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From pliers to cryptograms, exercise your mind with clever puzzles and brainteasers. What new puzzles would you like to try? Ad Ads Follow the latest daily buzz with the BuzzFeed Daily newsletter! Twitter/Martythebear34 A viral math puzzle offers five clues to unlocking three-digit combinations. Like puzzles, this problem uses context hints and tricks to hide fun solutions. The overall logic is similar to what you use if you solve sudoku puzzles. This week, the math puzzle below has spread on social media. Although we can't trace it back to the original source, anyone who releases it to the world knows exactly what they're doing, because the puzzle is so sneaky and has tripped up a lot of people on Facebook and Twitter. This content is imported from Twitter. You may be able to find the same content in other formats, or you may be able to find more information, on their website. But unlocking is not impossible—it only takes some logic. So let's solve the problem together. The first clue reads, 682: One digit is correct and in place. We can't do anything with this clue yet. The second clue reads, 614: One digit is correct but in the wrong place. It's getting more interesting, because now we can rule out one number. 6 is in the same place in both directions, and it can't be in place in one clue and in the wrong place somewhere else. The third clue reads, 206: Two digits are correct, but both are in the wrong place. We've ruled out 6, so our final number should have been 2 and 0, but in a different place! The fourth clue reads, 738: All digits are wrong. Oh. Well, that means we can remove values 7, 3, and 8 across the board. Finally, the last clue reads, 380: One digit is correct but in the wrong place. Well, we've lost 3 and 8. 0 is right, but third place is the wrong place. On the third clue, we learned that second place is also the wrong place for 0. Our solution should start with 0! Now we have everything we need to find the whole answer. From the first hint, we now see 2 is the correct digit that is also in the right place. Our answer starts with 0 and ends with 2. Our middle digit can be 1 or 4, right? But really, there's only one answer that can. In our last answer, the only place open was the middle place. In hint 2, we found out that one digit is correct but in the wrong place, so we can't copy 1 from the middle place in clue 2 to the middle place in our final answer. Must be 4. That means the final key combination is 042—that's right, the answer to the end of life, the universe, and everything, as Douglas Adams imagined. This content is created and managed by third parties, and imported into this page to help users provide their email You may be able to find more information about this and similar content in piano.io gear-obsessed editors select each product we review. We may earn a commission if you purchase from a link. How do we test the teeth. Can you find all the tents? Clint Emerson This content is created and managed by third parties, and imported into this page to help users provide their email addresses. You may be able to find more information about this and similar content in piano.io Ads – Continue Reading Under Nora Carol Photography/Getty Images Here at Popular Mechanics, we loved puzzles, brain teasers, and logic puzzles so we decided to put together our favorite collection of head scratchers. This little game gets harder as you click, so try and make it to the end if you think you can handle it. PLUS: Outstanding Math Inside the Rubik's Cube Puzzle 1 of 15 One Light and Three Switches There's a light bulb in the closet. The door is closed, and you can't see if the lights are on or off through the door. However, you know the lights are off to begin with. Outside the closet, there are three light switches. One of the switches controls the light bulb in the cupboard. You can flip the switch as real as you want, but once you open the door, you can no longer touch the switch. How do you know without a doubt which switch controls light? Turn those switches over and check the solution here. 2 out of 15 Adam & Eve Play Rock-Paper-Scissors Adam and Eve play rock paper scissors 10 times. You know that: Adam used stones three times, scissors six times, and paper once. Eve used stones twice, scissors four times, and paper four times. There are no ties in all 10 games. The order of the game is unknown. Who wins? With how much? Hint! can be difficult to figure out the solution just by looking at the list of information—grab the pad and pen. Throw in your hands, don't eat the apple, and check the solution here. 3 of 15 Farmer's Dilemma A farmer lives on a small piece of land next to the river. One day, he traveled across the river in a small boat and bought a fox, chicken, and a bag of corn from a feed and