

Mastermorphix



a.k.a. *Master Pyramorphix*

Left two: made by Mefferts 2009;

right two: made by Smaz Smart Toy Shop IQ Toys, Hong Kong, 2009.

(plastic, left 3.8 high", right three 2.75" high;

left three all have the colors yellow, green, red /orange, blue)

A big brother to the *Pyramorphix*. Each of the 6 edges of this puzzle can twist. If one stays limited to 180 degree turns of the edges, then this is a puzzle of mixing up the colors and then restoring them, where the puzzle always has its correct shape. However, the fun begins when you employ 90 degree turns to transform the puzzle into a jumbled mess; here are 4 moves using a black body version from Smaz:



This puzzle works like a *Rubik's 3x3x3* cube, where each of the 6 edges corresponds to a face of *Rubik's 3x3x3*, the four vertices of the *Mastermorphix* correspond to 4 non-adjacent corners of *Rubik's 3x3x3* (e.g., two diagonally opposite corners on top and two diagonally opposite corners in the other direction on the bottom), and the four faces of the *Mastermorphix* correspond to the other 4 corners of *Rubik's 3x3x3* (where a face corresponding to a corner includes a triangular half of each of the three faces incident to that corner). That is, imagine the 6 edges of the *Mastermorphix* running diagonally across each face of the 6 faces of the cube, where the 6 center pieces of the edges of the *Mastermorphix* correspond to the 6 centers of the cube, the 4 tips of the *Mastermorphix* together with the four centers of the *Mastermorphix* correspond to the eight corners of the cube, and the remaining 12 face sections of the *Mastermorphix* correspond to the 12 edges of the cube). So any solution for *Rubik's 3x3x3* can be used, but in practice this puzzle can be very confusing when mixed up into a jumbled shape, until one gets used to looking at it. In a theme similar to the *Skewb Egg*, just getting the shape back with the single color gold version is a challenge.