## Quintress



Goal: For the smaller sized frame (10x10), find an arrangement of 20 of the 24 pieces that will fill the frame completely. On the flip-side of the board (11x11), find an arrangement of all 24 pieces to fill the frame, leaving one small opening somewhere in the puzzle.

How it works: This puzzle consists of a two-sided board and 24 individual small pieces. There are two challenges. The easiest is to fit 20 of the 24 pieces into the smaller sized side of the frame. The pieces can be flipped and rotated as needed to fill available spaces on the board. With some luck, your arrangement will fill the entire board with no empty spaces. There are multiple solutions, although it is not a trivial effort to find one!

For an additional challenge, flip the board over and find an arrangement to fit all of the pieces into the $11 \times 11$ frame. There will be one small empty space left somewhere on the board. An ideal solution would put the empty spot in the very center of the board, but the puzzle inventor has not found that solution yet. (In fact, the first person to send in a solution that has the hole in the middle will get a refund on their puzzle and their name on the website [if they want it].)

Strategy: This puzzle requires more patience and persistence than logical prowess. If a player reaches the end and can't place the last one or two pieces, try flipping one or two other pieces around to see if that opens up alternate opportunities. It may not be necessary to go all of the way back to the beginning to find an arrangement that will work.

Although the final empty space can be any shape, there are certain shapes that tend to be difficult to fit in at the end and may be best used earlier in the puzzle. Among those are the " $X$ " shaped, " $T$ " shaped, and long straight pieces. Pieces that are good to save to the last are the two " $b$ " shaped pieces (four pieces in a $2 \times 2$ arrangement with one piece sticking out).

Examples of solutions for each side of the puzzle board are shown on back. Additional solutions have also been documented, so any solution you find will likely be different from these.


Solution 1: $10 \times 10$ Grid Sample Solution


Solution 2: 11x11 Grid Sample Solution