supply store. When the farmer returned to his boat to cross the river again and go home, he realized he had a dilemma. The farmer can only pick up one item in his small boat at a time, otherwise he risks catching. He cannot leave the fox alone with chickens, because the fox will eat chickens. He can not leave chickens alone with corn, because chickens by eating corn. How did farmers manage to get all three items across the river? InstructionsFor those who need a little help: Breeders can't chickens alone with anything—it will eat corn or be eaten by foxes. So, how do ranchers get all three items across the river without ever leaving a chicken alone with a fox or a bag of corn? You can view the the answer to the puzzle is here, but wouldn't you rather solve it first? 4 out of 15 Apples and Oranges you work in a factory that boxes apples and oranges to be shipped around the world. One day, the labeling machine went haywire and mis-labeled the fruit crate. Your co-workers decided to play the game. He pulls three crates of fruit and tells you that one of them has an apple in it, one has an orange in it, and the last has an apple and an orange in it. You can see that one of the crates is labeled A for apples, the other is labeled O for oranges, and the third is labeled A+O for apples and oranges. Your coworkers remind you that all three chests are incorrectly labeled. You can choose one crate, and your coworkers will pull the fruit out of it and show what it is. You can do this only once. How can you determine —without a doubt—which crates have apples, which have oranges, and which have both? HintYou don't need a clue, but here's: If you have your co-worker pull the fruit from the crate that says O on it, and the fruit he pulls is an apple, then you don't know if the crate is just an apple or if it has apples and oranges. But what would you know if he pulled an apple out of a crate labeled A+O? Tap this one around at of' noggin for a while, and once you know it, feel free to check out the solution here. 5 of 15 The 'Die Hard' Jug Problem NYPD officer John McClane and store owner Zeus Carver are in considerable trouble. A psychopath who calls himself Simon detonated bombs all over New York City. McClane and Zeus find another bomb in Central Park, and to disarm they need to solve Simon's puzzle. The bomb was in a suitcase with the right electronic scale. McClane and Zeus have a 5-gallon jug and a 3-gallon jug. They stand next to fountains where they can take as much water as they want. They have 5 minutes to place one of the jugs on a scale with exactly 4 gallons of water in it, or the bomb will explode. How do you get exactly 4 gallons of water into one of the jugs? HintJust starts filling one of the jugs along the way and pours it into the other, and sees where that makes you. Once you have 4 gallons in one of the jugs, you can check the answer here. 6 of 15 Crossed the Sketchy Rope Bridge in the Middle of the Night Four people attempted to cross a vague rope bridge in the middle of the night. Only two can cross at a time. They only have one flashlight, and one person has to take it back across the bridge to the initial side before anyone else can cross. One person takes 1 minute to others take 2 minutes to cross, others take 5 minutes to cross, and the last person takes 10 minutes to cross. Hypothetically, if people 2 minutes and people 5 minutes cross together, that will take a total of 5 minutes (but one needs to bring the flashlight back, resulting in a resulting 7 minutes spent if people return with light). Everyone needs to cross in 17 minutes or less, otherwise they will be torn apart and consumed by zombies. Hint!m sure you want a clue? Here it is: The first assumption many people make when trying to solve this puzzle is that people 1 minute shuttle everyone, back with a flashlight at all times. This is not true. There's a faster way. Once you find your own answer, you can see the solution to the puzzle here—we operate on an honor system. Seven out of 15 thieves and scale

you're a thief, and you made it into an old bank vault filled with 100 sacks of coins. One of the sacks contained gold coins, while the other 99 were filled with fake gold coins. You can't distinguish between gold and fake coins by handling coins, looking at them, biting them, or testing them. Counterfeit coins weigh 1 ounce each, while the original gold coins weigh 1.01 ounces. There is a large scale with enough space for all the sacks in the vault, but as soon as you weigh something it will trigger an alarm, so you can use the scale only once before you have to escape from the vault. How can you figure out which coin sack contains real gold by only weighing something on a scale once? Note: Scale tells you the exact weight of whatever you put in it, it's not a balance scale. InstructionsYou