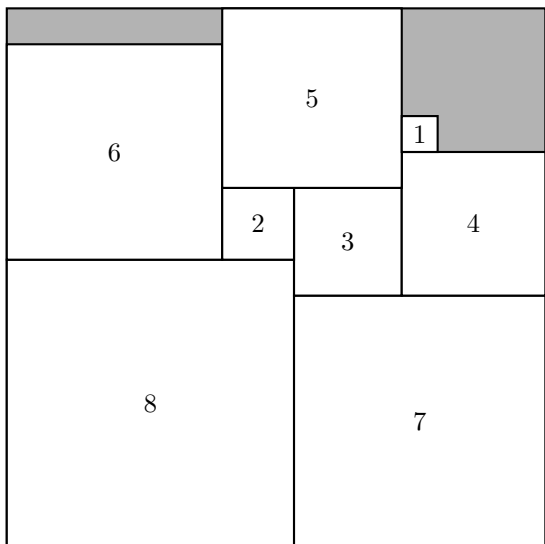
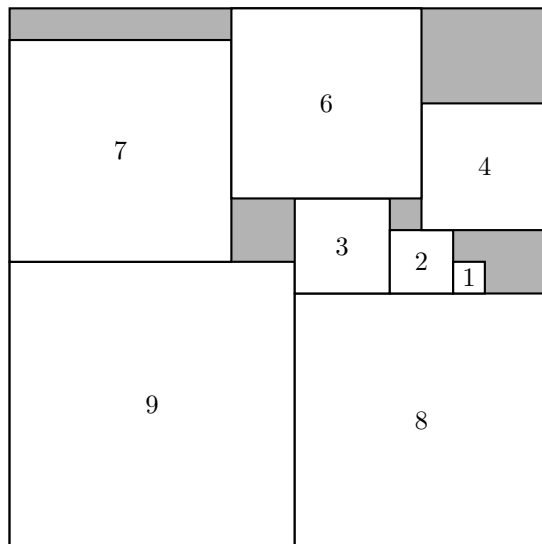


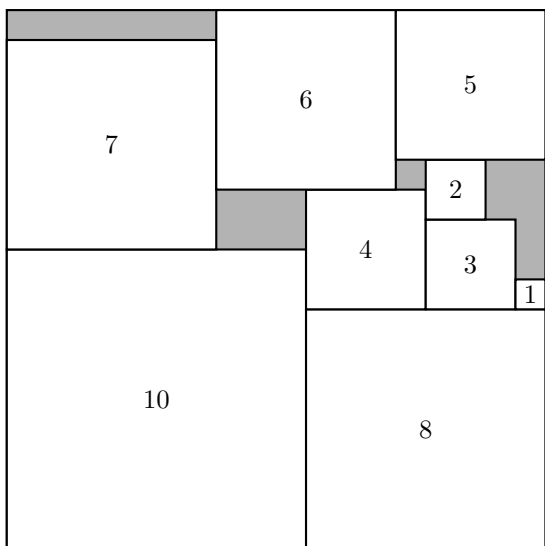
Sequence A334905. Optimal non-trivial coverings corresponding to $a(15)$ – $a(30)$. Trivial coverings are those for which $a(n) = n^2 - (n - 1)^2 - 1^2$, i.e., the only squares used are those of sides $n - 1$ and 1.



