

KUNG FU PANDA TANGRAM



The Tangram

Explore the mystery of the tangram—a Chinese puzzle made of five triangles, a square, and a rhomboid—with bright game pieces and your favorite Kung Fu Panda characters! It's believed that the tangram was created in China several hundred years ago, though the exact date remains unknown. The tangram seems simple at first, but players are soon faced with many surprising challenges. Read the brief set of instructions below, prepare your mind for a creative journey, and enjoy the tangram experience!

What You Need & How to Play

The only thing you need to play this game is the seven pieces of the tangram itself. Of course, a little patience and concentration won't hurt either.

The object of the puzzle is to use the game pieces to create a certain shape—usually people or animals. With this special tangram you'll be making Po, Crane, Tigress, Viper, Mantis, and Monkey.

The rules are just as simple: You have to use all seven pieces, without any of them overlapping, and they must all lay flat.

Sound easy? Think again! Although the tangram is made of simple shapes such as triangles and squares, certain combinations of these pieces can make many other geometric forms. What may look like a square could actually be two smaller triangles.

Tips for Starting

Find a place for the two large triangles first—they will always make up half of any silhouette's area.

Next, work the pieces from largest to smallest. The small triangles will usually be the easiest to place within the puzzle.

Tangram and Geometry

If you pay close attention, you might discover that the seven pieces of the tangram have special relationships to each other. For example:

The area of the large triangle is twice the area of the medium triangle, and the medium triangle is twice the area of the small triangle—which itself is half the size of the square piece!

Don't forget the geometric outcast, the rhomboid! His area is equal to that of the square's.

You may even notice that the seven pieces can be broken down to create 16 small triangles.

More Ways to Enjoy

Play as a family for a fun and educational activity.

Use as a tool for studying shapes, angles, and geometric patterns.

Explore the Internet to learn more about the history of the tangram and all the exciting discoveries it has to offer.

