



## PUZZLE SUGGESTIONS

- Use light material for frame and bottom – I used  $\frac{1}{2}$ " ply for the bottom with Maple for the frame – I felt it was too heavy. I would suggest using pine for the frame and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " ply for the base.
- Use thick glossy paper for the picture – I used a picture from a calendar. Most calendars are larger than  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ , so you get a picture you can easily cut down without losing too much.
- I used  $\frac{3}{4}$ " MDF for the puzzle pieces. This was a little too thick: even with plenty of play, the pieces would not go together easily. I would suggest  $\frac{3}{8}$ " stock.
- You can make the frame first or the puzzle first then fit them together. I built the frame to the approximate size of the picture then later fit the puzzle to the frame. That seemed to work well.
- The height of the frame is determined by the size of the base (which fits into a rabbit in the frame) and the thickness of the puzzle material.

- Mount the picture to the MDF with spray contact cement. The picture should be over-sized so you can trim the edges of the picture.
- I next cut a piece of 1/4" plywood close to the size of the MDF puzzle. Then I mounted the Puzzle Master to that plywood with contact cement. I then cut the plywood to so it was the exact size of the Puzzle Master. Then I cut the MDF so it was the same size as the plywood.
- Next make a puzzle sandwich: Put the ply over the top of the MDF. Use masking tape to attach the ply to the MDF along the edges.
- Now, with your scroll saw, cut out the puzzle pieces. When finished discard the 1/4" plywood.
- The puzzle must fit into the frame very loosely so small fingers can remove and reassemble the pieces of the puzzle. If there is not enough play, take the puzzle out of the frame, turn it over and use masking tape to make sure the pieces do not move. Then FACE UP, cut along each edge of the puzzle with your table saw until the puzzle has sufficient play.
- Finally, sand the frame – especially the corners to remove any chance of splintering and sharp corners. I did not use any finish on the frame.



