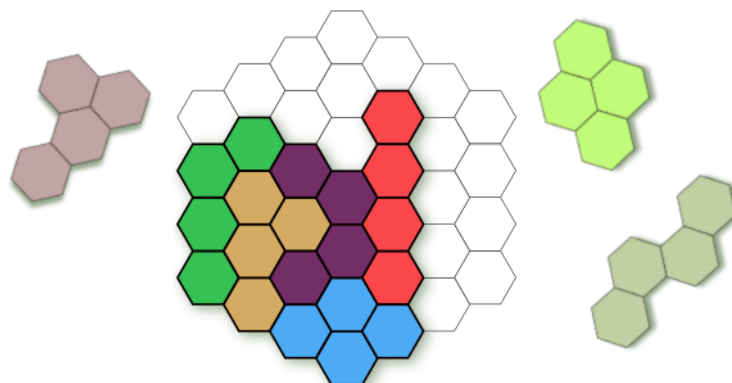


# MATH CHALLENGE PROBLEM

for September 2016

## Tetris for Bees



When bees play Tetris, they use hexagons instead of squares. That is, each playing piece is made up of four adjacent hexagons, in some configuration (a *hexa-tetromino*). The goal of the game is to completely cover a regular  $n \times n \times n$  hexagonal grid with non-overlapping playing pieces. For example, the  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  grid above is partially covered with playing pieces, although this might not be a correct start. You can use the same shape as many or as few times as you like.

**The Challenge:** For which  $n$  is it possible to completely cover a regular  $n \times n \times n$  hexagonal grid with non-overlapping hexa-tetrominos? Prove your answer.

Submit solutions to Ross 2239G or [oscar.levin@unco.edu](mailto:oscar.levin@unco.edu) by **Friday, September 30**.

The best solution will WIN A PRIZE!

Prizes include nifty Rubik's style puzzle cubes, math puzzle books, math games, even a math coloring book. So submit your answer TODAY!