontally or vertically connected to one another. Some *shaded* squares will need to be blackened.

Fill each unblackened square with a digit, between 1 and 4, being the precise count of horizontally or vertically adjacent unblackened squares. Some such digits are already provided. If you have blackened the correct squares, no two adjacent squares will contain the same digit.

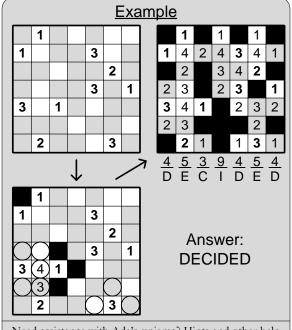
Once you have completed your grid, you may move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma. Simply sum up the digits in the shaded squares in each column, and translate the result into a letter (with 1 = A, 2 = B, and so on). Reading the resulting letters, left to right, will reveal a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

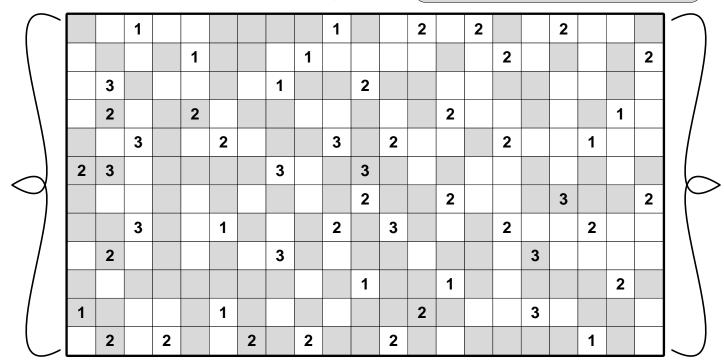


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Need assistance with Ada's ænigma? Hints and other help are available at www.pavelspuzzles.com/aenigmas/37



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Send your answer to aenigma@pavelspuzzles.com to enter the drawing for a free physical puzzle and to earn a 10% discount at

Pavel's Puzzles! Full details are at www.pavelspuzzles.com/aenigmas/37.