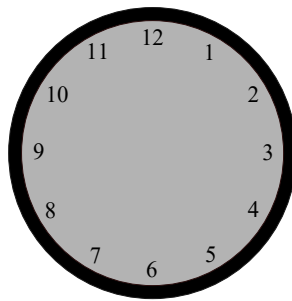

Problem of the Week

Solution One

Draw two straight lines on the clock face below so that the sum of the numbers in each of the resulting sections is the same.



Let us first note that the sum of all the numbers on the face is 78. If we imagine that our two lines cross each other, forming an X on the clock face, then we would have four regions. Since 78 is not a multiple of four, it would then be impossible for all four regions to have the same sum.

We conclude that the two lines do not cross, leaving three regions each with a sum of 26. Moreover, two of the sections will consist of consecutive numbers. With a little experimentation, we arrive at the solution:

