## Sliding Three Square



Adapted from the Sliding Three puzzle, J. A. Storer, 2020. Planned construction for 3d print, $2.7^{\prime \prime} \times 4.7^{\prime \prime} \times 3 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ thick, with cardboard sleeve.

A variation of the Sliding Three puzzle where all interior and exterior rounds have been eliminated, except for the two discs.
The start is a large piece containing two U-shaped pieces, each covering half a disc, with along the bottom three square pieces. The discs and squares are all 2 units high and wide, the U-pieces are 2 units high by 4 units wide, the big piece is 4 units high by 10 units wide, and the tray interior is 6 units high by 12 units wide.

## Problem 1:

Exchange the discs. A solution that is identical to a Part 1 solution for the Sliding Three puzzle of 34 rectilinear moves ( 43 straight-line moves) is shown on the following page.

## Problem 2:

Exchange the two U-pieces. A 40 rectilinear moves ( 54 straight-line moves) solution is shown on the following pages.

## Problem 3:

The combination of Problems 1 and 2 to exchange both the U-pieces and the discs.
It can be done in two steps by first solving Problem 1 and then Problem 2; the following pages show a shorter combined solution of 52 rectilinear moves ( 66 straight-line moves).
All three solutions have some steps that involve moving the big piece while containing other pieces, and can be performed by pushing with a single finger on one of the pieces.


| step 0: $\begin{array}{llllllllll} X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B & X \\ X & A & b & b & A & B & a & a & B & X \\ L & L & b & b & M & M & a & a & R & R \\ L & L & & & M & M & & & R & R \end{array}$ | step 1 : $\begin{array}{lllllllll} X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B \\ X \\ X & A & b & b & A & B & & & B \\ X \\ L & L & b & b & M & M & a & a & R \\ L & R & & & M & M & a & a & R \end{array}$ |  | step 3          <br> $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$  <br> $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$  <br> $X$ $A$ $A$ $A$ $A$ $B$ $B$ $B$ $B$ $X$  <br> $X$ $A$  $A$ $B$   $B$ $X$   <br> $L$ $L$ $b$ $b$  $M$ $M$ $a$ $a$ $R$ $R$ <br> $L$ $L$ $b$ $b$  $M$ $M$ $a$ $a$ $R$ $R$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{array}{llllllllllll} S \operatorname{step} & 6 & : & & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R & R \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R & R \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B & X & a & a \\ X & A & & & A & B & & & B & X & a & a \\ L & L & b & b & & M & M & & & & \\ L & L & b & b & & M & M & & & & \end{array}$ |  |
|  |  | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 10 & & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} S \operatorname{Step} & 18: & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 19 & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ |
|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{array}{rlllllllll} \text { step } & 39 & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & B & B & B & B & A & A & A & A & X \\ X & B & b & b & B & A & a & a & A & X \\ L & L & b & b & M & M & a & a & & R \end{array}$ |
| $\begin{array}{rllllllllllll} \text { step } & 40 & : & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & B & B & B & B & A & A & A & A & X \\ X & B & b & b & B & A & a & a & A & X \\ L & L & b & b & M & M & a & a & R & R \\ L & L & & M & M & & R & R \end{array}$ |  |  |  |

## Sliding Three Square Problem 3 Solution, Steps 0-35

| $\begin{array}{rlllllllll} \text { step } & 0 & : & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B & X \\ X & A & a & a & A & B & b & b & B & X \\ L & L & a & a & M & M & b & b & R & R \\ L & L & & & M & M & & & R & R \end{array}$ |  |  | step 3         <br> $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ <br> $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ <br> $X$ $A$ $A$ $A$ $A$ $B$ $B$ $B$ $B$ $X$ <br> $X$ $A$  $A$ $B$   $B$ $X$  <br> $L$ $L$ $a$ $a$  $M$ $M$ $b$ $b$ $R$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| step 4: $\begin{array}{llllllllll} X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B & X \\ X & A & & & A & B & & & B & X \\ \text { L } & L & a & a & & M & M & b & b & R \end{array}$ | step 5 : <br> X X X X X X X X X X R R <br> XXXXXXXXXXRR <br> $X A A A A B B B B X$ <br> $X A \quad A B \quad B X$ <br> LLaa MMbb <br> L L a a MMbb | step 6: $\begin{array}{llllllllllll} X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R & R \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R & R \\ X & A & A & A & A & B & B & B & B & X & b & b \\ X & A & & & A & B & & & B & X & b & b \\ L & L & a & a & & M & M & & & & \\ L & L & a & a & & M & M & & & & & \end{array}$ |  |
| step 8: |  |  | Step 11          <br> $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $X$ $R$ |
|  | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 13: & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ | step 14: $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X \\ X & a & a & A & A & A & A & & X \\ X & a & a & A & & & A & & X & & \\ X & & & & & & & & & & \\ L & L & B & B & B & B & M & M & b & b & R \end{array}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \hline \text { Step } & 20 & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ |  | $\left.\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 22 & : & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}\right)$ | $\left.\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 23 & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}\right)$ |
|  | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 25 & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lllllllllll} \text { Step } & 26 & & & & & & & & \\ X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & X & R \end{array}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Step } 35: \\ & L \\ & L \end{aligned}$ |

