



Problem of the Week

Problem A

Surrounding Squares

Imran was doodling and he drew a picture that had a square in the middle, surrounded by other smaller squares. Together, the middle square and all the smaller squares form a bigger square. The smaller squares all have the same side lengths, and there are no overlaps between the squares and no gaps in the picture. The side lengths of the smaller squares are each $\frac{1}{3}$ the side length of the middle square.

- A) How many smaller squares are in the picture?
- B) If the side length of the middle square is 6 cm, what is the area of the square formed by the whole picture?