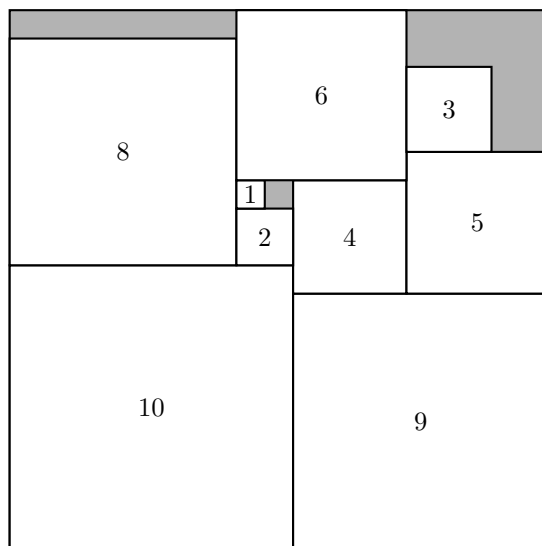
$$a(15) = 21$$



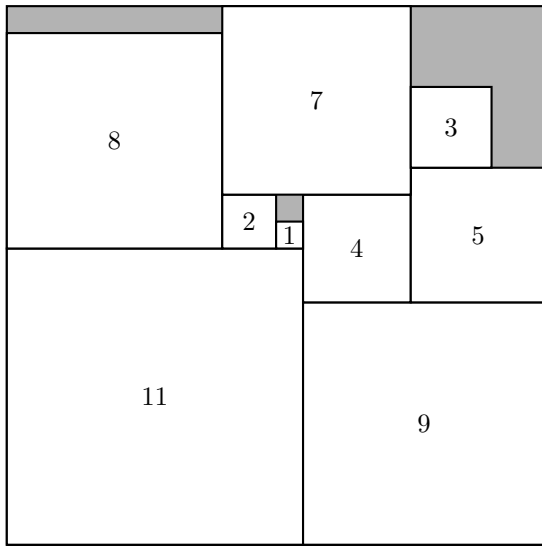
$$a(17) = 29$$



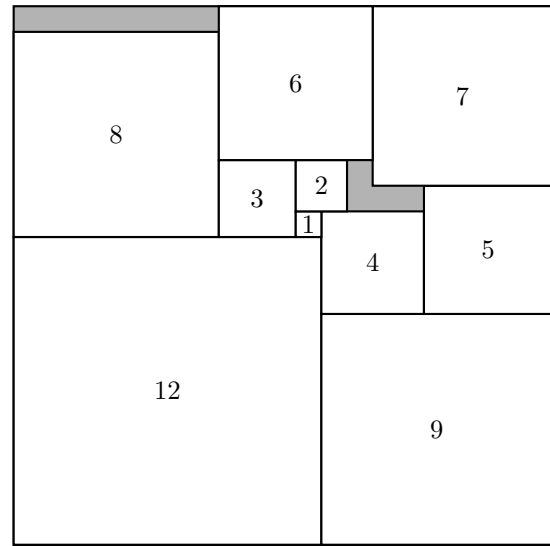
$$a(18) = 20$$



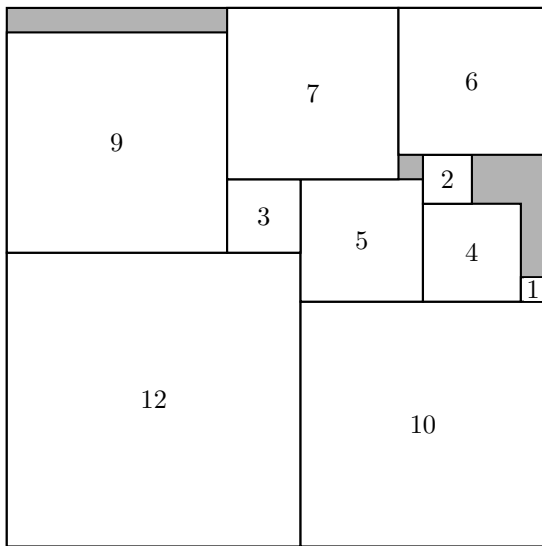
$$a(19) = 25$$



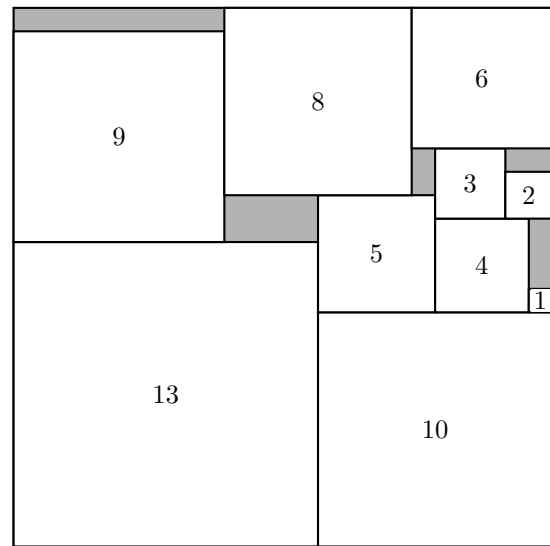