Sliding Three Square Problem 3 Solution, Steps 36-52

| step 36: | step 37: | step 38: | step 39: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | $L \mathrm{~L} \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ | L L X X X X X X X X X X | $L \mathrm{~L} \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \mathrm{X}$ |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X |
| b b X M M AAAAX | b b X M A A A A X | b b X MMAAAARRX | b b X M M A A A RRX |
| b b XMM A A X | b b XMMA A X | b b XMMA ARRX | b b XMMA ARRX |
| B B B a a RR | B B B a a R R | B B B a a | B B B a |
| B B a a R R | B B a a R R | B B a | B B a |
| step 40: | step 41: | step 42: | step 43: |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | $L \mathrm{~L} \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X |  | L L $\times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ | $L \mathrm{~L} \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ |
|  | $b$ b $\quad$ AAAARRX | $b$ b $\quad$ AAAARRX | $b$ b $\quad$ AAAARRX |
| $b$ b $\quad$ MMA ARRX | $b \mathrm{~b} \times \quad \mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{ARRX}$ | $b \mathrm{~b} \times \quad \mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{ARRX}$ | $b b X \quad A \quad A R R X$ |
| B B B a a | MM BBBBaa | M B B B B a a | M M B B B a a |
| B Baa | MM B B a | MMB B a | MMB Baa |
| step 44: | step 45: | step 46: | step 47: |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X | L L X X X X X X X X X X |
| LLXXXXXXXXX | L L X X X X X X X X X X | LLXXXXXXXXXX | $L \mathrm{~L} \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ |
| $b$ b $\quad$ AAAA $X$ | $b$ b $X$ AAAAX | $b$ b $\mathrm{b}^{\text {B B B B A A A X }}$ | $b$ b $\quad$ B B B B A A A X |
| $b b x \quad A \quad A \quad X$ | $b$ b ${ }^{\text {b }}$ A A X | $b$ b B B A A X | $b \quad$ b B B A A |
| M M B B B B a RR | M M B B B a a R R | MM $\quad$ a aRR | MMa aRR |
| MMB BaaRR | MMB $\quad \mathrm{Ba} a \mathrm{R}$ | MM a aRR | MMa aRR |
| step 48: | step 49: | step 50: | step 51: |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | $\times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$ | $\mathrm{x} \times \times \times \mathrm{X} \times \times \mathrm{X} \times \mathrm{X}$ | $\mathrm{x} \times \mathrm{X} \times \mathrm{X} \times \mathrm{X} \times \mathrm{X} \times \mathrm{x}$ |
| L L X X X X X X X X X X | XXXXXXXXXX |  | $\times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \mathrm{X}$ |
| $X$ B B B B A A A A $X$ | $X$ B B B B A A A A $X$ | $X$ B B B B A A A $A X$ | $X$ B B B B A A A $A X$ |
| $X B \quad B A \quad A X$ | $X B \quad B A \quad A X$ | $X B \quad B A \quad A X$ | $X \mathrm{~B}$ B A a a X |
| $b$ b MMa aRR | L L b b M MaaRR | L L b bMMa a R R | L L b b MMa a R R |
| b b MMa aRR | L L b bMMaaRR | LLb b M MaaRR | L L b bMM R R |
| step 52: |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| $X \times \times \times \times X \times X X X$ |  |  |  |
| $X$ B B B B A A A A $X$ |  |  |  |
| $X \mathrm{~B}$ b b B A a a $\mathrm{A} X$ |  |  |  |
| LLbbMMaaRR |  |  |  |
| L L MM RR |  |  |  |

