

What's the problem?

In a magic square, the numbers in each row, column and diagonal add up to the same total. Can you solve these magic squares with magic totals of 15?

		6
		1
4	3	8

Use 2, 5, 7, 9

		4
	5	3
		8

Use 1, 2, 6, 7, 9

Next, can you complete these magic squares? What's the magic total?

6		
	5	3
		4

10		
6		8
5		

		10
	8	
6		5

Now try these magic squares. What's the magic total?

4	9	6	15
			1
11			
5	16	3	10

Use 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14

9			4
	3	10	
	13	8	
7			14

Use 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16

- What's a good starting place for this magic square? We are told that our magic total is 15. Can you see a row or column which confirms this? Can you see a good starting place for our first move? What does this unlock?
- What calculations are we doing? You have to find the difference. How did you know which number to place there?
- Have you checked your magic square works?
- Is this the only solution? How do you know?