

Pandora's Box

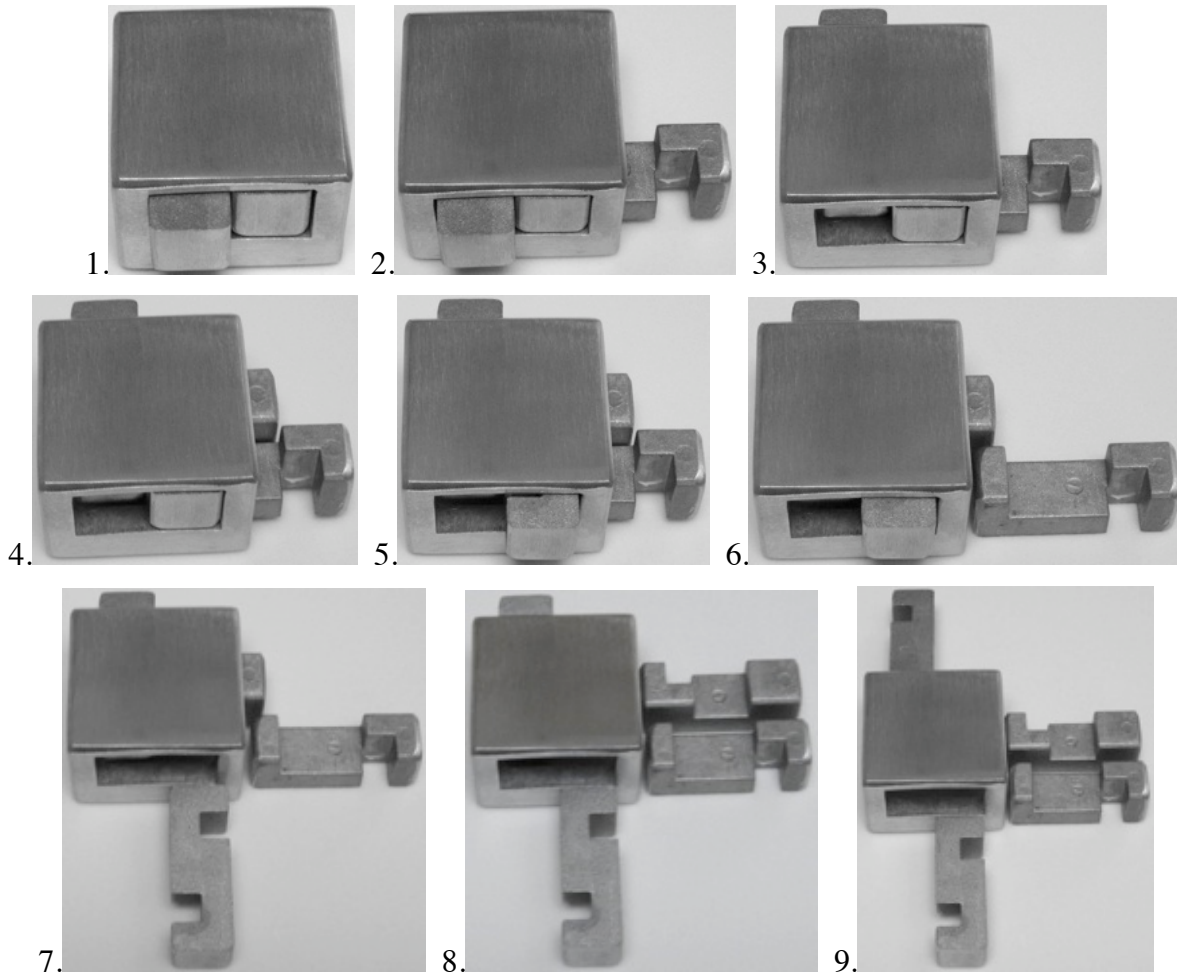


a.k.a. *Internal Combustion*

Designed by Tado Muroi early 1990's.

