Solving the Rubik's Cube: Beginner Method



## Beginner's Method: 7 Easy Steps

- 1. Green Cross
- 2. Green Corners
- 3. Second Layer Edges
  - 4. Blue Cross
  - 5. Orient the Edges
  - 6. Position Corners
- 7. Orient the Corners (complete the solve!)

Housekeeping: Structure & Notation





12 Movable Edge Pieces

2 Split Colors

Positioned between Centers of those Colors Green  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  Blue White  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  Yellow Red  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  Orange

**6 Fixed Centers** 

8 Movable Corner Pieces

**3 Split Colors** 

Positioned between Centers of those Colors

Structure of the Cube







Terminology: Addressing the Cube When Facing You: Left = LRight = R Front = FBack = B

Up = U Down = D

#### Notation: How We Express Algorithms in Writing

- Algorithm = a series of moves
- R, L, F, B, U, D Letter = ¼ Turn Clockwise
- R' L' F' B' U' D' Prime = ¼ Turn Counter-clockwise





Step 1: The Cross

- Goal: Connect all 4 Green Edges to the Green Center .
- Important: Each Center must be in correct place to connect to the same-colored center on the side!
- No Algorithm Needed.
- Simply move Green Edge to the down (D) face. Then rotate D face to connect with same-colored center (here, yellow)
- Finally, spin connected side center and edge to the top to connect to the Cross.
- Repeat with all 4 Green edge pieces. (Re-do your work when necessary!)



#### Step 2: Green Corners

- First, place Green corner at bottom between like-colored centers with Green on side
  - Second, rotate D <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> turn toward side Green is facing (here, a D turn).
    - Third, rotate opposite side Center 1/4 turn (here, a F turn).
- Fourth, rotate D face back to original position to connect corner with lowered edge (here, a D' turn).
  - Finally, rotate connected pieces back to the top of cube (here, a F' turn).

(Repeat for all four corner pieces)

#### Step 3: Second Layer Edges

#### ["T" + Algorithm(s)]

T + Right Algorithm:

URU'R'

U'F'UF



### T + Left Algorithm:

U' L' U L U F U' F'

# **Buddy System**

- Move the Buddy Out of Way
- Bring the Floor Up
- Bring the Buddy Back
- Connect the Buddies
- Move the Buddies Out of the Way
- Bring the Floor Up
- Insert Buddies
- Lower Buddies to the Floor



# Buddy System



Step 4: Opposite Cross

Four Options. Always in same order:

**Dot/Arrow/Line/Cross** 

Algorithm: F R U R' U' F'





#### **Step Five: Orient the Edges (Fix the Cross)** Step 1:

**Position Correct** Edges at R & B

**Step 2: Algorithm** 

R U R' U R 2U R' U

# **Follow the Pieces Around the Top**



#### Step Six: Position the Corners

- Find 1 Solved Corner and Position to the Front/Upper Corner
- If No Solved Corners, Just Do the Algorithm!
- Algorithm:

U R U' L' U R' U' L



#### Step Six: What It Looks Like...



#### Step Seven: Orient the Corners (Solved!!)

- Pick Any Color to Hold as "F" (and keep it at F until solved)
- Rotate U until an unsolved Corner is at the Right/Upper
- Algorithm: R' D' R D R' D' R D
- Repeat with each corner until solved
- When you switch between unsolved corners, make sure the bottom/left square stays in place!



# You Did it!



# Full Solve Video