

sci.math: Re: 64 – is this the only number that is both a sq and a cube?

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From: Bob Silverman (*anonymous_at_mathforum.org*)

Date: 09/20/04

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On 20 Sep 2004, Michael Lockhart wrote:

>"Bob Silverman" <*anonymous@mathforum.org*> wrote in message

<snip>

>*I think he's just a complete layman who is looking at that as $64 = 8*8 = 4*4*4$. In his head, he's not going to get to $3^6 = 729 = 27*27 = 9*9*9$, so it looks unique to him.*

Allow me to pontificate/editorialize a bit... No flames are intended except those aimed at our (U.S.) currently incompetent educational system.

Does "complete layman" = "complete moron"??? [no flame intended toward original poster]

The question asked is a simple one that should be able to be answered by anyone who has taken/passed a year of algebra. The last time I looked, the minimum requirement for graduating high school in the U.S. [any high school] was two years of math...

Answering this question only requires simple arithmetic. If a high school graduate can not answer it, it speaks very poorly of the high school math teachers.....

I agree with R. Heinlein.