

SEMATRIMAGIC SQUARES OF ORDER 3

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Sematria is the name I suggested for a new kind of gematria introduced and discussed at length in "Base 27: The Key to a New Gematria" in the May 1993 Word Ways. In sematria a string of letters is interpreted as a unique integer written in a base 27 notation that uses A=1, B=2, etc. along with an extra symbol, say "_", for zero. Integers corresponding to words are called wints (Word INTegers). For instance, $LEE = 12 \times 27^2 + 5 \times 27 + 5 = 8748 + 135 + 5 = 8888$.

Magic squares featuring wints were among topics discussed in the earlier article, but just recently I discovered a bug in the program that was used to search for the 3x3 squares. Having removed the bug, the number of squares discovered has grown somewhat, and below I offer a list of the best, by which I mean those using words from my vocabulary.

DUG	BIG	FOG
FIG	DOG	BUG
BOG	FUG	DIG

MRU

FUG	BIG	JOG
JIG	FOG	BUG
BOG	JUG	FIG

SRU

LOB	EAR	LOG
JAW	JAR	JAM
GOB	OAR	GOG

ACE_

PAP	JAG	PAY
NAY	NAP	NAG
LAG	RAY	NAP

AODU

BATE	ARK	DASH
DARK	BASH	ATE
ASH	DATE	BARK

FECX

DASH	ARE	HART
HARE	DART	ASH
ART	HASH	DARE

LEBF

DATE	ARK	HASH
HARK	DASH	ATE
ASH	HATE	DARK

LECX

HASH	CARE	MART
MARE	HART	CASH
CART	MASH	HARE

XEBF

HATE	DARK	LASH
LARK	HASH	DATE
DASH	LATE	HARK

XECX

LARK	ATE	LASH
HATE	HASH	HARK
DASH	PARK	DATE

XECX

MASH	CARE	WART
WARE	MART	CASH
CART	WASH	MARE

ALEBF

SAKE	RAGS	TAIL
TAGS	SAIL	RAKE
RAIL	TAKE	SAGS

BCDAI