



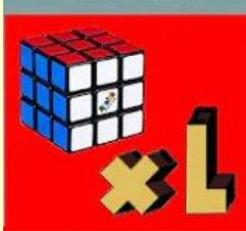
Gamepuzzles.com Newsletter, year-end 2020

Warm greetings to all our friends and customers and supporters!

In this year, our 41st anniversary of creating, developing and producing our unique collection of playable art – gamepuzzles for the joy of thinking and a celebration of mind – we extend our deepest thanks to all of you who have helped us along the way. You continue to inspire us in our dedication to excellence. For a complete look, please browse our website, our virtual online gallery, <http://www.gamepuzzles.com/> – See our many award-winning designs... something for every age, interest and skill.

Our gamepuzzles are treasured gifts, and the pleasure lasts. See also our other entertainment features you can play or read about in our website. Some are treasure hunts and secret contests. Then have some fun finding just the right gift. To receive our annual emailed newsletter and occasional emailed flyers, please see that we have your current email address. We vigorously protect your privacy. Unsubscribe anytime.

In this issue: _____

OUR PRINT CATALOGS	2
 WEBSITE UPDATES	2
• Shopping notes	2
• Newest releases	2
• Noteworthy and special	2
• New discoveries for old friends	3
• Vanishing species	4
• 25th Anniversary editions	4-5
• The GAPE Awards: 2019/2020	6
• Other awards we presented	6
• Distinctions we received this year	6-7
• Other website features you may have missed	7-8
• Our challenges open to the World	8
IN THE MEDIA	9
• Videos on YouTube	9
• Play with us online	10
• Blogs and social media	10
• Our domains	10
CONNECTING	10

OUR PRINT CATALOGS



Read or print out the latest online "print catalog" version, from three .pdf files. Its condensed descriptions and pictures make for a compact portable reference. Needs Adobe Reader to view. Prints OK in black/white, too.

www.gamepuzzles.com/catalog/catalog.htm

For a fancier version, see our Shakespearean catalog with 40 pages of iambic pentameter verses describing all our products. www.gamepuzzles.com/rfcat-2019.pdf



WEBSITE UPDATES

Shopping notes **(FREE SHIPPING IN U.S.)**

We accept American Express, Discover/Novus, Visa, Mastercard, and PayPal. Simply make your PayPal payment payable to: kadon@gamepuzzles.com. We also honor checks, money orders, bank transfers, and occasionally cash. Order online, by mail, school purchase orders, phone, and in person at shows. See details here: www.gamepuzzles.com/purchase.htm

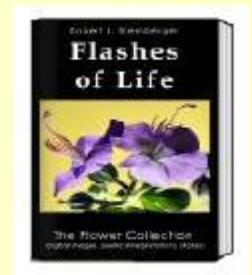


Newest releases for 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we had no shows and did not offer any new products in 2020. We spent most of our stay-home year developing and researching a few new gamepuzzles. Stay tuned for new releases in 2021.

Noteworthy and special

- *Flashes of Life – The Flower Collection* is a gorgeous book of photography by Bob Steinberger, with haikus by Kate Jones. A museum-quality coffee-table book to treasure forever. A perfect gift. While not a new release, its magnificence deserves repeated mention: www.gamepuzzles.com/flashes.htm



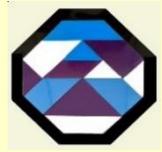
- *World's best music – The Caranza Collection*. Caranza is the stage name of Patric Hale, a phenomenal Meistersinger who has achieved both tenor and baritone mastery of 12 genres of music in 7 languages, with moving emotional sensitivity and blow-you-away power of delivery. He has a repertoire of hundreds of recorded songs, available on 25 CDs, ranging from Elvis, Sinatra, Tom Jones and Billy Joel to Broadway tunes, German songs, Italian and German opera, and more. Visit our [showcase](#) of the entire collection, listen to selected samples for free, and order his CDs to enrich every day of your life. www.gamepuzzles.com/Caranza/caranza.htm



New discoveries for old friends

- **Trio in a Tray™**

Here is a rare color and shape separation solution. See many more designs here: www.gamepuzzles.com/ty25-trio.htm



