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J. GREENE

2,007,530

PUZZLE GAME

Filed Nov. 21, 1933

Fig. 1

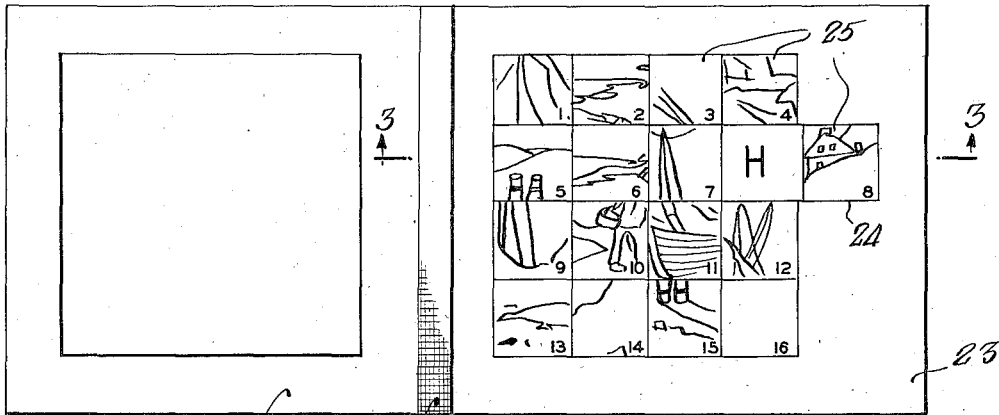


Fig. 2

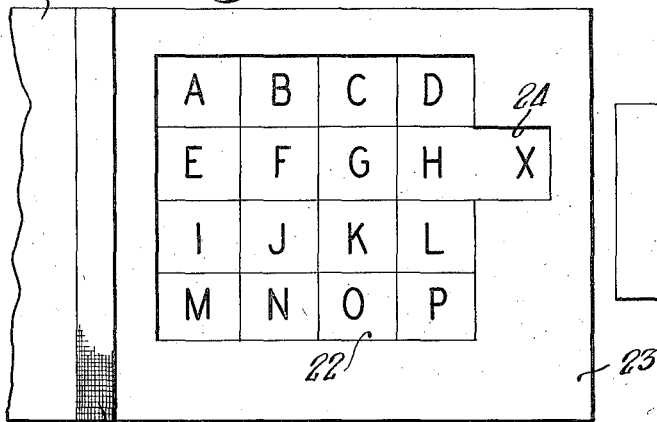


Fig. 5

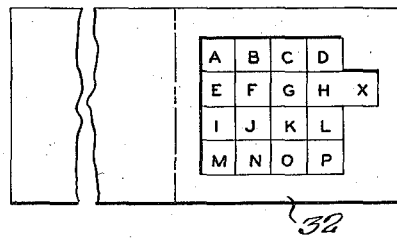


Fig. 6

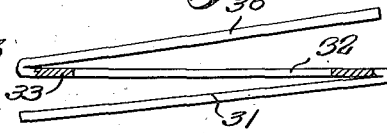


Fig. 3

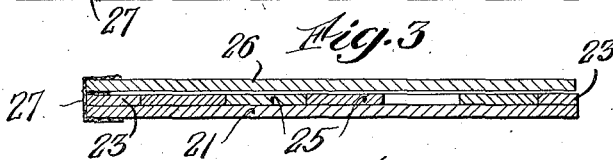


Fig. 4

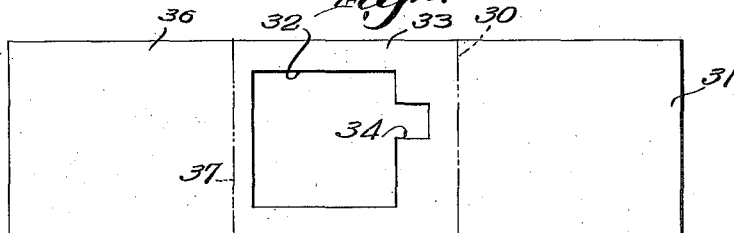
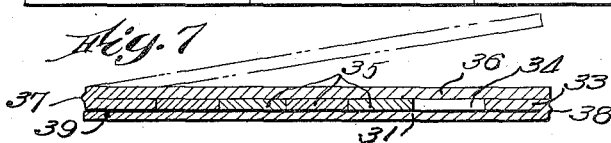


