

General Notes for Interlink Puzzle Box Assembly

- All writing on parts is oriented the same way on each side unless otherwise noted.
- Except for the outside pieces where noted in the instruction, all pieces should be oriented with the writing on the piece facing outwards.
- The alignment pegs are of different lengths depending upon the number of layers that are being placed together. Be careful to use the correct length. The pegs are easier to push through the holes if you start them on the side of the piece that has writing.
- Check the fit before gluing and sand/file any pieces that do not slide smoothly
- I find that light sanding of the faces of sliding pieces makes for better boxes. I also use paraffin/candle wax on the surfaces to get smoothly moving pieces.
- I use Aleene's tacky glue for gluing parts. I glue the pieces and then hold them together for ~15 seconds and they will stay in place until the glue dries.
- Be careful when attaching outer sides, spacers and covers to keep glue away from areas where it might squeeze out underneath and get on any of the sliding parts. If possible glue those parts without the sliding pieces in place so you can clean up any glue squeeze out.
- Clean up excess glue before it dries! It is much easier when it is still soft.
- When sanding flat sides it is better to place the sheet of sandpaper on a flat surface and move the puzzle piece over the sandpaper. This keeps the face flat and prevents rounding over the edges.
- You can sand the bottom of the slider holders and sliders with 100 grit sandpaper to make them slightly thinner to prevent binding.

Interlink Kit Inventory

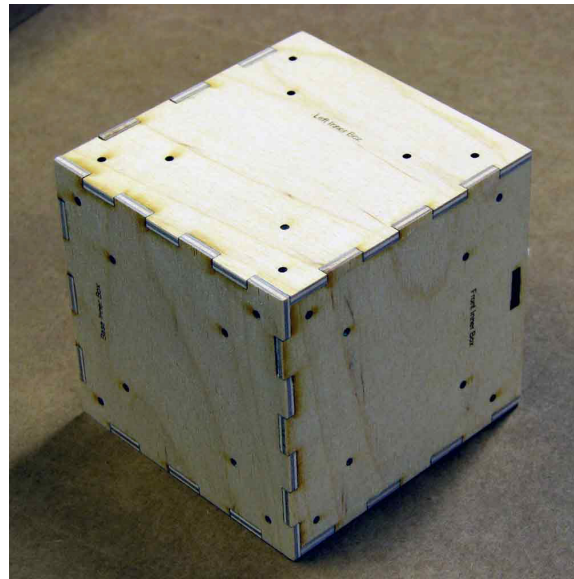
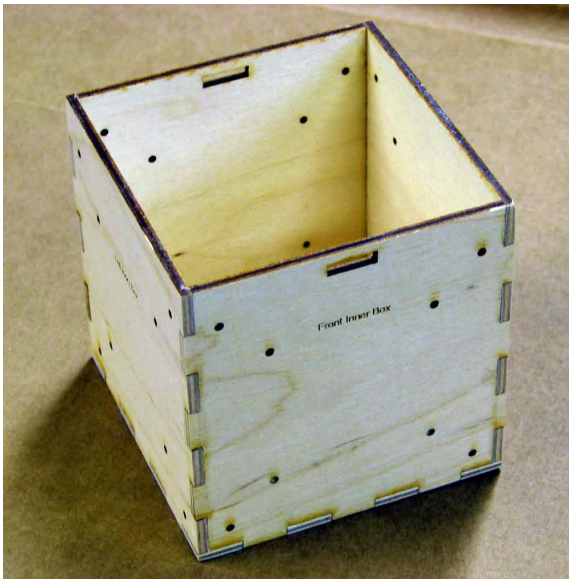
Check that all parts are present

- Inner box bottom, left, right, front, back & inner top panel
- Four corner pieces for all six sides. These are labeled for their place on the side as well as which side for which they belong. For example, the left side of the box will have 4 corner pieces labeled "Upper Left Corner (left side)", "Upper Right Corner (left side)", "Lower Right Corner (left side)" and "Lower Left Corner (left side)". The other sides of the box have corner pieces labeled similar with the exception of the writing within the parentheses.

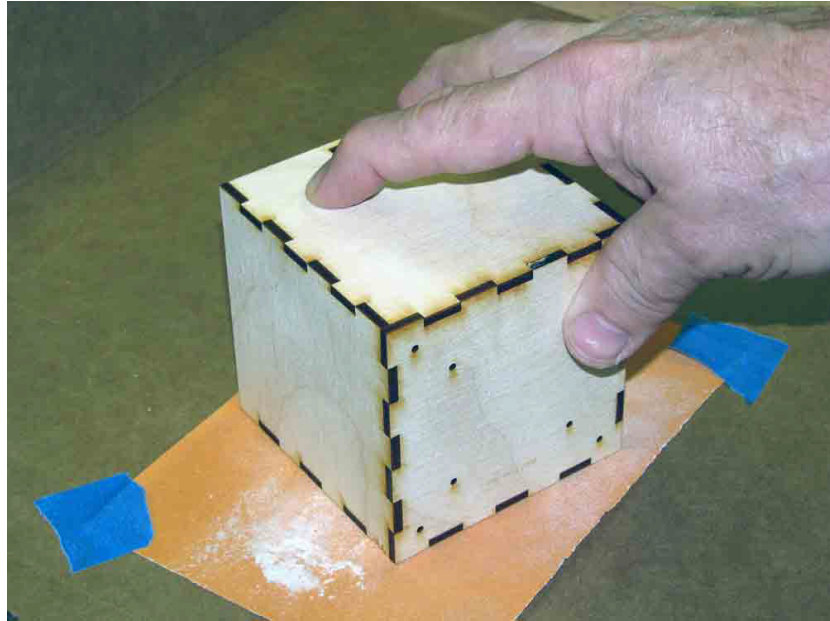
- Four slider holders for all six sides. These pieces are also labeled similar to the corner pieces. Each of the sides/top/bottom should have four pieces where the label within the parentheses indicates for which face of the box they belong.
- Four sliders for all six sides There are three different types of sliders. 1 inch length with the alignment hole $\frac{1}{4}$ " from end (14 of these), 1" with alignment hole $\frac{1}{8}$ " from end (8 of these) and 2 shorter sliders for the top piece.
- Four slider grips for all six sides (five of the sides are the same with the alignment hole centered in the bottom. The four top slider grips have the alignment hole off-center)
- Two tongue spacers
- Front and back tongues
- Six outer pieces
- Six outer covers (these are all identical)
- Pegs (blue .220", black .280" & red .400")

