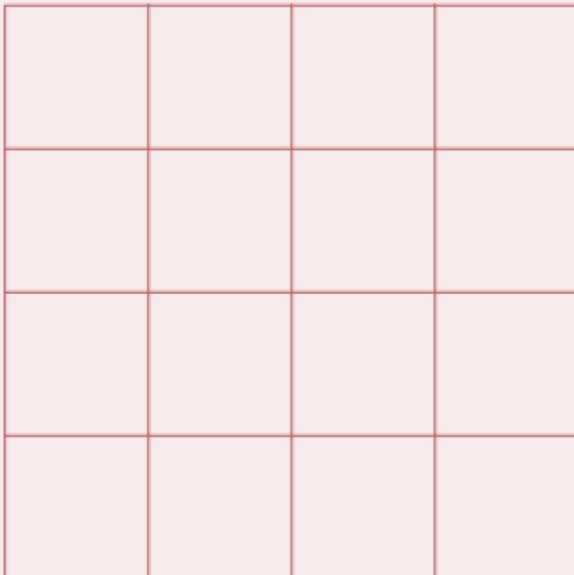


## Observation Exercises

Without lifting your pen from the paper, draw four straight, connected lines that go through each dot only once. After you've tried two different ways, consider what restrictions you might be setting up for yourself in solving this problem.



How many squares do you see below?



1. Think of a stairway or the steps to a building that you use regularly. How many steps are there?
2. How many stoplights do you pass on your way to work?
3. Which of the following inscriptions is not found on the back side of a dollar bill?
  - a. In God We Trust
  - b. *annuit coeptis*
  - c. The Department of the Treasury, 1789
  - d. *e pluribus unum*
4. Think of someone you live with or work with closely. Describe in detail what that person was wearing the last time you saw him or her.
5. How many pages are there in this book, within ten pages?
6. What was the exact title of your pastor's sermon last Sunday? What was the text, if he used one?
7. Was your mother right-handed or left-handed? How about your father?
8. If you are married: Which side of his face does your husband start shaving first? Or, which side of her face does your wife start putting makeup on first?
9. How many miles has it been since you changed the oil in your car, within 1,000 miles? How many miles since you got new tires? How many miles are on the odometer?
10. Which phase was last night's moon closest to: new, first quarter, full, or last quarter?

How did you make out? Do you have an eagle eye for detail? Or are you blind as a bat? Of course, none of the items in these ten questions is a matter of life and death.

Yet it's funny how the little things so often make the difference in a fictional mystery or a real-life police investigation. Everything turns on a "minor" detail—the color of a suspect's eyes, the time of day, a mispronounced word. The facts are there for anyone to see, yet only the master sleuth notices them. "You see, but you do not observe."