Fig. 7



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PUZZLE GAME

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4 Claims. (Cl. 273—157)

This invention relates to puzzle games and pertains more particularly to games of skill involving sliding movement of disarranged pieces or blocks to form a complete puzzle picture. One of the objects of the invention is to provide a rectangular frame adapted to receive several rows of rectangular blocks or puzzle pieces, the thickness of the blocks being approximately equal to the depth of the frame and the frame having a side opening aligned with one of the block rows and of a size to receive one block while the remaining pieces are being moved within the frame proper in completing the puzzle.

Another object is to furnish means for locating the puzzle pieces in a prearranged disorder and for identifying the successive moves of the respective blocks as they are slid relatively to each other into their proper ultimate positions to form a completed rectangular picture. Thus, by affixing suitable indicia to the blocks and to the spaces which they occupy within the frame, the skill of one player may be compared with that of another or with a predetermined standard defining the minimum number of moves required to finish the puzzle.

A further purpose of the invention is to provide a simple and economical game device of this character which may be made of cardboard or other sheet material and which comprises a back part or base, a frame portion forming the border of the puzzle field, and a top or cover section foldable over the frame portion thereby to enclose the blocks within the frame or border when the game is not in use.

These and other features of the improved puzzle game will be apparent from the following description of the recommended embodiments of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing; and will be pointed out in the appended claims. In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a plan view of one form of the improved puzzle, the cover being opened and the blocks being arranged in disorder for the commencement of play;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 1, with the blocks removed from the frame;

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1 with the cover closed to retain the pieces against displacement;

Fig. 4 is a front view of a blank used in making a modified form of the puzzle;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view of the blank with an end section folded under the central frame section;

Fig. 6 is an edge view (partly in section) of

Fig. 5, the cover section being folded over toward the frame section; and

Fig. 7 is a sectional view of a closed puzzle game made from the blank of Fig. 4.

In the particular embodiment chosen for the purpose of illustration in Figs. 1 to 5, the puzzle game comprises a base or back section 21; a recessed or cut-out portion 22 constituting a rectangular space for the puzzle pieces and surrounded by a border or frame section 23, the border having an additional opening 24 leading to the frame recess 22; a plurality of rectangular blocks 25 arranged in vertical and horizontal rows within the frame; and a cover 26 of substantially the same size as the base and frame sections pivotally connected to the recessed base and adapted to fold over the frame portion and onto the surface of the border 23, as by a web hinge 27 thereby to enclose the pieces and prevent their displacement from the frame while the game is not in use. It will be evident that the puzzle pieces 25 may be cut from the stock which has been died or stamped out of the frame section, thus effecting an economy of material and ensuring that the blocks will fit nicely within the frame with their upper faces flush with the surfaces of the border 23.

The blocks display complementary portions of a complete rectangular puzzle picture which may be reproduced on the inside of the cover 26 as an aid in solving the puzzle; and the faces of the blocks also bear index characters such as the numerals 1 to 16 indicated in Fig. 1, to show their initial positions and to identify each piece as it is moved within the frame. The spaces underlying the respective blocks are also marked with a complementary series of indicia, such as the letters "A" to "P" (Fig. 2), and the side opening is indicated by the letter "X". Hence the player may keep an accurate record of his successive moves for comparison with a correct solution of the puzzle, and this record will also show the total number of moves which have been necessary to complete the picture.

