



SOFT SKILLS AS A TOOL FOR CREATIVITY IN RURAL AREAS PROJECT

2020-1-FR01-KA204-079841

1) NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

The infinite square

The tool consists of identifying in two minutes the exact number of squares that appear in the image shown, trying to leave aside the traditional way of looking at things.

2) OBJECTIVES OF THE TOOL

The **three** objectives that this tool aims to achieve are as follows:

- Show that there is more than meets the eye when observing things at first sight.
- Have a broader outlook in every situation.

Show that it is not good to draw fast and definitive conclusions without reflection.

3) CONNECTION OF THE TOOL SKILL

This tool helps us to open our minds to different perspectives and ways of looking at things.

It also challenges the traditional point of view and makes the learner more reflective and cognitively more flexible.

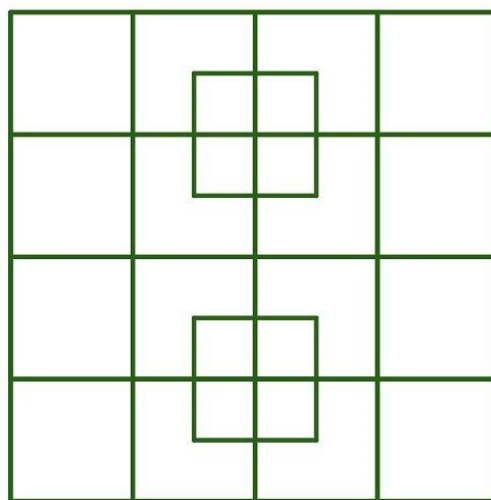


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4) RESOURCES & MATERIALS

Square diagram sheets like the one below (also annexed at the end of the document) to be handed out by the trainer to the participants. Everyone should have their own because the result of the first part of the activity should be the product of an individual reflection.



5) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOOL

- Step 1 (2 minutes approx., depending on the n° of participants): Hand out one sheet of paper to each participant.
- Step 2 (2 minutes): Ask them to have a look at the square image for 2 minutes and try to find out how many squares there are.
- Step 3 (2 minutes): Participants reflect individually on their own results.
- Step 4 (3 minutes): Now gather participants in groups of two or three.
- Step 5 (1 minute): Ask them to have a look at the diagram again.

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- Step 6 (2 minutes): Groups exchange their opinions.
- Step 7 (5 minutes approx.): Get feedback on views / opposing views
- Step 8 (5 minutes approx.): Provide solution giving them detailed description with colour codes (available on last page of the document)
- Step 9 (3 minutes): Challenge their way of looking at things and show how different people may have different perspectives on the same matter.

6) WHAT TO LEARN

This tool allows us to have a broader outlook while challenges the traditional set of values that lead us to solve problems and manage with different complex situations in the same way each time. Since circumstances are changing, our way of dealing with them must be too.

The tool also gives us an opportunity for reflection and for patience in jumping to conclusions. It shows us how we can progress in the stages of leaning through a flexible cognition.

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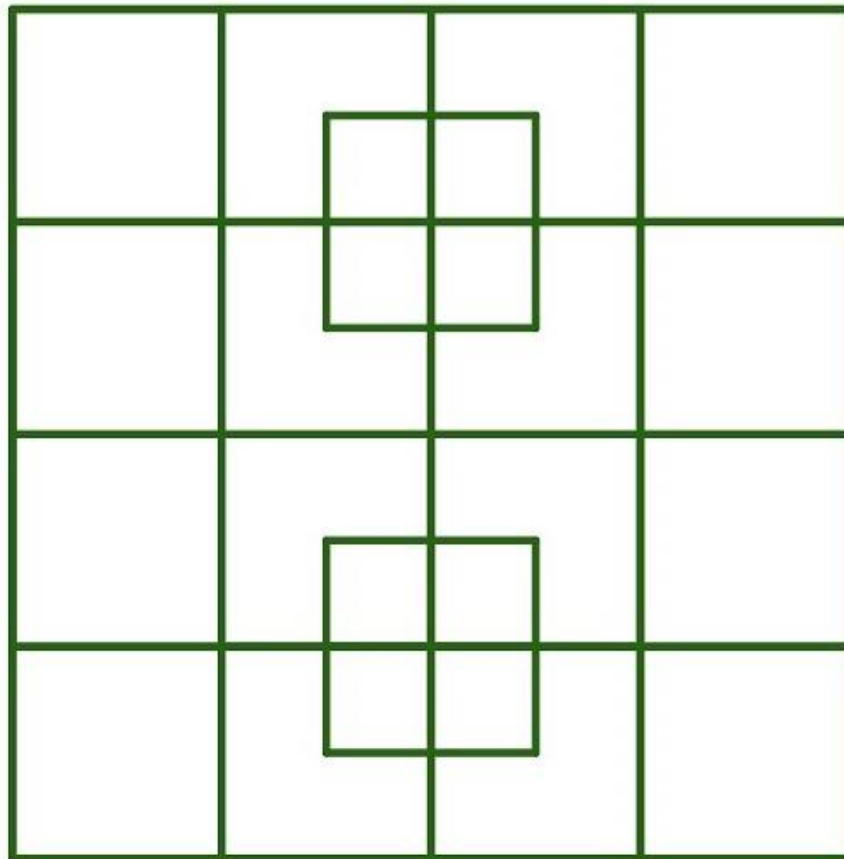
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Annex 1: Square diagram



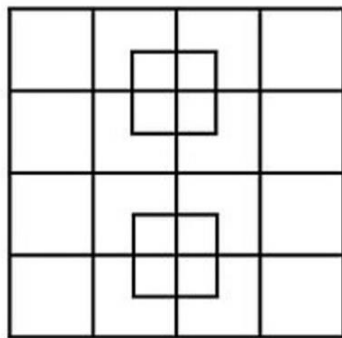
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Solution of the tool:



SOLUTION

How many squares
are in the diagram?

8
16
2
3 x 3 squares
2
2
2 x 2 squares
1
4
4
1

tiny squares: 8
single squares: 18
2 x 2 squares: 9
3 x 3 squares: 4
4 x 4 squares: 1
total: 40

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