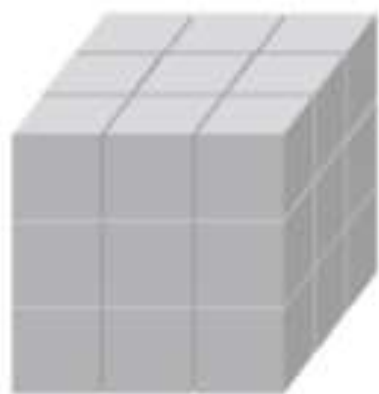


How many cubes are needed to make the bigger cube as shown below?

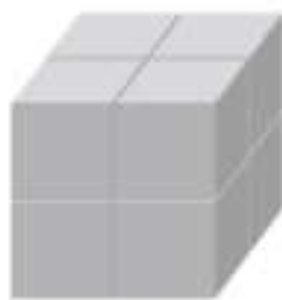


$$3 \times 3 = 9$$

$$9 \times 3 = 27$$

27 cubes are needed.

The diagram below shows two identical cubes formed by some small cubes. However, some small cubes are missing from the cube on the left. How many cubes are missing from the cube on the left?



$$2 \times 2 = 4$$

$$4 \times 2 = 8$$

$$8 - 4 = 4$$

4 cubes are missing.