It will be apparent that the first move will necessarily be block 8 to space "X" (as in Figs. 1 and 3), and that the next move will be block 4 or 7 or 12 to space "H". As one space will remain vacant, the various pieces may be slid horizontally or vertically without removing them from the frame until the puzzle is finally solved; the final move being block 8 from space "X" to space "H". The puzzle picture will then correspond to the complete rectangular picture shown

on the cover (or elsewhere), and the record of number of moves will show whether the player is "expert", "fair", or "poor" as compared with another player or with the approved solution.

5 It will be understood that the number of puzzle pieces may be varied within wide limits according to the simplicity or complexity of solution which is desired; that the puzzle subject may be a picture, map, design or combination of
10 words, letters or figures; and that the nature of the index characters on the blocks and frame spaces may be reversed or otherwise modified as desired.

The optional form of puzzle game shown in
15 Figs. 4 to 7 may be cut or stamped from a single sheet of cardboard or the like, the blank comprising a back section 31; a cut out opening 32 in the intermediate frame section 33 which is provided with the side opening 34; the puzzle
20 blocks 35 divided from the portion cut from the frame proper; and a front or cover member 36. The back and front sections are connected to the frame portion 33 at the weakened or fold lines 37 and 38 respectively; the base 31 is folded under
25 the frame and attached to the border by adhesive 39 or other fastening means; and the front cover is foldable over the frame in the manner previously described. This arrangement
30 simplifies the printing and identification of the spaces on the back section and the depiction of the completed picture on the cover; and the entire article may be distributed in an envelope
as an advertising novelty.

35 Other modifications of the structures herein described may be practiced to suit particular purposes without departing from the essence of this invention as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

40 1. A puzzle game formed of a single sheet of material and comprising a rectangular frame, a back section folded under said frame and secured thereto to provide a base for the frame recess, a series of puzzle pieces fitting within the frame,
45 and a cover section folding over the frame to enclose said puzzle pieces therewithin.

50 2. A puzzle game formed of a single sheet of material and comprising a rectangular frame, a back section folded under said frame and secured thereto to provide a base for the frame recess, a series of puzzle pieces formed from the mate-

rial removed from the frame recess and fitting within the frame, and a cover section folding over the frame to enclose said puzzle pieces there-
5 within, the back section being lined and indexed to indicate the spaces underlying said pieces, and the frame having a side opening leading to said recess and adapted to receive one of said pieces.

3. A puzzle game comprising a back section, a
10 frame section, and a cover section, each formed of relatively stiff and flat sheet material, the frame section being adhesively secured to the
15 back section and the cover being hinged to one of said sections along one side thereof and foldable flatwise over the frame, and a plurality of
movable puzzle pieces, also formed of flat sheet
20 material, arranged in rows within the frame recess, each of said pieces displaying a segment of a picture, and the frame having a side opening in line with one of said rows and adapted to
25 receive one of the puzzle pieces, so that the remaining pieces may be slid relatively to each other within the frame properly to assemble the picture segments displayed thereon thereby to display a picture which is completed by moving
the offset puzzle piece from the side opening of
the frame into the frame proper.

4. A puzzle game comprising a back section, a
30 frame section and a cover section, each formed of relatively stiff and flat sheet material, the frame section being adhesively secured to the back section, and the cover being hinged to one of said
35 sections along one side thereof and foldable flatwise over the frame, and a plurality of movable puzzle pieces, also formed of flat sheet material, arranged in rows within the frame recess, each
40 of said pieces displaying a segment of a picture, and the frame having a side opening in line with one of said rows and adapted to receive one of the puzzle pieces, so that the remaining pieces
45 may be slid relatively to each other within the frame properly to assemble the picture segments displayed thereon thereby to display a picture which is completed by moving the offset puzzle piece from the side opening of the frame into
the frame proper, the respective puzzle pieces
50 bearing index characters in addition to the picture segments, whereby the pieces may be arranged in a predetermined disorder and whereby the player may keep a record of his moves.

JOSEPHINE GREENE. 50