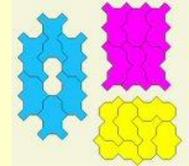
- **MiniMatch-I™**

Marvelous wrap-arounds with colormatched edges and one or two enclosed colors and even full symmetry of all colors. Make torus and Klein-bottle matches. www.gamepuzzles.com/mim1-match.htm



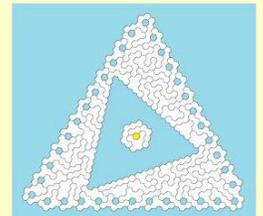
- **Ochominoes™**

This puzzle continues to be irresistible even though it's a really tough nut, inspiring new investigations of its amazing properties. Here are some new symmetries formed by "clans"—all the tiles of a certain color. Each color identifies how many squares a tile has attached to its octagon-domino core. www.gamepuzzles.com/ochom.htm#clans



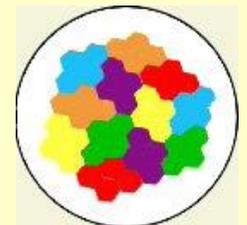
- **Hexnut II™**

Nick Maeder, a New Zealand puzzle wizard, has a passion for making incredible symmetry patterns with large puzzle sets. We've been collecting his magnificent solutions and are herewith sharing them with the world in our [online gallery](#). Delight your senses by walking through his many designs and relishing the names he has invented for them. Shown at right: "Cutwork", a dainty lace-bordered triangle around a triangular opening. www.gamepuzzles.com/maeder-hexahexes.htm



- **Hexdominoes®**

One of our bestsellers, Hexdominoes lets us make ever surprising new discoveries. What a delight that a basket of parallel "egg" patches was possible. This one was first found by a visitor to Ye Olde Gamery, at the Maryland Renaissance Festival. www.gamepuzzles.com/hexdom.htm#Kim



- **Chasing Squares™**

With the simplicity of just two shapes in two colors comes a deluge of eye-pleasing symmetries, easy to construct yet always new and surprising. Here is a whole gallery of designs found by some of the visitors to our booth, and by our crew who can't resist toying with this one for new apparitions. www.gamepuzzles.com/cs-designs.htm



- **Dezign-8™**

In 2017, during his year as a Kadon consultant, puzzle solver extraordinaire Alex Streif dove into further possibilities by embedding our favorite shapes, the pentominoes, within Dezign-8 solutions. We've now found solutions for all 12. Take a look in our gallery of variations. This one even has four of our W logo. www.gamepuzzles.com/d8til2.htm#Alex

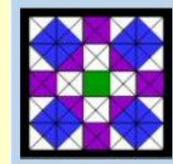
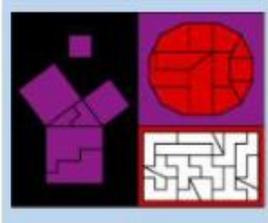
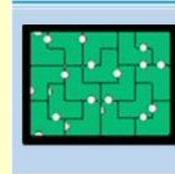
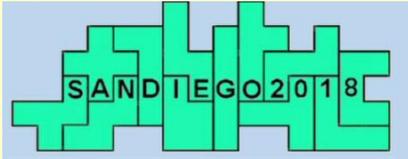
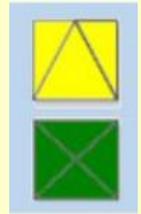


Vanishing species



We are offering *limited edition* puzzles while supplies last. These are some hard puzzles created for Gathering4Gardner and International Puzzle Party events, and a few from our archive of rare samples. Several wonderful puzzles shown here are still available in very limited numbers. See detailed descriptions and ordering information here:

www.gamepuzzles.com/limited.htm



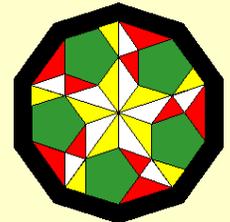
25th Anniversary editions



In 2020 we celebrated these games on the 25th anniversary of their first publication. They have been continuously in print, 1995-2020. See more of their stories in our historical notes, *Diamonds forever*, www.gamepuzzles.com/1995notes.htm

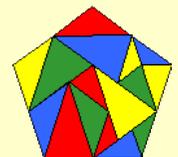
- **DEKA-MOZAIK™**

This set is an excellent introduction to pentagon play: Create ever-changing patterns with 15 pairs of golden triangles and five pentagons in an acrylic 7" decagon tray. For more information on this golden ratio tiling puzzle, see: www.gamepuzzles.com/pentuni2.htm#DM



