

Jaap's Puzzle Page

Puzzle Patents

Many of the puzzles listed on this site are patented. On the page of any particular patented puzzle it usually mentions the inventor and the patent publication date and number, and has a link to a pdf file of the patent itself. On this page I have collected all those links together.

All the patents listed here are of actual puzzles, or are patents of historic interest that are mentioned in the [Cubic Circular](#) or the [Circle Puzzler's Manual](#). Many patents exist that have never been made into real puzzles, or that are minor variations of existing ones. For a nice collection of such patents, you should visit [Joshua Bell's Puzzle Patents page](#).

Polyhedral

Pyraminx	Uwe Meffert	30 December 1981	EP 42,695
Skewb Puzzle Ball	Uwe Meffert	25 October 1994	US 5,358,247
The pocket cube 2x2x2	Ernö Rubik	29 March 1983	US 4,378,117
Eastsheen 2x2x2 cube	Chen Sen Li	27 October 1998	US 5,826,871
Mickey Mouse puzzle	Francisco Josa Patermann	22 May 1996	EP 712,649
Darth Maul puzzle	Thomas Kremer	17 April 2001	US 6,217,023
K-ball	Saleh Khoudary	11 May 2000	WO 00/25874
Figurematch / Pyramorphix	Manfred Fritsche	11 August 1982	DE 3,245,341
The Rubik's Cube 3x3x3	Ernö Rubik	30 January 1975	BE 887,875
Cube precursor	Larry D. Nichols	11 April 1972	US 3,655,201
Cube precursor	Frank Fox	16 January 1974	GB 1,344,259
Cube precursor	William G. Gustafson	12 March 1963	US 3,081,089
4x4x4 Rubik's Revenge	Peter Sebesteny	20 December 1983	US 4,421,311
5x5x5 Professor's cube	Udo Krell	15 July 1986	US 4,600,199
Brain Twist	Charles Hoberman, Matthew Davis	12 May 2005	US 2005/098947

Jackpot / Platypus	Yusuf Seyhan	16 January 2003	WO 03/004117
Alexander's Star	Adam Alexander	26 March 1985	US 4,506,891
Dogic	Zoltan and Robert Vecsei	28 July 1998	HU 214.709
Impossible	William O. Gustafson	2 October 1984	US 4,474,376
Thomasball	Zdenek Blazek, Miroslav Jandora	13 February 2003	US 2003/030,212
Dihedral			
Smart Alex	Dumitru A. Pop	26 May 1992	US 5,116,052
Brainball	Andreas Unsicker	21 Dec 1999	US 6,003,868
Rubik's Cheese	Erno Rubik	18 October 1983	US 4,410,179
Rubik's Domino	Ernö Rubik	29 March 1983	US 4,378,116
Gerdig Ufo	Gerhard Huncaga	6 December 1994	US 5,370,394
Hockey Puck	Zoltan Pataki, Udulo Mszmp, Geza Csomos	7 March 1991	WO 91/02574
Masterball	Geza Gyovai	15 August 1989	US 4,856,786
Logi Vip ball	Hubert Petutschnig	11 June 1981	WO 81/01638
Roundy	Fritz Gruber	7 December 1993	US 5,267,731
Tricky Disky	Universal Connections Steckverbindungen Vertriebs GmbH.	28 December 1989	DE 3,821,297
Ufo / Varia-Disk	Imre Peredy	31 March 1983	WO 83/01009
Bandaged			
Rotascope	Raoul Henrique Raba	27-02-1981 05-03-1982 19-03-1982	FR 2,463,632 FR 2,489,164 FR 2,490,102
Square-1	Karel Hrsel, Vojtech Kopsky	16 March 1993	US 5,193,809
With gaps			
Atomic Chaos	Christoph Hausammann	5 January 1993	US 5,176,382
Babylon Tower	Arxon Spiel + Freizeit	2 December 1982	DE 3,104,021
Backspin	Ferdinand Lammertink	22 December 1992	US 5,172,912
Clark's Cube	William H. Clark	18 December 1984	US 4,488,725
Grooved Fifteen puzzle	Ernest U. Kinsey	20 August 1878	US 207,124

