

RUBIK'S
"The World's Best Puzzles!"

Match Up The Ropes
To Untangle The Tangle!



Part No. T030-30320-13

SOLUTION **Hints!** BOOKLET



RUBIK'S TANGLE
"The World's Knottiest Puzzle!"





RUBIK'S TANGLE™

the World's Knottiest Puzzle™

Solutions Hints Booklet

"The World's Knottiest Puzzle"	2
Meet Your Tangle	3
General Hints	5
Tangle Shapes	11
Solution Hints	12

The World's Knottiest Puzzle™

RUBIK'S™ Tangle™ is a mind-bending jigsaw in which more than one piece will fit in any space and the final picture is unknown.

All you have to do is put the pieces together to make a 3 by 3 square with the colors properly linked.

There are only nine pieces, but thousands of possibilities—and only one solution.

You will need to use your wits to tie up the loose ends and solve the puzzle. So be patient, the secret of **RUBIK'S™ Tangle™** takes some unraveling.

Meet Your Tangle

RUBIK'S™ Tangle™ has nine pieces. Each piece has the same interweaving design of four string shapes on each side.



Each string is a different color: purple, red, yellow, or green. The colors are arranged so that no two combinations are the same. So on the nine pieces, all eighteen sides are different.

Two strings meet each edge of each piece. There are twelve different color pairs possible on the edges.



Example: The color pairs on this piece are, in clockwise order starting from the top edge: Red-Green; Purple-Green; Yellow-Red; Purple-Yellow.

Meet Your Tangle

Only pieces with an opposite color pairing will fit alongside one another.

Example: A Red-Green pair will only fit against Green-Red.



The challenge is to make a 3 by 3 square using all nine pieces so that all the colors link up.



(Note this diagram is purely illustrative and is not the solution.)

General Hints

First, the bad news—the only sure-fire way to solve RUBIK'S™ Tangle™ is to systematically try different arrangements until you solve it.

The good news is that by using a little wit and wisdom, some short cuts can be deduced.

The biggest hint would be to give the solution, but then there would be no challenge. Short of that, here are some of the short cuts.

First get to know the four different string shapes that form the pattern. They are:



The Curve



The Straight



The Wiggle



The Hook

General Hints

Where a piece is needed to fit with two others, place any piece in the space so you can see which shapes can link the colors.

Example: To fit in the space, the piece must have a Yellow Curve, Red Straight, and Green Wiggle.

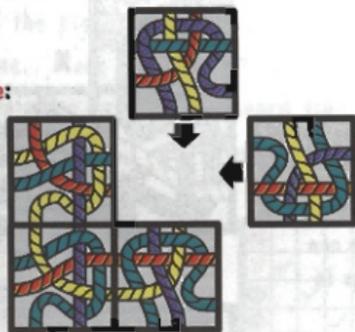


Remembering the names of the shapes makes it easier to find a piece that will fit when searching through the remaining pieces. If there isn't one that fits, then at least one of the pieces already placed is wrong.

General Hints

When four different colors appear on the edges of two pieces bordering a space, there may be two different pieces that will fit. In both cases, the wiggle will be the same color.

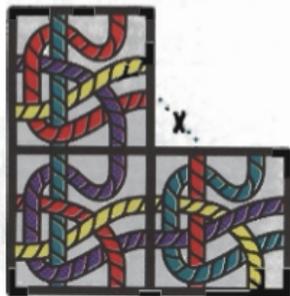
Example:



You may find that you have put 7 pieces together, but that the last two don't fit. Don't give up! Check to see if one or both of those pieces can replace one already in position. If so, you'll have new possibilities which may allow you to solve the puzzle.

General Hints

Familiarity with the shapes also helps you to spot when no piece can fit.



Example: No shape can link the red strings in these diagrams.



General Hints

Identify the pieces by numbering and marking each side (use sticky tabs or a pencil). This helps to solve the puzzle systematically.

Record the pieces by drawing two small tables for each one. Mark the color of the shapes and note the color pairs on each edge of each side as shown here.

