

Terminology

Term	Meaning
Solve	Solve can refer either to the act of solving a Rubik's cube, or can refer to the process of solving, e.g. "I just completed a solve", as a noun. The noun form is actually more common than the verb.
Cross	The cross is the most common first step of solving methods. The cross consists of four solved edges on the same face. The most common cross colour is white.
Corner	A corner is any piece on a Rubik's cube that has three stickers.
Edge	An edge is any piece on a Rubik's cube that has two stickers.
Centre	There are six centres on the Rubik's cube – White, Yellow, Red, Orange, Green, and Blue. Each face consists of 9 stickers, and the centre sticker of each face is known as the 'centre'.
Cubie/Piece	The general term for a corner or an edge.
Algorithm	Any sequence of moves, e.g. R U R' U'
Layer	A layer refers to a group of 8 pieces that can all be affected by a single move, e.g. the w-r-g, w-g, w-g-o, w-o, w-o-b, w-b, w-b-r, w-r pieces constitute a layer.
Orientation	The orientation of a piece refers to how a corner is twisted/how an edge is flipped in relation to the centres. An edge is oriented if it can be solved using only U, D, R, L, F and B moves. A corner is oriented if the top sticker of the corner is the same as the top or bottom centre.
Permutation	Permutation refers to the position of the pieces relative to each other.
OLL	Orientation of the Last Layer: This refers to the process of flipping/twisting all pieces so that all stickers on the top face are the same colour.
PLL	Permutation of the Last Layer: This refers to the process of solving the permutation of all pieces in the last layer.
DNF	Did Not Finish: This denotes a disqualified time.
Scramble	The 'scramble' is the set sequence of moves used to 'mix up' the cube.
Solution	The moves used to solve a cube after being scrambled.