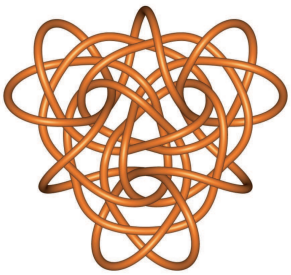
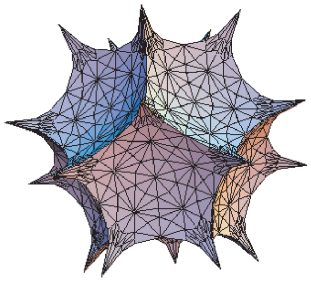
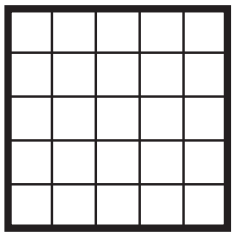


Willamette Math Problem of the Week



January 21 2008
One Square Two Square

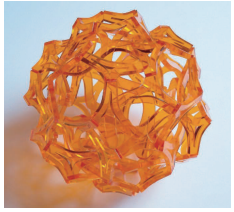


Cut the 5×5 square into four pieces, cutting only along the inside lines shown, and re-assemble them into two smaller squares.

Submit all solutions before the appearance of the next problem to Josh Laison in person, by e-mail (jlaison@willamette.edu), or by smoke signals. The first correct solution gets a prize; all correct solutions get fame and glory. Preference for the prize goes to problem-solvers who haven't won one yet.

I'm also still accepting solutions to ***The Precarious Picture*** from last week.

Solution to *Checkering into a Corner*:
Here is a winning strategy for Beatrice. She imagines the chessboard tiled with dominoes, each domino covering two adjacent squares. Abner's first move is on one of the two squares of a domino, and Beatrice plays on the other one. On every subsequent move, Abner must play into a new domino, and Beatrice plays in the second square of the same domino. In this way she must always have a move every turn, and so must win the game.



Past problems of the week, solutions, and solvers can be found at http://www.willamette.edu/~jlaison/problem.html