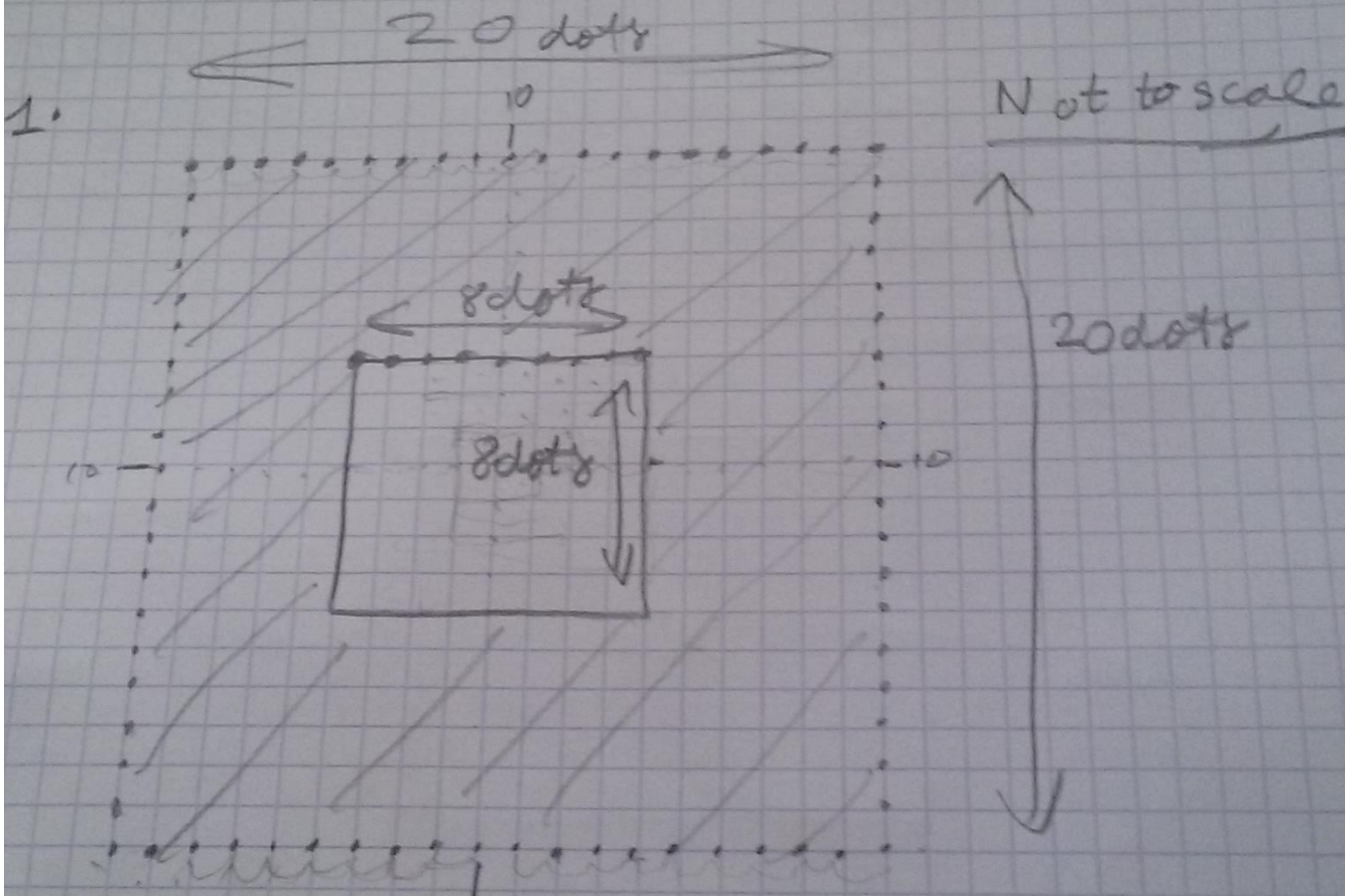


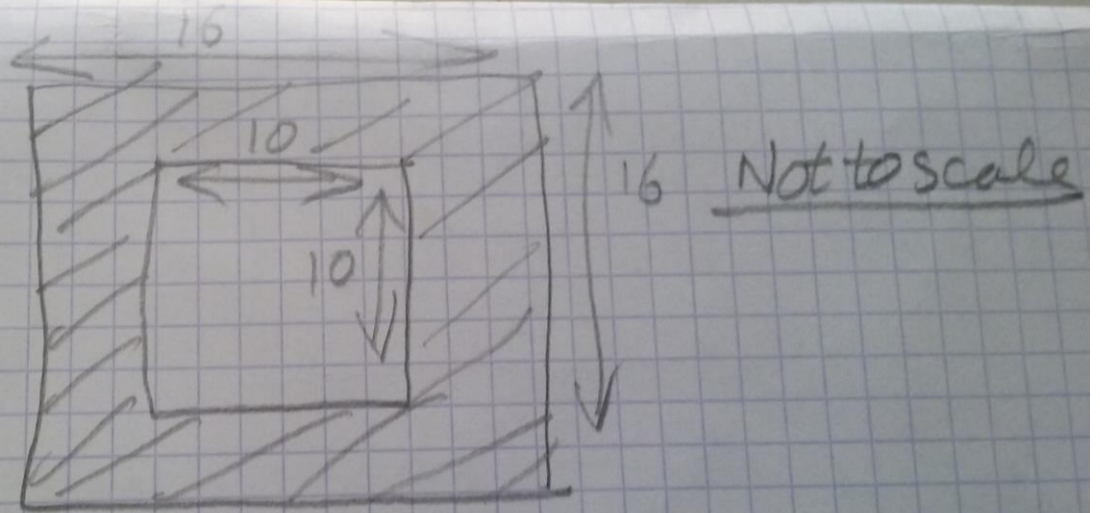
# Hollow squares



Total dots      empty dot space

$$\begin{aligned} &\downarrow && \downarrow \\ (20 \times 20) &- (8 \times 8) &= 400 - 64 \\ &&& \Rightarrow 336 \text{ dots} \end{aligned}$$

2.