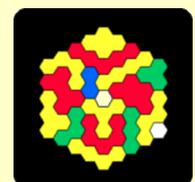
- **PUZZLING PENTAGON™**

There are 4 triangle sizes each in 4 colors, which can build 4 separate little pentagons or one large one. Their geometry is related by the "golden ratio." For more information on this fun little puzzle, see: www.gamepuzzles.com/pentuni2.htm#PZ



- **HEXNUT™ JR.** ... *designed by Kate Jones*

Shapes made of hexagons joined are known as "polyhexes." Hexnut Jr. is a small hex ring with all the shapes of one to four hexagons in size, plus a selected quartet of fives. Its booklet is full of variations and other puzzle shapes to solve. Symmetry shapes abound. Suggested for ages 8 to adult. www.gamepuzzles.com/esspoly.htm#HNJ



- **ROMBIX® JR.** ...developed by Kate Jones

This acrylic set, inspired by Alan Schoen's Rombix, has just four shapes, each in four colors: a single rhomb, a square, a chevron (pair of rhombs), and a "boot" (paired rhomb and square). These four pieces also form a small octagon in a mathematically interesting way. The variety of pretty patterns they make is astonishing. Suitable for 1 and 2 players, ages 4 to adult. See full description here:



www.gamepuzzles.com/esspoly2.htm#RBJ

- **SNOWFLAKE SUPER SQUARE™**...a dance of hearts and spaces

Many people, when they first see this puzzle, are reminded of M.C. Escher's work. It's easy to see why. The tiles are all the combinations of straight, convex and concave edges, transformed step by step from a regular square. The 36 tiles comprise the 24 permutations of hearts and spaces, plus 12 duplicates, divided into three colors. Suggested ages 12 to adult. See more details here:



www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch4.htm#S6

- **THROW A FIT™**...invented by Jeff Dender, puzzles by Kate Jones

The ten different 3-color dice carry all the combinations of how three colors can be apportioned to cover a cube. We've added tricky color puzzles, including a series in 3-D. Build a cube with solid-color faces. The cubes make a good travel game for all ages, easy to pack in drawstring pouch. Custom-made white plastic sets have jumbo 1" cubes as shown at right. For any number of players, ages 9 to adult.



www.gamepuzzles.com/abstrct3.htm#T10

- **KOLOSSAL PYRAMID™**

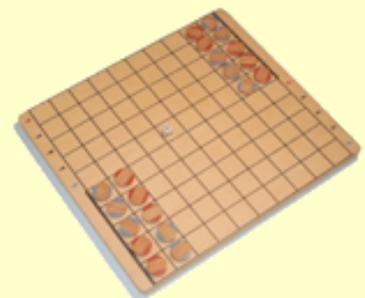
Wooden balls pegged and glued together look downright majestic. After a couple of years of arduous labor, the wooden Kolossal in 1989 went into indefinite retirement. Dedicated collectors with long memories could still request a custom set. See:



www.gamepuzzles.com/1986notes-kp.htm

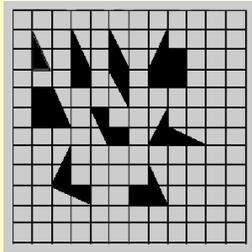
- **TRANSPOSE™**...created by Christopher Clark, developed by Kate Jones

Lovingly handcrafted, classic wood board by Christopher Clark, its inventor, and 24 stylish wood checkers play 8 different games and a large collection of solitaire puzzles. For 1 and 2 players, ages 10 to adult. We make the set in two beautiful styles – traditional wood and contemporary acrylic – each 15½x18" with fabric carrybags. See:



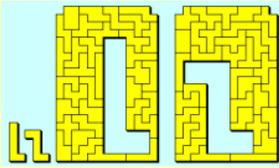
www.gamepuzzles.com/tpwood.htm

Our latest Gamepuzzles Annual Pentomino Excellence awards



For the year 2019—the GAPE award winner was a most unusual manifestation of the pentominoes: a dissection puzzle of 9 different diagonally cut shapes that could form all 12 pentominoes *and* all 5 tetrominoes. How could 5 squares equal four squares? There's the ingenuity of the inventor, George Sicherman, where each tile is equal in area to a whole number of squares, with a total coverage of 20 squares. We were so impressed by this phenomenon that we eventually decided to produce it ourselves, with a large number of other puzzle challenges

George helped to develop for the set we named [Shardinaires-9](#). George's deluxe [award](#) shows a unique framed solution of his initials, one on each side of the display tray.