may want to consider sack labeling. And remember, you can take coins from the sack and weigh the combinations. Once you've created your strategy, you'll have to make calculations, and these equations will help you. Once you take a crack to solve the puzzle, you can see the answer here. 8 of 15 A Life-or-Death Questions About Hats In a remote prison somewhere in South America, three inmates are serving life sentences. The guards decided to play games with the inmates to spend time. They had a piece of hat, and they showed the prisoners there were five hats in the trunk —three black hats and two white hats. The guards made the prisoners sit in chairs and march them three in a row, so that prisoners behind the line could see both in front of him, prisoners in the middle could see one person in front of him, and the prisoner in front could see nothing but the prison walls. The guards blindfolded the prisoners, and placed hats on each of their heads. They then remove the blindfold and tell the inmates that they can be free if they correctly mention the color of the hat they have—but if they guess wrong, they will be shot dead. Needless to say, the prisoners could not see what color hats they had on themselves. The guards first ask the prisoners behind the line, what color hat do you have? He said he didn't know. They asked the man in the middle, and he didn't know either. Know. the guards asked the prisoner in front of the line what color hat he had, he answered correctly, and was free. What color hat does he have, and how does he know? HintPretend that you are a prisoner behind the line. What do you see? Then pretend you're a prisoner in the middle of the line. When you have your answer, you can see the solution here. 9 of 15 The Truel After a long disagreement, Mr. Black, Mr. Gray and Mr. White agreed to enter into a three-way duel, or truel. They will stand in a triangular formation, each positioned in a knot, each equidistant of two shooters.Mr. Black is the worst shot, he only hits 1/3 of the time, so he can shoot first. Mr. Gray was second worst, hitting 2/3 of the time, so he got to shoot second. Mr. White was an ace, and he hit 100 percent of the time, so he had to wait and shoot third. The three men will take turns shooting in this order until only one person standing.Mr. Black's first. What does he have to do to secure his best chance of survival? HintIf you're Mr. Gray, who do you want to get out first? If you were Mr. White, who would you like to take first? Take a shot, then see the solution here. 10 of 15 A Boat, a Brick, and Tricky Question you sit on a rowing boat on a small lake. You have bricks on your boat. You throw a brick out of your boat into the lake, where it quickly sinks down. Does the water level rise slightly, drop slightly, or stay the same? HintThink about the density of bricks. Throw the bricks into the sea, and then check the solution here. 11 of your 15 Burning Rope Problems have two ropes coated in oil to help them burn. Each rope will take exactly 1 hour to burn all the way through. However, the ropes do not burn at a constant rate—there are spots where they burn a little faster and spots where they burn a little slower, but it always takes 1 hour to get the job done. With lighter to turn on the rope, how can you measure exactly 45 minutes? HintYou can turn on multiple ends and/or multiple straps at the same time. Think about a clever way to turn this rope on fire for a second, then look at the solution here. 12 out of 15 Tails or Tails? You sit at a spacious table with hundreds of thousands of quarters in front of you, but you don't know exactly how many. You have a blindfold, so you can't see the quarters, but you know that exactly 20 quarters are tail-side-ups, and the rest are head-ups. You can move a quarter and flip it as many times as you want—but remember, you can't what you do. Although you can feel the quarter, you can't determine which side the head is on and which side the tail is with just a touch. How do you separate a quarter into two stacks that have the same number of tail-sided-up quarters in it? Hint The total number of quarters in each stack is irrelevant. Once you have your stack you can check out the solution here. 13 of Einstein's 15 puzzles There are five houses sitting opposite on the neighborhood street, as illustrated in the picture above. Each homeowner has a different nationality. Each house has different colored walls. Each homeowner drinks their own special drink, smokes their own brand of cigar, and nurtures a particular type of pet. None of these homes share any of these variables - nationality, wall colors, drinks, cigars and pets - all unique. What do you know--the English live in a house with red walls. Swedes keep dogs. Dane drinks tea. A house with green walls just to the left of the house with