Piece #1: Front



GP/YP/RG/YR

Piece #1: Back



GR/PY/RG/PY

Using this chart, you can see which pieces have a certain color pair you may be looking for.

Examining and listing the pieces may help you spot anything unusual that might give you a clue to the solution. For example, there are no **Yellow Straights**.

General Hints

Now think about the problem. Look at the information you have. See what you might be able to infer about the solution from this. For example, you know:

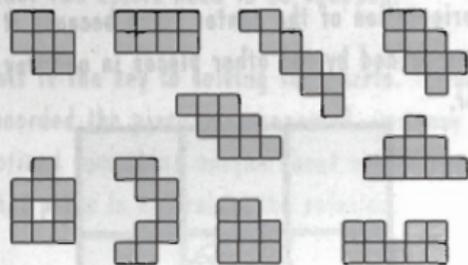
- The answer is a 3 by 3 square. This means that the central piece connects with four others; the center of each side with three; and the corners with two.
- There are no Yellow Straights. How can the Yellow Curves, Wiggles and Hooks be arranged in the answer? Try arranging the pieces by joining the yellow strings and not worrying about the other colors.
- There is only one solution. Maybe the piece that goes in the center is unique.

Experiment with the pieces using this information. There are some practice shapes on the opposite page.

Tangled Shapes

The more familiar you become with the pieces and the way they fit together, the easier you will find it to solve the puzzle.

For practice, try making various simple shapes such as different 2 by 2 squares, 2 by 3 rectangles, and the various shapes shown here. You can also try inventing your own shapes.

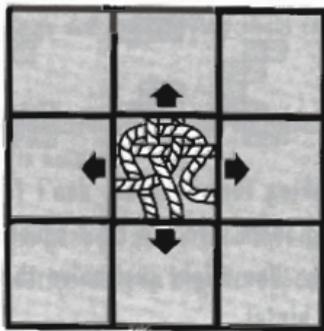


While making these shapes, don't forget to try converting them into a 3 by 3 square if they look promising. You might just solve the puzzle without any more hints!

Solution Hints

These final hints follow from the information given at the end of the General Hints.

The solution is a 3 by 3 square. One of the pieces must fit in the center. Try each piece as the center and try to fit the others around it. Don't worry about the orientation of the center piece because it is always surrounded by the other pieces in one way or the other.



Solution Hints

There are only Yellow Curves, Wiggles and Hooks. On the sides needed to solve the puzzle, they divide evenly. There are three of each in the solution.

You may find that having almost completed the square, the last piece fits with two colors but the other two colors need to be swapped.

This is the key to solving the puzzle. If you have recorded the pieces as suggested, you may have noticed something unique about one of the pieces. That piece is central to the solution.

If you have not recorded the pieces or cannot spot the unique piece, try to do so before reading the last hint on the next page.

Solution Hints

There is only one piece that has two color pairs on opposite edges the same on both sides. The other two pairs both reverse if the piece is turned over.



It has a Yellow Curve, Purple Straight, Red Wiggle, and Green Hook on one side, and a Green Curve, Purple Straight, Red Wiggle, and Yellow Hook on the other.

To solve the puzzle, this unique piece must be placed in the center position.

We leave you to discover which side is used for the solution.... Happy Untangling!

RUBIK'S™ From OddzOn Products
"The World's Best Puzzles!"

RUBIK'S™ Tangle™ is just one of a series of exciting puzzles designed to challenge the mind and capture your imagination. With amazing movement of color and pieces, each puzzle offers an intricate challenge that is hard to put down. And just in case it has you stumped, each puzzle comes with a **Solution Hints Booklet** to help you master the challenge.

Look for these other popular RUBIK'S™ puzzles. . .

RUBIK'S™ Magic™—The Amazing, Folding Puzzle!™ Multi-hinged, Plexiglas panels will amaze you with their folding action. Flip, fold and roll the ring-patterned panels to connect the rings and solve the puzzle. Keep up the fun by creating fascinating figures and shapes. A mystifying, mesmerizing challenge!

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RUBIK'S™

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