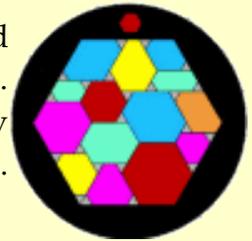
For 2020, the hands-down winner was a former winner, Livio Zucca, for his two elegant series of formations of all 35 hexomino shapes. Here is just one of each style, since words alone cannot do them justice. The amazing thing about these is that both types of tiles—with and without “parity”—had similar solutions. Livio



has computer assistance to generate the solutions—after he himself conceives of the theme! His award, at this writing, is under construction. More later.

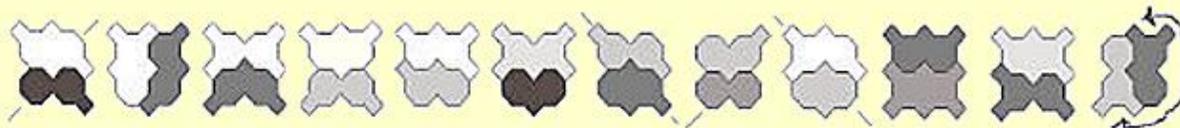
Distinctions we received this year

- The 4th Annual [Megistian Aenigma Agon](#) puzzle competition was to be held June 2020, on the Greek island of Kastellorizo, organized by Pantazis Houlis. Covid-19 has postponed the results. Kadon's entries are [Shardinaires-9](#) by George Sicherman and [Hex-Pave](#) by Carl Hoff. We wait to hear the outcome.



- The Palm Beach Fine Art Festival, held February 22-23, 2020, awarded us a prize ribbon. It made us very happy, winning so early in a winter season packed with a full calendar of shows. Then, two weeks later, in early March, all our shows were canceled due to Covid. It was sweet to at least have one prize for a glum year.

Bridges 2020—<http://bridgesmathart.org/home>—was originally scheduled to take place in Finland, then moved into the virtual realm and was reorganized to happen entirely online, live from August 1-5, 2020. A small showcase of Kate's [combinatorial sets](#) appears in the [Mathematical Tiling and](#)



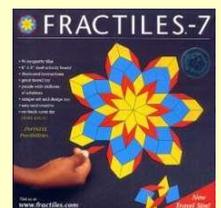
[Tessellation](#) section of the conference website. Our [Triangule-8 poster](#) and its [description](#) were shown in the Discussion section of the [Art Exhibit](#) (scroll down). In the event that this Bridges documentation is removed, you can see it in our [archival showcase](#).

Gathering4Gardner 2020—The 14th biennial Gathering in Atlanta had to be postponed to 2021 and then still later. So, like many events, it went virtual, with a series of online presentations by members from around the world as part of the annual Celebration of Mind honoring Martin Gardner's birthday, October 21. Instead of just in October, talks took place every month on the 21st, with 21 during a week in October and April.

In October, Kate contributed a downloadable word and symmetrical shapes puzzle, 4gardner.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/KateJones-CoM2020flyer.pdf, and showed one 5-minute video as part of the G4G fundraiser, now on YouTube (see [Gathering for Gardner \(G4G\) 2020 - YouTube](#)) and a longer one, a 24-minute epic on March 21, 2021, on *A Periodic Table of Polyform Puzzles* soon to be on YouTube. Until then, see it here: <http://www.gamepuzzles.com/g4g-com-2021.pptx>

