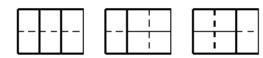




A 2 × 3 grid of squares can be divided into 1 × 2 rectangles in three different ways.



How many ways are there of dividing the bottom shape into 1×2 rectangles?

A 1

B 4

C 6

D 7

E 8



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If, in the given shape, A forms the top 1×2 rectangle then the possible different ways to fill the remaining 2×4 rectangle are, from left to right:

A, A, A, A;

A, A, B, B;

B, A, A, B;

B, B, A, A;

B, B, B, B.

If A does not form the top 1×2 rectangle, then the only possible way is to use 4B and an A. Hence there are 6 ways of dividing the given shape into 1×2 rectangles.