April 18, 1933. M. J. GARTLAND 1,904,724 JIG SAW PUZZLE HOLDER Filed Feb. 10, 1933.

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4.

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By: [Signature]
The present invention relates to improvements in jig-saw puzzle holders, and has for an object to provide a stable board or holder upon which the pieces of so-called jig-saw puzzles may be assembled easily and quickly and without likelihood of the previously joined parts becoming disconnected.

At the present time jig-saw puzzles are solved or put together upon tables or any convenient flat surface favorable to this work, but great difficulty is experienced in holding the assembled pieces to line and in general anchoring or holding the previously assembled pieces in such a way that the added pieces may be worked into the same.

It is the purpose of the invention to provide a device of a simple and inexpensive construction which may retail at small price and which will obviate the difficulties heretofore experienced.

A still further object of the invention is to produce a device for the solution of jig-saw puzzles in which puzzles of various sizes may be conveniently accommodated.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter, and will be more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawing, wherein like symbols refer to like or corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a jig-saw puzzle holder constructed according to the present invention and showing a portion of a puzzle thereon.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same showing the puzzle further advanced toward its solution and the movable strip brought up against same.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 3-3 in Figure 2, and

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken on the line 4-4 also in Figure 2.

Reverting more particularly to the drawing, 5 designates a base-board of suitable thickness and material to give the desired stability and rigidity to the device and being of appropriate length and breadth to accommodate the assembled pieces of jig-saw puzzles as at present manufactured.

Along the upper longitudinal edge of the board 5 is a flange or strip 6 which is in raised relation to the upper surface of the board 5, so as to constitute an upper elongated abutment against which the top edge of the puzzle may engage and be held to line.

Similarly one transverse edge, preferably the left hand edge of the board 5 is formed with or carries a flange or strip 7 also in raised relation to the upper surface or plane of the board 5 and constituting a transverse abutment against which the left side edge of the assembled puzzle may engage and be held to line.

The opposite transverse edge, namely the right hand edge in the instance shown, will be left free of any such flanges or strips and in a similar manner the lower edge of the board is also free in order to accommodate the forearm and the elbow in the act of assembling the pieces in the composite puzzle.

Movable mounted across the board 5 is a strip 8 having an inner straight edge 9 adapted to be moved up against the right hand edge of the puzzle as it is assembled, and to form a confining member which is parallel to the transverse strip 7 and at right angles to the longitudinal strip 6 with which latter strip the upper edge of the movable strip 8 engages.

These various strips may be made from cardboard or any appropriate material possessing sufficient stiffness and such strips will, preferably for convenience and attractive-ness in manufacture and in the commercial article, be of substantially the same thickness so that the upper edge of the traveling or movable strip 8 may meet with, and present a neat joint and appearance with the lower
longitudinal edge of the elongated strip 6. The movable strip 8 is preferably formed at least at its upper edge with a tail or tongue 10 projecting toward the right hand edge of the board. This tail or tongue is for the purpose of enlarging the upper contacting edge of the traveling strip with the fixed longitudinal strip 6 with the ultimate idea of preventing rocking of the traveling strip 8 on the board and holding such traveling strip firmly in the right angular position with respect to the longitudinal strip 6 which is essential to good puzzle formation.

In the interest of symmetry a tongue or tail 11 will also preferably be formed upon the traveling strip 8 at its lower portion. This latter tail or tongue 11 may also assist in the grasping of the traveling strip 8 whereby to manipulate it or move it across the board 5.

A rubber or elastic band 12 passes about the board and encompasses the traveling strip 8 in order to hold same to the position adjusted.

In the use of the device, the upper left hand corner of the puzzle will first be assembled and fitted into the left hand upper corner portion of the board 5 against the strips 6 and 7. These strips form abutments in two right angular directions and such strips serve to hold the initial part of the puzzle in its assembled relation and position and such strips also form backings for working the additional pieces into the puzzle as the solution of the puzzle is carried out. When the upper part of the puzzle has been worked over to its complete right hand side, the movable strip 8 is advanced along the board 5 in the left hand direction until the straight edge 9 comes against the right hand edge of the puzzle. This will further stabilize the work already accomplished and provide a fixed abutment at the right side of the board against which the remaining pieces of the puzzle may be worked into the part of the mosaic already assembled.

It will be understood that any suitable means may be provided for holding the strip 8 in place but a rubber or elastic band will provide sufficient friction or sufficient binding action to hold the strip 8 frictionally against the surface of the board and to hold the edges of the strip 8 and longitudinal strip 6 in such close relation that rocking of the strip 8 and casual movement thereof will be avoided.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made in the details of construction and design of the above specifically described embodiment of this invention without departing from the spirit thereof, such changes and modifications being restricted only by the scope of the following claims:

What is claimed is:

1. A jigsaw puzzle holder comprising a base-board on which the pieces of the puzzle are assembled, upper and side strips in raised relation to the board, a traveling strip having an upper elongated edge contacting with the edge of the longitudinal strip and guided and stabilized thereby, and an elastic band passing about the board and said traveling strip.

2. A jigsaw puzzle holder comprising a base-board, a longitudinal upper strip in raised relation to the board, a left hand transverse strip also in raised relation to the board and at approximately right angles to the first mentioned strip, said board being devoid of strips at its opposite side edge and at its lower portion, a relatively wide traveling strip having tongues extending outwardly on the board at its upper and lower edges whereby to increase the normal edge length of the board, such increased edge length at the upper portion of the traveling strip lying in extended contact with the lower edge of the longitudinal strip to guide and stabilize the traveling strip, and an elastic band passing about the board and about the longitudinal strip and lengthwise of said traveling strip for binding the latter frictionally in the adjusted position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MICHAEL J. GARTLAND.