Other website features you may have missed _____

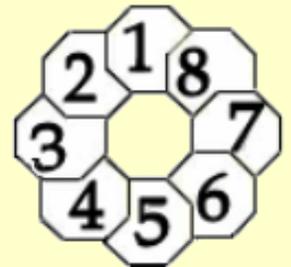
- Our **Search index** is a useful page for finding games by type or by special category, cross-referenced from our regular sections. Some unique items are listed only here, not found elsewhere in our website: www.gamepuzzles.com/search.htm
- **Archives**—you can still track back to see what's been happening with us for the last 41 years by browsing through our archives, especially the annual newsletters that sum up our year's doings. Here's the Archives index: www.gamepuzzles.com/archives.htm
- **Blooper Bounty**—Each year we add new features and surprises, new products and new activities to the website. Here's a standing offer — a bounty to the first person to find and tell us of any bloopers we made! A separate gift for each mistake found. Email: <mailto:kadon@gamepuzzles.com?subject=BlooperBounty>
- **Children's Stories**—Charming original tales, some interactive, by authors Warren Fahy and Robert Vermillion: www.gamepuzzles.com/stories/childs.htm
- **What You Can Buy for \$25 Dollars** — this playful "Chinese menu" page of 12 special items has some surprising goodies for the price-conscious. Check it out: <http://www.gamepuzzles.com/buyfor25.htm>
- **Entertaining features**—All our interactive, online-playable games, amusements, and interesting features are listed here, some with hidden links to make a game even out of finding them:
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#icons www.gamepuzzles.com/resource.htm
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#memory www.gamepuzzles.com/faq.htm
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#amuse www.gamepuzzles.com/kadon.htm



- **Mini-Quiz**—8 installments to date of tricky questions to figure out, with the answers sneakily concealed right before your eyes. Send in your solutions and win a prize. All questions remain open, and solvers' names join the winners' list.
 - Quiz archives: www.gamepuzzles.com/quizarch.htm
 - Current quiz: www.gamepuzzles.com/quiz8.htm

Our challenges open to the World *(you may win a prize)* _____

- **Arc Angles™**—form one closed matched loop of all 25 tiles, with minimum enclosed area. www.gamepuzzles.com/pentuniv.htm#AA
- **The 25-Hole Challenge**—fit thirteen Vee-21™ tiles (V-trominoes) rigidly into their tray... www.gamepuzzles.com/25holes.htm
- **The Alphabest Challenge**—use the 26 letters of the alphabet once each to form a crossword puzzle in a smallest grid. Beat 42 and win a prize. www.gamepuzzles.com/alphabest.htm
- **The 7 Congruent Shapes problem**—divide the 24 Hopscotch™ pieces to form 7 identical areas of 12 unit squares. A new solution wins you a prize: www.gamepuzzles.com/hopscotch.htm
- **Ochominoes™**—put the most tiles in a row to make each adjacent pair symmetrical: www.gamepuzzles.com/tiling.htm#Och
- **The Octo Clock**—arrange 8 numbers as a clock face to meet goals... www.gamepuzzles.com/g8-clock.htm
- **The Maximum-Squares Challenge**—arrange the 16 Chasing Squares™ tiles to form 24 or more "traceable" squares. Exceed 25 and win a prize. www.gamepuzzles.com/tiling3.htm#CS
- The **Mini-Quiz** series— we've published 8 so far, all still open. No one has fully solved Quiz No. 6, though one player came close. We are curious and curiouser... www.gamepuzzles.com/quiz.htm
- **Rhombiminoes™**—find a new solution to connect all pieces of the same color... www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub3.htm#RO
- **L-Sixteen™**—build a double maze of connected holes and continuous flagstones. New solutions win a prize... www.gamepuzzles.com/L16-holes.htm
- **Ten-Yen™**—minimum and maximum perimeters of one color enclosed by the other two. This challenge is still open for new solutions. www.gamepuzzles.com/ten-enc.htm
- **Triangle-8™ Sprouts**—form 25 sprouts or prove that 24 is the maximum possible. www.gamepuzzles.com/t8-20.htm
- **Trio in a Tray™**—separate all three colors, and then completely separate (not even corners touching) two colors. www.gamepuzzles.com/ty25-trio.htm
- **Vee-21™ and its Three-Color Problem**—the search for more solutions of maximum color separation. www.gamepuzzles.com/3color.htm



