Stickman ®

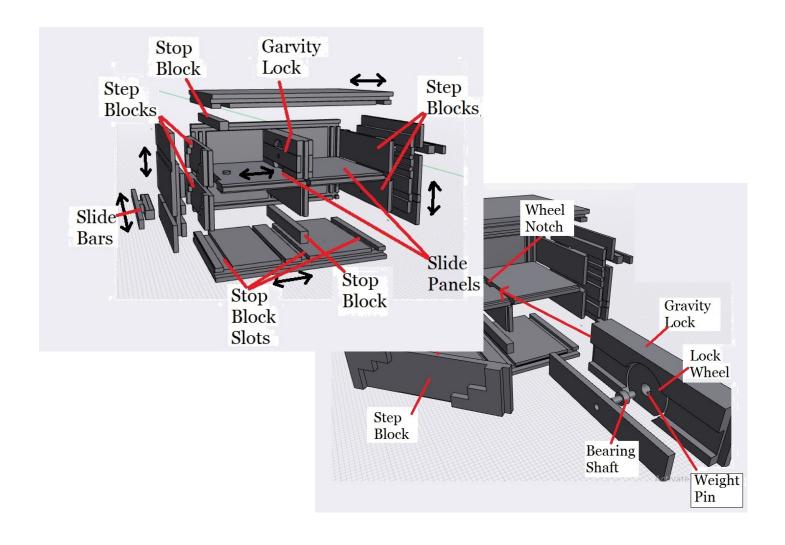
Old-School Multi-Version Puzzlebox Kit



(Crafted for IPP- 41 Houston Workshop)

These "Old-School Puzzle Boxes" were kits crafted especially for the Stickman IPP-41 Workshop in Houston. The traditional structure of Japanese boxes allows for multiple variations of concept and sequential step solutions, and the focus of the workshop was to reveal such designing potential. Kits contained all of the pieces, tools, and supplies required to assemble multiple versions of a Japanese-style puzzlebox. The included workshop instruction books provided steps on how to assemble and solve the "Summer Bloom" and "Autumn Moon" versions. (The "Spring Plume" and "Winter Gloom" versions were not provided due to workshop time and staff restraints.)

Kits came with a small bottle of glue for assembly; however permanent gluing was not required. Kit parts were crafted from breathable basswood, and intentionally crossgrained in construction to reduce risk of warping. Pieces were also designed to press and hold together well enough to solve while using only a single dot of temporary glue. This allowed for the easy take-apart and re-assembly of kit pieces into multiple design and solutions orientations. (A permanent assembly was still recommended for long-term stability and extended puzzle use, - once a favorite version, or desired personal modification, became determined as a preference.)



Kits Were of Moderate Assembly and Solution Difficulty (23-26 step solutions)

The end-panels of workshop versions came with decorative inlay, and had sliding top panels with various marquetry images, fitting an IPP Texas or Houston theme. The image examples below were individually hand-crafted by artist Elena Simonova especially for this event, and show some of the exquisite detail of her work.



Of most regret to me was that interest in this workshop exceeded IPP expectations, forcing attendance to be limited to 60. I felt horrible that I was unable to produce enough additional kits to meet the additional demand in time. A special thanks goes out to all workshop assistants. (Perry McDaniel, Kathleen Malcolmson, Lee Krasnow, Stephen Chin, Joe Turner, & also Kagen Sound who volunteered when he saw we were understaffed.) If the workshop was a success, it was only due to the advance planning of this staff, and their efforts to become fully familiar with the puzzle design in advance of the workshop.