

KATE JONES

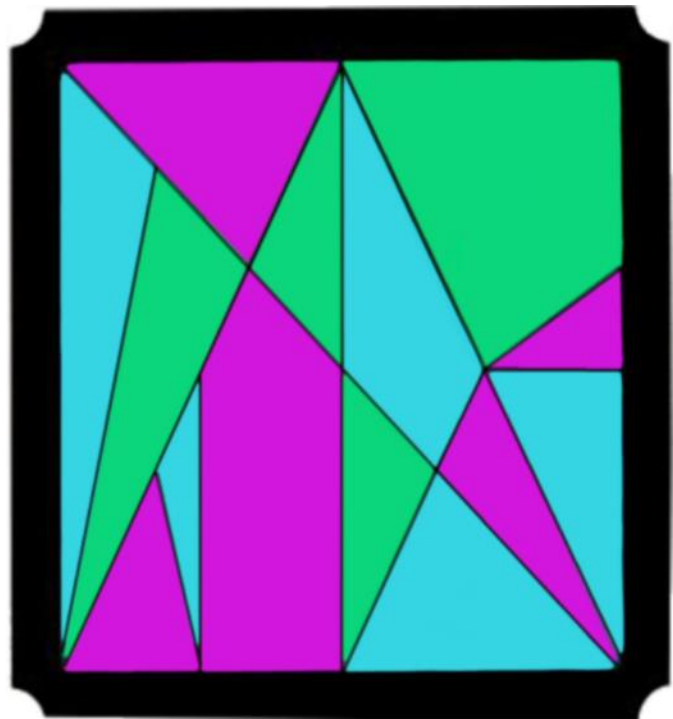
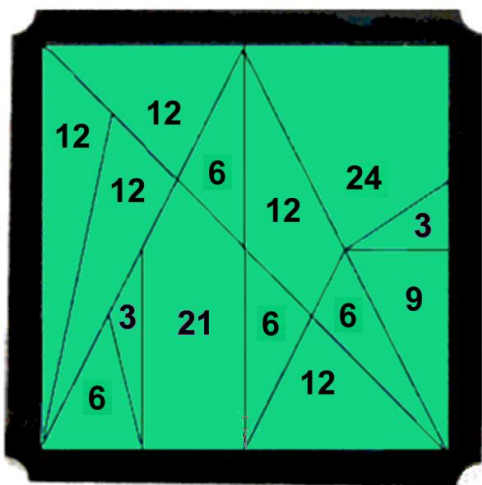
Stomachion, the Quest

What marvel of antiquity be this,
This fabled square of 14 parts comprised?
Behold the oldest puzzle ever told,
Our heritage of mind, millennia old.

Now scholars scrambled to decode, with zest,
Archimedes' much-prized Palimpsest,
A scroll long lost, inscribed by ancient hands,
A rarest find from Greek and Latin lands.

Then three-fold color sought to split the tiles:
Each matchless equal area beguiles.
One thousand two and seventy patterns wait
Concordances and catalogs to mate

As solvers brave and eager in their sport
The joined and varied regions rightly sort.
That tale is told with elegance and charm
As Joe and team each gave a leg and arm.



Note: The *Stomachion* is an ancient puzzle first studied by Archimedes. It has a long and colourful history of interpretations as a puzzle, and as a motivator for various mathematical investigations. The three-coloured stomachion puzzle depicted on these pages, designed by Kadon Enterprises, is the joint work of Kate Jones, Joe Marasco, and Alex Streif. It also served as the inspiration for Kate's poem, *Stomachion, the Quest*. More information about the puzzle and its fascinating history is found at its Kadon Enterprises website: <https://www.gamepuzzles.com/histfun.htm#AS>