

3-in-1 Illusion

(Missing Corner 3-D Cube)



Oblique view of the completed cube.



The 3-in-1 or Missing Corner Illusion is a powerful optical illusion that happens right before your eyes, while you hold it in your hands. Use this plan to build a working 3-D illusion cube.

To assemble the 3-D cube, attach the pattern to a piece of medium cardboard and cutout along solid lines. Score all dashed lines to ensure crisp, sharp folds. Match tabs to corresponding circled letters and cement.

Hold the cube in the position shown above, with the missing corner facing you. As you look, the missing corner will solidify and appear to 'jump' out in front of the larger cube. Now, watch the large cube turn into a 'three-sided room' with vertical walls. Finally, the missing corner will appear in the far corner of the 'room.' Amazing!

Original plan devised by Fred Duncan, P.O. Box 264, Redway, CA 95560. *The Amateur Scientist*, Scientific American, Nov. 1974; p126.

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