

Jacob's Ladder Toy

What you need:

- ✎ 6 Wooden squares ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, $2\frac{1}{4}$ square)
- ✎ Scissors
- ✎ 15 ribbons (each 8 inches long)
- ✎ Wood glue
- ✎ Sand paper

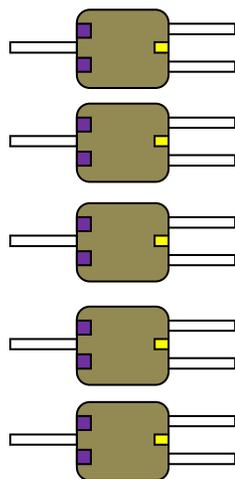
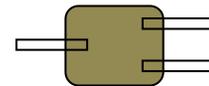
Historical Stuff:

This tumbling block toy was named after the Biblical character Jacob, and refers to a dream he had. In this dream he pictured angels moving up and down a ladder to heaven. The tumbling blocks represent the moving angels. Due to the Biblical reference, this quiet toy was considered suitable for pioneer children to play with on Sunday.

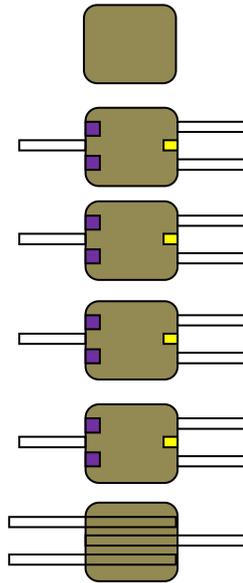
Difficulty: Very difficult, younger children will need a lot of assistance to complete this craft.

How to Make:

1. Sand the wooden squares until they are very smooth.
2. Glue the ribbons to 5 of the 6 wooden squares as shown here:
3. Leave the last one plain. Allow the glue to dry.
4. Fold the ribbons underneath each of the 5 blocks like this on your table:



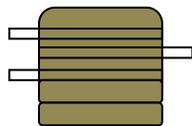
5. Turn the last square upside down, and place the plain one at the top like this:



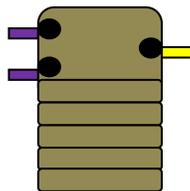
6. The bottom flipped square will be your base square.
7. Place another square on top of the base square. Trim the ribbons of the base square and glue the loose ends to top square (over top the already glue ribbons) at spots shown by the dots below:



8. When glue is dry, wrap the ribbons over the top square and add then square on top and repeat. Continue until all squares have been glued together.



9. The last square to be placed on top is the plain square. Glue the ends of the last ribbons in place:



To play, hold the top square between your thumb and pointer finger, and twist it so it turns upside down. All the squares will fall like a waterfall, and it will look like magic!