

**SWAGMAN** (3-6 times key square)

A transposition cipher. Choose a key square height from 4 to 8 (e.g., 5). The key square is filled with the numbers from 1 to key square height (e.g., 5), arranged so that no number repeats in a row or column. Plaintext is written horizontally into a rectangle where the number of rows equals the key square height (e.g., 5), adding nulls to the plaintext, if necessary, to complete the rectangle. Ciphertext is formed by placing plaintext letters, column by column, into a ciphertext rectangle vertically in order of the numbers in the corresponding key square column. The ciphertext is taken off vertically and arranged in 5-letter groups.

**pt:** Don't be afraid to take a big leap if one is indicated. You cannot cross a river or a chasm in two small jumps.

**Key:** 3 2 1 4 5  
1 5 3 2 4  
2 4 5 3 1  
5 3 4 1 2  
4 1 2 5 3

**pt:** D O N T B   E A F R A   I D T O T   A K  
E A B I G   L E A P I   F O N E I   S I  
N D I C A   T E D Y O   U C A N N   O T  
C R O S S   A R I V E   R O R A C   H A  
S M I N T   W O S M A   L L J U M   P S

**K:** 3 2 1 4 5   3 2 1 4 5   3 2 1 4 5   3 2  
1 5 3 2 4   1 5 3 2 4   1 5 3 2 4   1 5  
2 4 5 3 1   2 4 5 3 1   2 4 5 3 1   2 4  
5 3 4 1 2   5 3 4 1 2   5 3 4 1 2   5 3  
4 1 2 5 3   4 1 2 5 3   4 1 2 5 3   4 1

**CT:** E M N S A   L O F V O   F L T A N   S S  
N O I I S   T A S P E   U D J E C   O K  
D R B C T   E R A Y A   I O N N M   A A  
S D O T G   W E I R I   L C R O I   P T  
C A I N B   A E D M A   R O A U T   H I

**CT:**  
ENDSC MORDA NIBOI SICTN ASTGB LTEWA OAREE FSAID VPYRM OEAIA FUILR  
LDOCO TJNRA AENOU NCMIT SOAPH SKATI.