



Problem of the Week

Problem E

The Spiral Sequence Challenge

A spiral of the positive integers, placed into rows and columns, is created in the following way:

The integer 1 is placed.

Moving up one row, the integer 2 is placed.

Moving right one column, the integer 3 is placed.

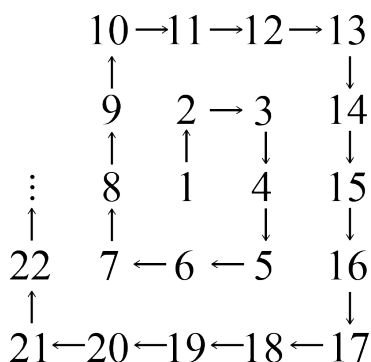
Moving down one row, the integer 4 is placed, then moving down one more row, the integer 5 is placed.

Moving left one column, the integer 6 is placed, then moving left one more column, the integer 7 is placed.

Moving up one row, the integer 8 is placed, then moving up one more row, the integer 9 is placed, then moving up one more row, the integer 10 is placed.

Moving right one column, the integer 11 is placed, then moving right one more column the integer 12 is placed, then moving right one more column, the integer 13 is placed.

The pattern continues, alternating moving down across rows, then left across columns, then up across rows, then right across columns to create a spiral shape.



Where do the integers 2024, 2025, and 2026 appear in the spiral?