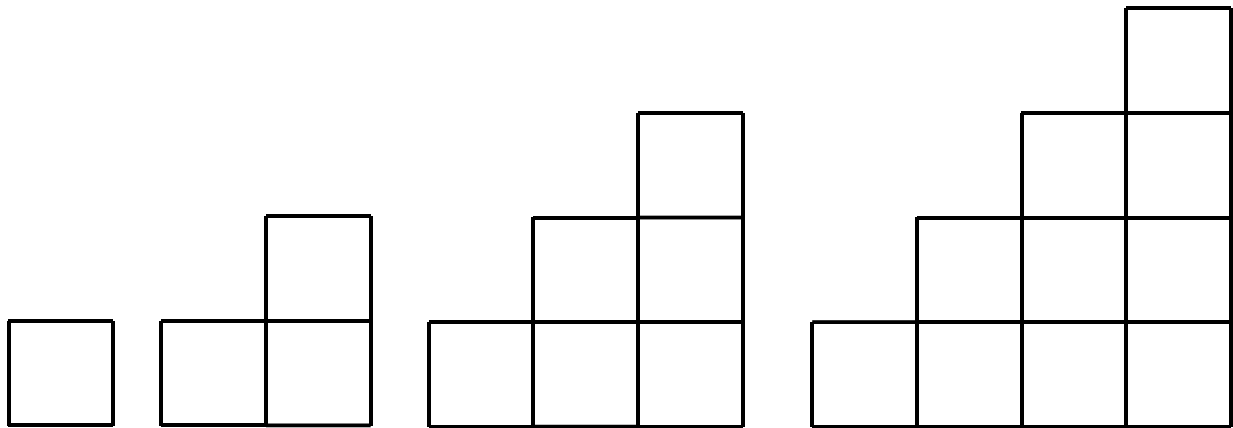


Staircases



Given the following pattern, generate a formula that will determine how many squares are in the n^{th} step.



Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Go to Dr. Gober's office (Room 310) on the 3rd floor of Jordan Hall to present your solution to the Master Teacher. Be prepared to explain how your formula makes sense with respect to the figures shown.