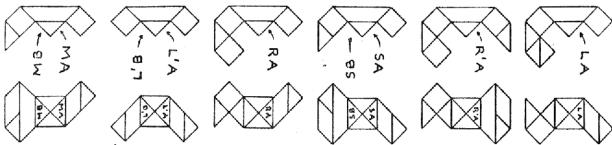
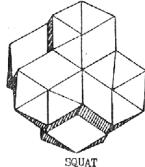
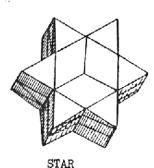
In response to fervent requests, this instruction sheet has been prepared and published "post hoc" for those who received this baffling puzzle years ago and could never solve it or who never even dared try. It applies only to the original 1981 version in solid mahogany and not to the improved 1989 multicolored version.

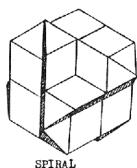
Disassemble the puzzle and mark the pieces as shown below. (Some may already be marked.)



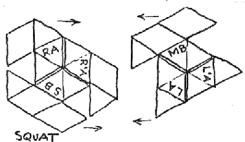
The puzzle can be assembled to form any one of the three axially symmetrical shapes shown below. (The puzzle also assembles into a solution with bilateral symmetry, not realized when the puzzle was first published.) All solutions are assembled by mating two halves of three pieces each. Many of the axes of assembly are diagonal, so that even as the two halves are being mated it still looks like a random jumble of protrusions. Then, as the two halves mate, the beautiful symmetry of the solution suddenly appears.

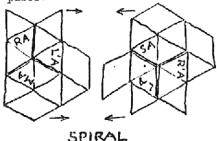


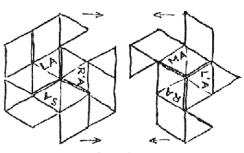




The SQUAT and the STAR each have two solutions, and the SPIRAL has four solutions. One solution for each of these is shown below, and the others are left for you to discover. Note that in the assembled puzzle, the pieces are arranged in opposite pairs, with M always opposite S, L opposite R, and L' opposite R'. Furthermore, end A of one piece always mates with end B of its opposite piece.







STAR