
PATIENCE PUZZLE SOLUTION

One move will disengage any ring from the shuttle. However, only a ring directly behind the lead ring can become disengaged at one time. Rings 1-5 all become the lead ring at some stage in the sequence. Determining the correct sequence is the solution to the puzzle. Basic move is as follows.

Hold puzzle so that bar B is down, shuttle is on top and nails are pointing up. See Figure 2.

DROP: Move ring to and around rounded end of shuttle, to position flat on top of shuttle. One side at a time, pivot ring through interior of shuttle, toward bar B, to sit under shuttle. The ring is now disengaged.

REPLACE: Reversal of DROP is to re-engage the ring on the shuttle. This is necessary to determine which ring leads.

UNLOCK: The nail on ring 1 must be rotated 180 degrees to face the opposite direction than the other nails. This "unlocks" the puzzle. You are now ready to begin the sequence.

NOTE: If you make an error in the order of the sequence, the only way to correct it is to put the puzzle back to its starting position and begin again.

SEQUENCE:

Drop 2, then 1, then 4. Replace 1, then 2. Drop 1, then 3. Replace 1. Drop 2, then 1, (should look like Figure 3), then 6.

Replace 1, then 2. Drop 1. Replace 3, then 1. Drop 2, then 1. Replace 4, then 1, then 2. Drop 1, then 3. Replace 1. Drop 2, then 1, then 5.

Replace 1, then 2. Drop 1. Replace 3, then 1. Drop 2, then 1, then 4.

Replace 1, then 2. Drop 1, then 3.

Replace 1. Drop 2, then 1.

Shuttle is now free from all rings.

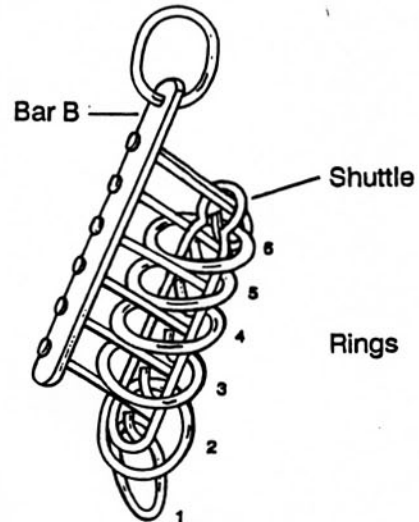


Figure 1

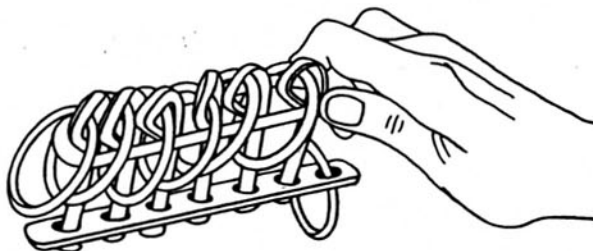


Figure 2

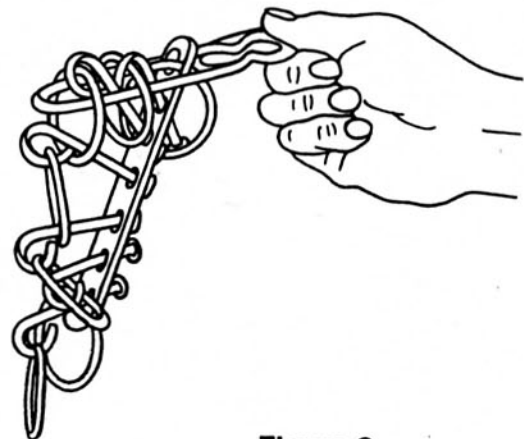


Figure 3

REASSEMBLY: Follow sequence backwards, and switch DROP and REPLACE. Reassembly sequence begins: Replace 1, then 2. Drop 1. Replace 3, then 1. Follow the rest of the sequence in the same manner.