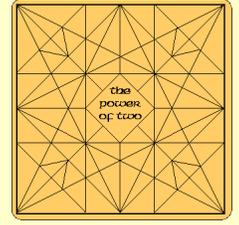
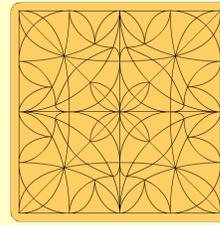
See also our formal Contests page, www.gamepuzzles.com/contests.htm#Kadon

IN THE MEDIA

Videos on YouTube

Game designer and close friend Arthur Blumberg has created video tutorials of two of his games:

- **Endpoint™**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLQmYMIP3Uw>
- **The Power of Two™**
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ca8TNdQn-ZY



Joe Marasco produced a historic video about new discoveries for this most ancient puzzle, based on research Joe himself inspired:

- **Tricolor Stomachion** – www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OMfnQTolIA



Several events had prompted Kate to contribute videos on special themes. As usual, the accompanying texts were in rhyme:

- **Happy 40th Birthday, Rubik's Cube**

To celebrate Rubik's Cube's 40th year, Kate put together a tribute video, incorporated in a longer program shown by the Hungarian embassy in Tokyo. This is Kadon's section, edited by Hans Weidig IV:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFNVtDh7abg

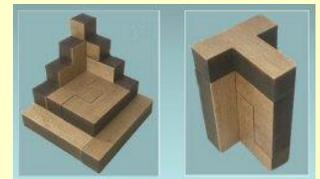
See the full 43-minute international presentation organized by Krystof Fenyvesi, professor at the University of Jyvaskyla in Helsinki, Finland, featuring speed-cube champions and several other cube aficionados. It's amazing:

<https://www.facebook.com/experienceworkshop.math.art/videos/395897871612612>



- **Gathering4Gardner Foundation Fundraiser 2020**

The foundation supports Martin Gardner's legacy with biennial gatherings in the Spring and annual Celebrations of Mind around October 21, Martin's birthday. The 2020 Gathering had to be postponed, and the many talks were rescheduled as monthly webinars. For the October 2020 fundraiser, Kate presented the story of how Solomon Golomb's 1953 book on polyominoes led, in 1979, to her creation of Kadon Enterprises, Inc., and its ever-growing product line of geometric games and puzzles, recreational mathematics, which led to this 6-minute video edited by Hans Weidig IV:

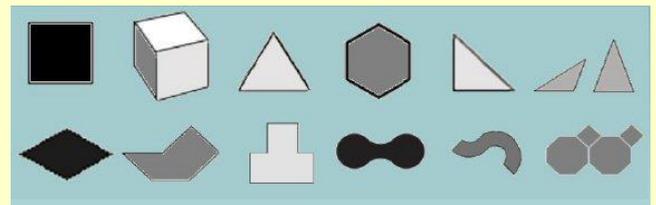


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvQcEnS--tg>

- **G4G Celebration of Mind 2020-2021**

The many presentations planned for 2020 were spread over a year, on the 21st of each month. Kate's 24-minute rhymed talk, on March 21, 2021, was on "A Periodic Table of Polyform Puzzles". You can see it on G4G's YouTube channel, here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74v8eqn23Mk>



Play with us online

"Like" us at www.facebook.com/gamepuzzles, see our latest news and stories. Post your comments, questions and answers. And play with us here:

- **Kadon Gamepuzzles® Universe – a new fan site!**

To our great surprise and delight, one of our puzzle-loving customers and fans, Andrzej Lewicki, has created a Facebook page devoted entirely to discussions and solutions of our puzzles.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/356894078979810>



- **A Proteus® applet for desktop or mobile**

Play it online or offline, download from Board Space, brainchild of Dave Dyer:

https://boardspace.net/english/about_proteus.html

Kate's Blogs and Social Media

- Blogspot, <http://kates-takes.blogspot.com>
- PuzzleLady's journal, <https://puzzlady.dreamwidth.org/>
- Facebook, www.facebook.com/puzzlady
- Twitter, <http://twitter.com/gamepuzzlady>
- LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com/in/puzzlady
- Flickr, www.flickr.com/photos/puzzlady/
- Meme Hunter, www.memehunter.net



Our domains

- www.gamepuzzles.com
- www.memehunter.net
- www.tactilegraphics.us
- www.playable-art.com
- www.polyformpuzzles.com
- www.hexdominoes.com
- www.thelifeofgames.com



CONNECTING

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