Genius	Steven P. Hanson, Howard J. Morrison, Douglas P. Montague	6 April 1982	US 4,323,243
Great Gears	Koichi Minami, Tohru Nishimiya	28 August 1984	US 4,468,033
Inversion	Patrick A. Roberts	16 April 1985	US 4,511,144
Massage ball	Otto Wu	14 February 1995	US 5,389,063
Missing Link	Steven P. Hanson, Jeffrey D. Breslow	15 Feb 1983	US 4,373,729
Rack'em up	Mizunuma Masanori, Watanabe Hiroyuki	13 November 1984	US 4,482,154
Row by Row	Mizunuma Masanori, Watanabe Hiroyuki	13 November 1984	US 4,482,154
Saturn (LD games)	Ludo Arthur Marie Jules DeBergh	21 March 1996	WO 96/08296
Varikon Box 2×2×2, 3×3×3	Csaba Postasy, Gabor Eszes, and Miklos Zagoni	19 June 1981	DE 3,027,556
Virus	Dov Nesis	28 July 1998	US 5,785,318
Wisdom ball	Yang Ju-Hsun	1 June 1993	US 5,215,305
Flat without gaps			
Cohan circle	Hooshang Cohan	8 April 1986	US 4,580,783
Rubik's Fifteen	Ernö Rubik	18 September 1984	US 4,471,959
Gripple	Murray J. Gould	5 April 1988	US 4,735,417
Mad Triad	Heng-Chun Ku	8 February 2000	US 6,022,021
Rashkey	Oleg Raschkov	2 September 1999	DE 29,904,348 U
Rotos	Manfred Fritsche	4 June 1986	DD 236,263
Hungarian Rings precursor	William Churchill	24 Oct 1893	US 507,215
Swissmad	Olivier Pahud	16 June 2005	WO 2005/053809
Triple Cross	Ferdinand Lammertink	6 August 1996	US 5,542,673
Topspin	Ferdinand Lammertink	3 Oct 1989	US 4,871,173
Topspin variant	Chiu-Huang Chang	12 April 1997	US 5,622,368
Trillion	Gunpei Yokoi	15 March 1983	US 4,376,537
Tsukuda's Square / It	Toshihisa Suga	26 January 1983	GB 2,101,897
Lotica	Serguei and Alexandre Bagdassarian	3 October 1996	WO 96/030097
Turnstile / Dazzler	Douglas A. Engel	15 November	US 4,415,152

TUMSLING / FUZZIG	Douglas A. Elyer	1983	US 4,419,199
Zauberkreuz	Athanasios Margaritis	20 October 1988	DE 3.711.368

Other permutation puzzles

Astrolabacus	John Harris	8 July 1997	US 5,645,278
Chromo ball	Tsun Ding Chen	6 October 1998	US 5,816,571
Cmetrick Too	Rom Dror	10 August 2004	US 6,773,011
Combo puzzle	David Ayers	24 November 1987 21 November 1989	US 4,708,345 US 4,881,738
Equator / Hungarian Globe	Ferenc Molnár	16 June 1982	GB 2,088,728
Massage Ball 2	Tsun Ding Chen	17 December 1998	US 5,836,584
Mozaika	Rudolf Destics	22 October 1996	US 5,566,941
Nintendo barrel	Gunpei Yokoi	15 March 1983 18 January 1983	US 4,376,537 USD 267,661
Orb	Christopher C. Wiggs & Christopher J. Taylor	19 November 1985	US 4,553,754
Rubik's Triamid	Erno Rubik	28 March 1991	HU 207,233
Ufo	Wai K. Chan	13 May 1997	US 5,628,512
King Ring	Zoltan Pataki, Istvan Varadi, Attila Kovacs	21 March 1996	WO 96/08297

Pattern matching puzzles

Bolygok	Jozsef Bogнар	9 December 1981	GB 2,076,663
Rubik's Dice	Jozsef Bogнар;Ernö Rubik	20 September 1990	WO 90/10481
Frustr8tor	Albert Eckhardt	21 September 2006	WO 2006/098614
Rubik's Maze	Jozsef Bogнар;Ernö Rubik	29 September 1982	DE 3,145,032
Pyrix	Jan Essebaggers, Jaap Koops	28 April 1992	US 5,108,100
Transposer	Chaim Raphael Weinreb	19 July 2000	WO 99/15248
Turn 12	REFO Verlag GmbH	28 March 2002	DE 20,112,728 U

Others

Rubik's clock	Christopher Wiggs, Christopher Taylor	26 September	US 4,860,506
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Rubik's Clock	Christopher Wiggs, Christopher Taylor	1989	US 4,609,300
Cmetrick	Rom Dror	8 January 2004	WO 2004/002587
Columbus Egg	Morichika Hatakeyama, Koichi Minami	25 December 1984	US 4,489,944
Combinescion / Enigma	Massimiliano Roman	1 February 1996	WO 96/02307
Dizzy Rainbow	Dmitry Zlotsky	24 September 1996	US 5,558,331
Hexadecimal Puzzle	William Keister	25 January 1972	US 3,637,216
Kibble Cube	Giorgio Giorgi	25 June 1986	EP 185,628
Kinato	Lau Kok Khoon (Lawrence Lau)	18 July 2002	WO 02/055169
Lights Out	Revital Blumberg, Michael Ganor, Avish J. Weiner	23 May 1995 12 November 1996 18 February 1997	US 5,417,425 US 5,573,245 US 5,603,500
Vulcan XL-25	David Ildiko, Laszlo Meroe, Ferenc Szatmari	4 January 1983.	WO83/02399
Luminations	Donald C. Miffitt, Angelo Tortola, Charles S. Sebor, Robert L. Halliday	18 September 1990	US 4,957,291
Rubik's Magic	Ernő Rubik	11 August 1987	US 4,685,680
Orbik	Shih-Hung Juang	21 June 1988	US 4,752,074
Orbix	Uwe Meffert	15 October 1996	US 5,564,702
Padlock	Ira Friedman	8 November 1988	US 4,782,676
Spinout	William Keister	25 January 1972	US 3,637,215
Think-a-Dot	Joseph A. Weisbecker	Jul 21 1966	US 3,388,483

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