Michigan Math Club Thursday at 4pm in the Nesbitt Room

Free Pizza and Pop

Tilings

Stephen DeBacker

Abstract for 15 October 2015

For at least four thousand years people have been using tiles to create beautiful spaces in temples, pyramids, palaces, swimming pools, bathrooms. People like solving puzzles and finding patterns, so it is not surprising that over the same millennia many mathematical questions about tilings have been posed: What geometric shapes allow tilings? What if we work with more than one type of shape? What if we require the shapes to be convex? Are all tilings periodic? As with all good math questions, the answers to these questions naturally lead to more questions. In this talk, we will discuss some of these questions, their answers, and where one might next explore.



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