

A MINING BONANZA

A mining company made test drillings into a rich mineral reserve. The results were mapped on a grid showing the values in millions of dollars. Beginning at the square START the company can mine a route of thirteen squares, moving from square to square horizontally or vertically but **not** diagonally. A square can be visited only once.

One possible route is START, 24, 70, 6, 77, 30, 66, 22, 73, 19, 98, 1, 90, 14.
This route has a total value of \$590 million.

Find the route with the highest value.

32	80	19	98	1	90	14	85
66	22	73	52	72	57	83	31
30	84	41	73	16	74	45	92
77	6	70	24	START	28	67	11
32	99	44	81	27	75	42	98
68	21	72	56	59	42	75	17
34	87	19	92	5	99	27	88

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best result so far:

32	80	19	98	1	90	14	85
66	22	73	52	72	57	83	31
30	84	41	73	16	74	45	92
77	6	70	24	START	28	67	11
32	99	44	81	27	75	42	98
68	21	72	56	59	42	75	17
34	87	19	92	5	99	27	88

START, 28, 75, 42, 99, 27, 75, 42, 98, 11, 92, 45, 83, 57

total value \$774 million.