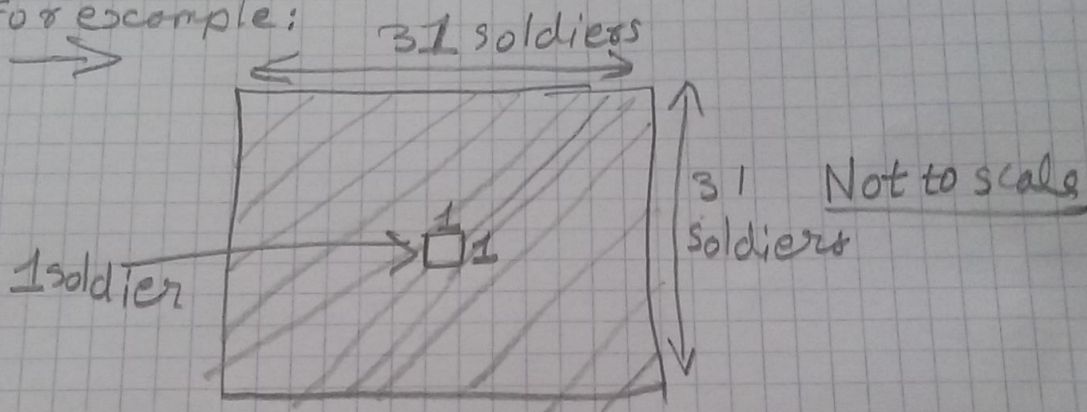


$$\Rightarrow (16 \times 16) - (10 \times 10) = 156 \text{ dots}$$

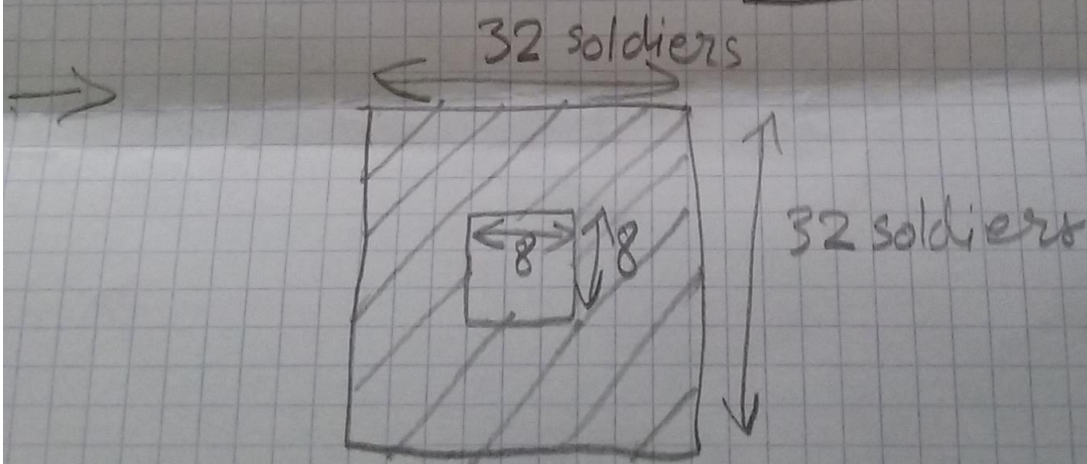
3. A general has 960 soldiers...

-> For the army to be arranged in Hollow square, the number of total dots have to be more than 960.

For example:



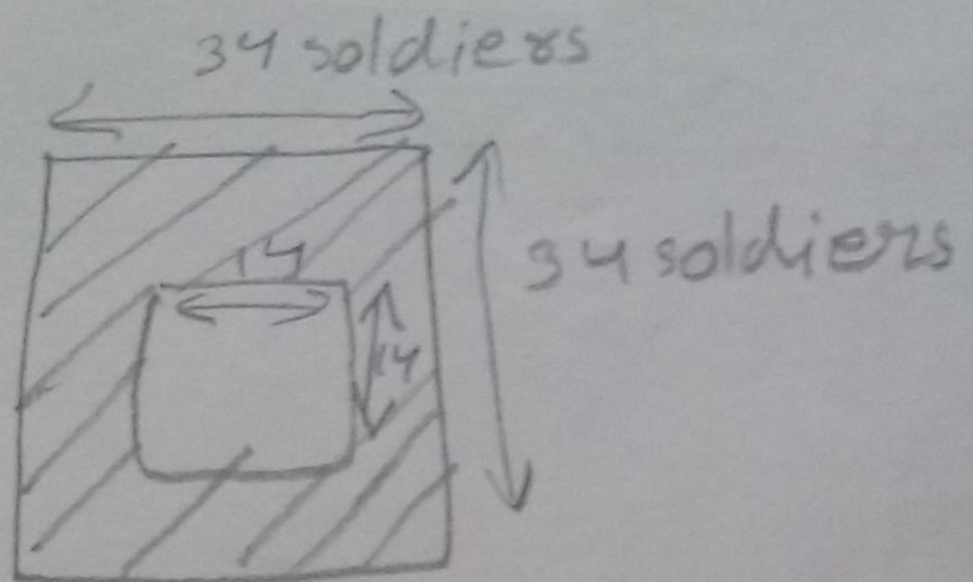
$$\text{so; } (31 \times 31) - (1 \times 1) = 961 - 1 \\ \Rightarrow \boxed{960}$$



$$\text{so; } (32 \times 32) - (8 \times 8) = 1024 - 64 \\ \Rightarrow \boxed{960}$$

and:

→



Not to scale

$$\text{so; } (34 \times 34) - (14 \times 14)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1156 - 196$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{960}$$