$$a(20) = 30$$



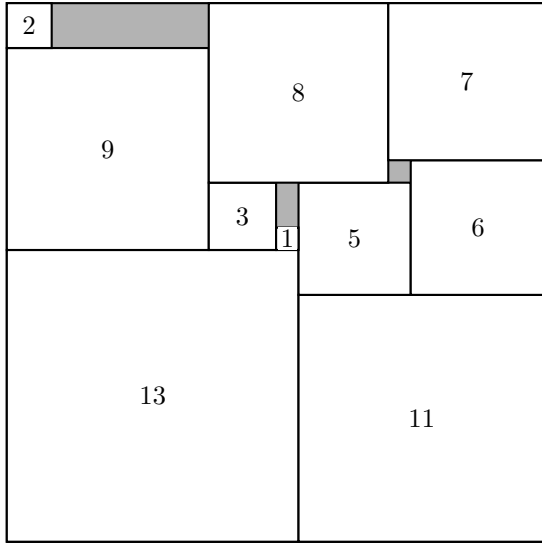
$$a(21) = 12$$



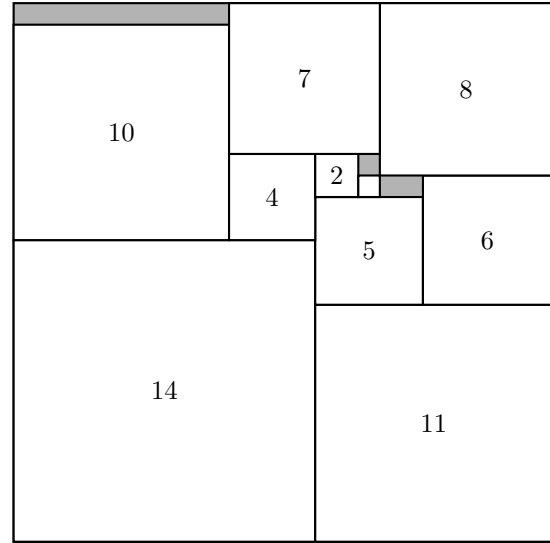
$$a(22) = 19$$



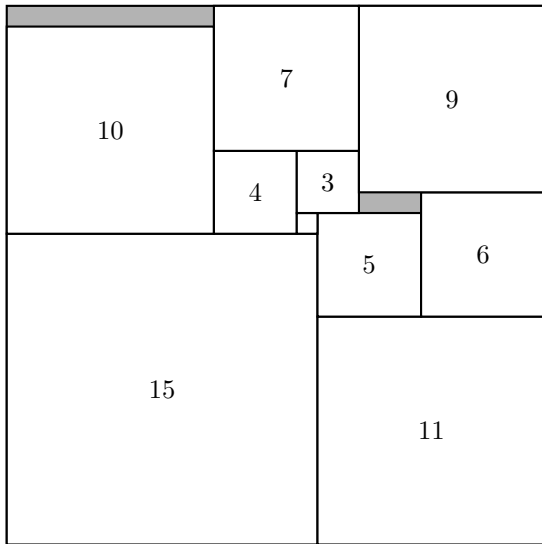
$$a(23) = 24$$



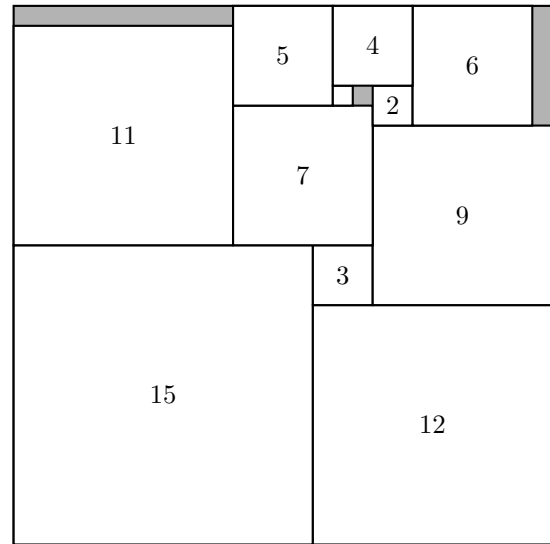
$$a(24) = 17$$



