

Homemade Puzzles

Ball in Cage The Secret

It really is a solid block of wood!

This one I made measures 1-1/2" on each side, and the holes are just over 3/4" diameter.

The steel ball bearing is 15/16" in diameter, plainly making it impossible to fit into the block, without splitting the wood.

So how did I get it in?

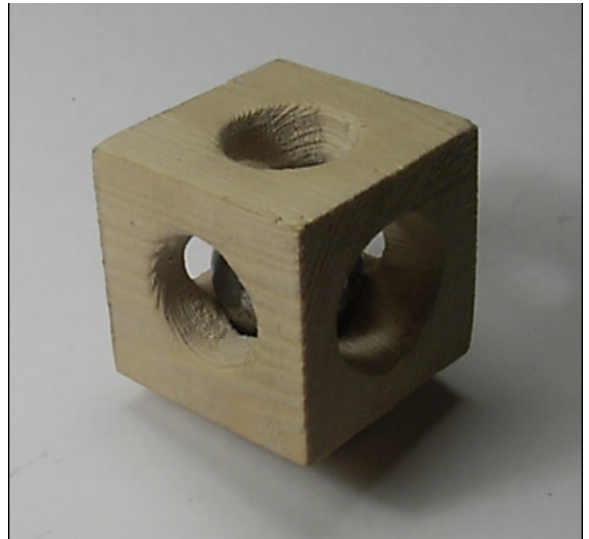
I put the block in a bowl of water for two days!

This softened the wood just enough to force the ball in without splitting the wood.

To get it out, soak the block again for two days!

I haven't taken the ball out, so I don't know if the wood could survive this treatment!

The hardest part of making this puzzle is filing the inside, to make room for the ball.



If you're going to make this, when the wooden block has soaked for two days, lightly grip it in a vice or a couple of clamps, with the grain of the wood running along the vice jaws.

This will give the wood some support when forcing the ball in.

This is not my design: I found this on the Internet.

These solutions are provided free, because they are also available elsewhere on the Internet. If the puzzle is one of mine, the solution may help you decide to make that particular puzzle.

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