white walls. Homeowners with green walls drink coffee. The man who smokes Pall Mall raises birds. Homeowners with yellow walls suck Dunhills.The man in the house is drinking milk. The Norwegian lived in the first house. Blend smokers have neighbors who keep cats. The guy who smokes Blue Masters drinks beer. The man who keeps horses lives next to a Dunhill smoker. The Germans smoke the Prince.The Norwegians live next door to the house with blue walls. Blend smokers have neighbors who drink water. The question is--One of the homeowners keeps the fish, who is it? InstructionsIf you want a little help getting started, click here. Once you know who is keeping the fish, you can confirm your answer here. 14 of the 15 Flying Around the World you have designed a very advanced aircraft, a true wonder of aeronautics, the X-100. You want to fly all the way around the world in it without stopping. The only problem is that the plane can carry enough fuel to make it halfway around Earth.So you build a total of three planes, one for you to fly and two more for your assistants John and Jane. You equip these planes with some pretty amazing and futuristic features to help you along the way. For one, they can instantly transfer a certain amount of fuel to each other. One aircraft can even pass fuel to the other two simultaneously. Second, planes can turn on a dime, literally reversing direction instantly, flying at exactly the same speed as soon as they face off. Now to the numbers: Each plane can carry 180 gallons of fuel. You plan to fly all the way around the world along the equator, where your plane can fly at a blistering speed of 1° longitude per minute, which means it will take 360 minutes to make the entire journey 360 degrees. (This is a speed of about Mach 5.4, for those curious.) All three aircraft burned 1 gallon of fuel per 1° longitude One more thing: There's only one airport along the equator route that you plan to take. You have to start at this airport and finish there. John and Jane can return to the airport to refuel, filling their tanks up to 180 gallons full. The only airport is the only place anyone can land. As you can see, with 180 gallons fuel, one of the planes by itself will only make it 180° worldwide, half of the required 360°. Luckily, the plane has good instant refueling and face-to-face features, and you have John and Jane to help you travel. How do you fly all the way around the world without stopping or turning around, and without one of the three pilots running out of fuel and crashing? HintAs mention, you'll probably want pencil and paper for this. Draw a circle representing the world and mark it 90°, 180°, 270° and 360°. Imagine you see the south pole and equator walking along the circumference of the circle. This might help create a table to track all three levels of aircraft fuel as well. Where does refueling need to happen for you to make it all the way in one continuous journey? Note: If the plane hits 0 gallons of fuel, and at that point another plane is there to refuel it, the plane does not crash. The fuel is transferred immediately. Before you check the solution, you should have a piece of paper in front of you with circles and scribbles and words of cuss and madness. Then check the answer here. 15 of the 15 Licking Frogs you lost in the Brazilian jungle. After days of wandering around, your food supply decreases, and you make the fatal mistake of eating poisonous mushrooms. You can feel the poison flowing through your vein, confident that you will collapse at any time. But there is hope. The antidote to toxins is secreted by certain species of frogs found in this rainforest, and you can save yourself by licking one of these frogs. But, only female frogs take out the antidote you need. Male and female frogs look identical, and they occur in equal numbers throughout the population. The only distinguishing feature is that the male frog has a unique croak. When your vision starts blurring, you look up and see one of these frogs sitting on the stump in front of you. You will make a crazy dash to the frog, praying that it is female, when you hear the typical crocodile male frog behind you. You turn around and see that there are two frogs in the grass in clearing, just about as far from you as the one on the stump. You don't know which of the two frogs in the clearing is crouched down. You only have time to reach one frog on the stump, or two frogs in clearing (one of them crouching) before you pass out. Should you run to the stumps and lick one frog, or into clearing and licking both? HintAgain, this is similar to monty hall's famous opposite problem. There's a lot to talk about here, and even then, of course some will come to deny as true. When you're ready, you can see it here. Here. Here.

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