(left: "Pandora's Box", Mr. Puzzle Australia, Queensland Blackbean, 3.5x3.5x2.25";
 right: "Internal Combustion", Bits and Pieces, Aluminum, 2.25" x 2.25" x 1.5";
 described in *Boardman's book*)

Four burr pieces (two of which are identical) in a frame. Below is a 9-step assembly (6 steps to remove the first piece) based on the piece orientations shown on the right above (except in the photo above the left two have been flipped upside-down for better viewing):

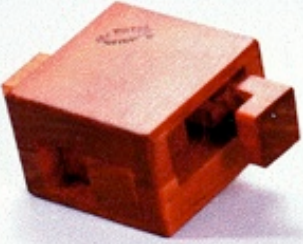


The Solution Sold With Pandora's Box

A 12-step assembly where the piece labeled 3 is reversed from the 9-step assembly shown on the preceding page:

ONE OF OUR MANY COMPLEX PUZZLES
MANUFACTURED IN QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA


PANDORA'S BOX



Made under license to the Muroi family

The puzzle is to remove the four pieces from inside the box.

Tadao Muroi designed this framed burr in Japan in the early 1990s. It requires twelve sliding moves to remove the pieces from inside the box. The real puzzle may turn out to be how to get them back inside the box again using these 12 moves, although there are other combinations.



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The solution you've been waiting for to
PANDORA'S BOX

The real trick to this puzzle seems to be getting it back together again using the full twelve moves you used to get it apart.... nearly all of you seem to have been able to get it apart... EVENTUALLY!

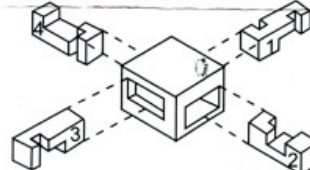


Diagram 1

If you're still working on getting it apart you can always do these steps in reverse. Note: when the box is together Block 3 is the only block that will move. From this you should be able to orientate the puzzle as in Diagram 4 and work backwards.

Diagram 2

Slide Block 1 in leaving it 15mm short - out of box.
Slide Block 2 in under Block 1 and 15mm past and out of the box on the other side.
Slide Block 3 in over Block 2 and next to Block 1 leaving it 15mm short - out of the box.
Slide Block 4 in under Block 3 and next to Block 2 leaving it 45mm short - out of the box.

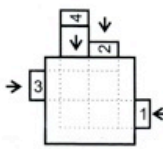


Diagram 3

Slide Block 3 in a further 15mm - it should now be flush inside the box.
Slide Block 2 in a further 15mm - it should now be flush inside the box.
Slide Block 1 in a further 15mm - it should now be flush inside the box.
Slide Block 4 in a further 15mm - it should now be 30mm outside the box.

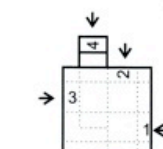
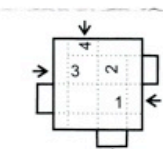


Diagram 4


Slide Block 3 15mm back out of the box.
Slide Block 2 15mm back out of the box - BE CAREFUL it will slide further ..
Slide Block 1 15mm back out of the box.
Slide Block 4 a further 30mm - it should now be flush inside the box.
Slide Block 1, then Block 2 and then Block 3 15mm each back inside the box.... and IT'S DONE!



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Solution Enclosed

DIFFICULTY RATING



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The Solution Sold with Internal Combustion

A 15-step assembly (see also the Boardman book):

Internal Combustion
Item #42734
 Designed by: Muroi Shinji

The object is to remove the four beams from the block (Fig. 1). The beams should not have to be forced out. If it is difficult to move the beam into position, try moving the two beams that cross over it slightly. It is an exact fit so all of the beams have to be positioned precisely for it to work.

1. Locate the beam that can be slightly pushed out of the block (Fig. 2). This will be beam "A" in the starting position. Once "A" has been established, follow the diagrams to solve the brainteaser.
2. Move "C" down (Fig. 3).
3. Move "B" to the right (Fig. 4).
4. Move "D" up (Fig. 5).
5. Move "B" back in (Fig. 6).
6. Move "C" back in (Fig. 7).
7. Move "A" back in (Fig. 8).
8. Move "D" further out (Fig. 9).
9. Move "B" to the left (Fig. 10).
10. Move "C" up (Fig. 11).
11. Move "A" to the right (Fig. 12).
12. Remove "D" (Fig. 13).
13. Remove "A" (Fig. 14).
14. Remove "C" (Fig. 15).
15. Remove "B" (Fig. 16).

To reset the brainteaser, reverse the steps.

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