Assemble Inner Box

Glue and assemble the inner box with the writing on the pieces facing outwards as shown in the following photos.

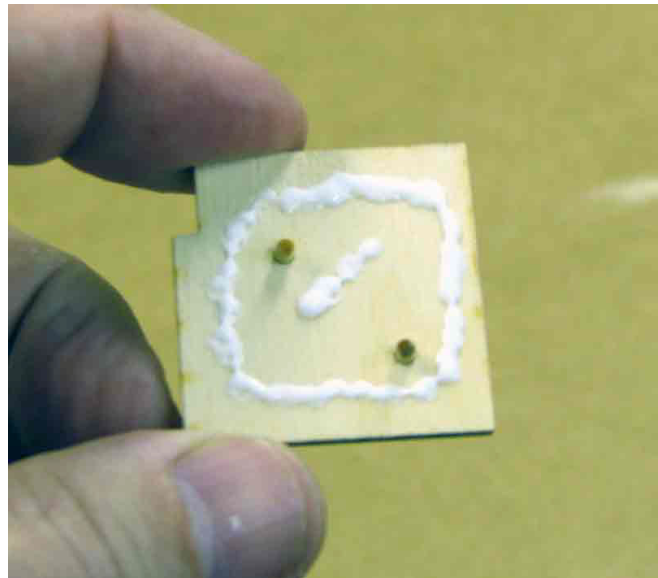
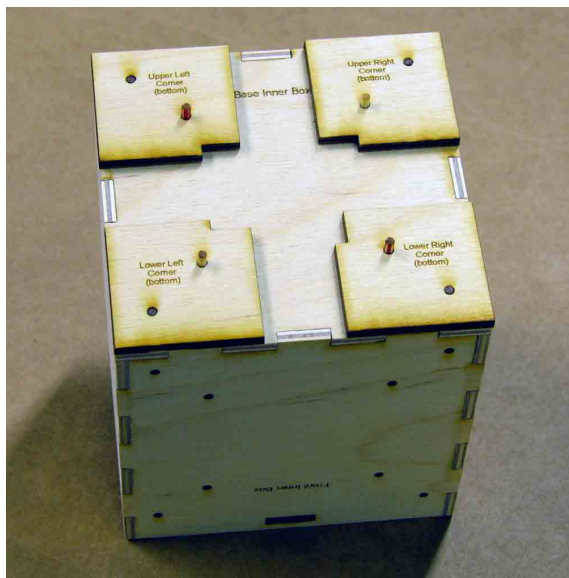


After the glue has dried sand outside faces of the inner box to make smooth and remove any ridges (100 grit). This is best done by taping the sandpaper down to a hard flat surface and then moving the box over the sandpaper. This is shown in the photo below.



Attach corner pieces

The next step is to attach the corner pieces on each of the five sides. Start with the bottom and using blue pegs (.220") for outside alignment holes (nearest the outside corner of the inner box side) and red pegs (.400") for the inner alignment hole (nearest the center of the inner box side), attach the four corner pieces for the bottom. Pegs should be flush with inside of the inner box. The photo below on the right shows how glue was applied to the corner piece for attachment to the box.



Continue attaching corner pieces to the other four sides of the inner box as was done for the bottom.

Test Fit Slider Holders

After attaching the corner make sure the slider holders still slide smoothly (**use Bruce's instructions to locate the position of each of these**). You can sand and use wax on the bottom of these to make the movement smooth. The photo below shows the test fitting of the slider holders for the box bottom. If the slider holders do not move smoothly then use files and/or sandpaper to fit them so they slide easily.



To prevent the slider holders from binding when the outer panels are attached you can sand down the back slightly to make them a hair thinner. Do this by sanding the slider holders with about a half dozen strokes on the sandpaper laying on a hard flat surface as shown in the following photo. After sanding, a little paraffin or candle wax can be applied to the back of the slider holder and then worked into the wood by sliding back and forth on the box as shown in the photo on the right.



Perform the test fitting for all of the slider holders on each face of the box. Another step that you can take to prevent the slider holders from catching is to bevel the back edge of the slider holder that extends over the corner of the box.

Finish Outer Panels

If you are going to put a finish on your outer panels, now is the time to sand those panels and apply the finish. Make sure to not get any finish in the area between the four alignment pegs on the outside face of the panel. This is the area where the outer covers are glued and if this area has finish on it the covers will not adhere correctly. Also, do not put any finish on the back of the panel (side with writing).

**The complete assembly instructions are supplied with the
“Interlink Kit+Plans” Purchase.**

Interlink puzzle that was made with maple and walnut for the outer faces.

