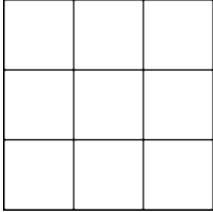


Counting Squares

How many squares are in this picture?



Commentary

This task is intended to be a simpler form of Overlapping Rectangles. The purpose of this task is to give students an opportunity to compose and decompose squares. This is a challenging problem for first graders and it would be inappropriate to use it as an assessment. However, if presented as a brainteaser it can be useful for giving the students practice in recognizing squares, and stimulate interest as students compete to try to find the most squares. Furthermore, older students may also benefit from such an exercise as well.

Solution

In addition to the nine small squares, there are four 2×2 squares (shown below), and one 3×3 square, for a total of 14 squares.