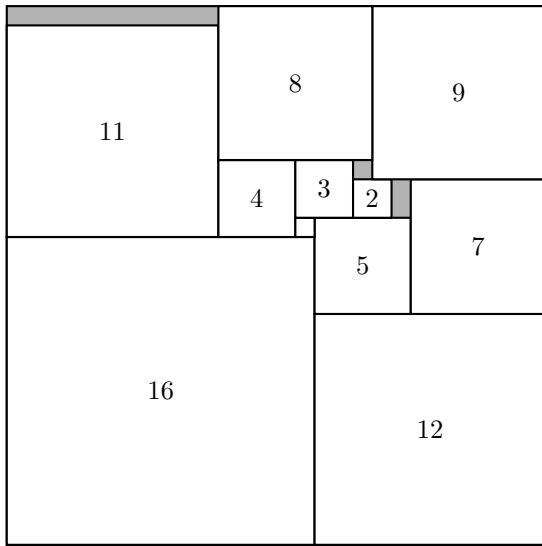
$$a(25) = 13$$



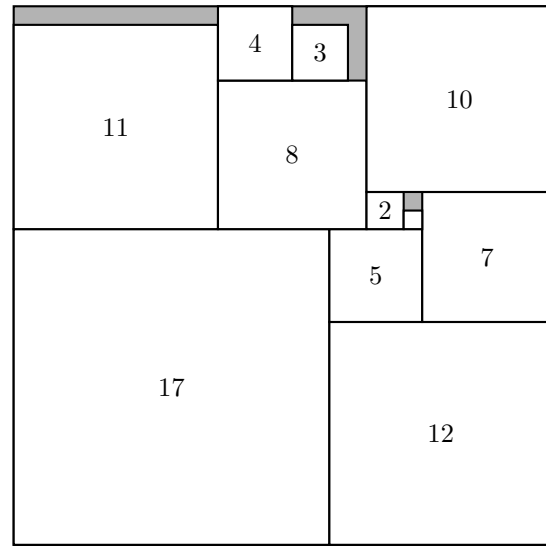
$$a(26) = 13$$



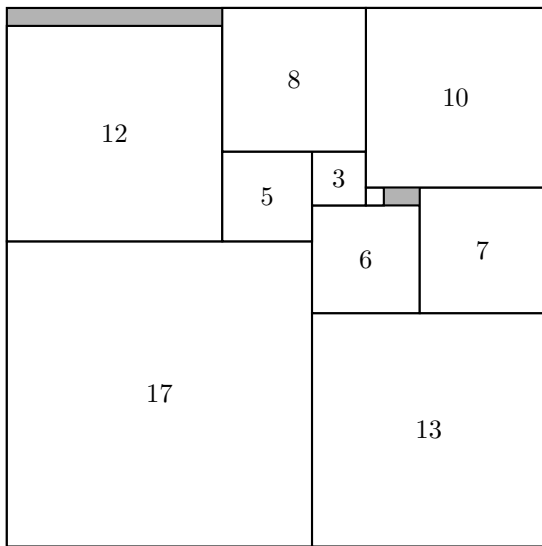
$$a(27) = 18$$



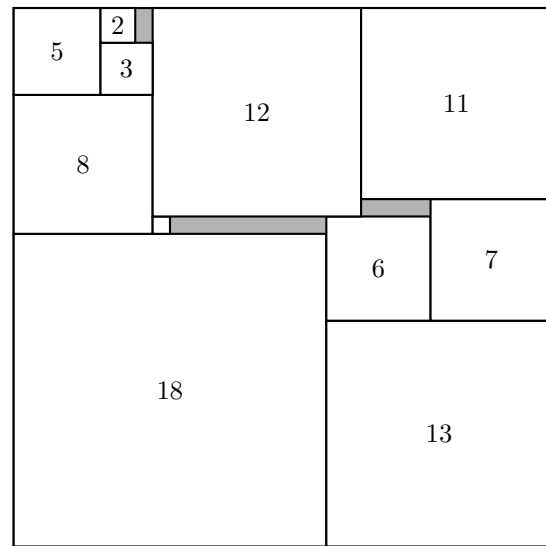
$$a(28) = 14$$



$$a(29) = 19$$



$$a(30) = 14$$



$$a(31) = 15$$