GIANT JENGA

IMAGES AND RESOURCES ADAPTED FROM: https://www.theidearoom.net/how-to-make-a-diy-giant-jenga-game/
GIANT JENGA

MATERIALS

- 5 – 2” x 3” x 8’ boards (actually measure 1 1/2” x 2 1/2” x 8’)
- 1 – 1” x 8” x 10’ board – optional carrying crate (actually measure 3/4” x 7 1/4” x 10”)
- scrap piece of 4” x 4” post – optional dice (actually measure 3 1/2” x 3 1/2”)
- sandpaper
- 26 – 1 1/4” wood screws – optional for carrying crate
- wood glue – optional for carrying crate
- 2 – drawer handles – optional for carrying crate
- paint/stain – optional
- paint brush – optional

CUT LIST

- 54 – 1 1/2” x 2 1/2” x 7 1/2” Jenga block pieces cut from the 2×3 boards
- Optional carrying crate
  - 4 – 3/4” x 7 1/4” x 19 3/4”
  - 2 – 3/4” x 7 1/4” x 13”
- Optional dice
  - 1 – 3 1/2” x 3 1/2” x 3 1/2” from a 4×4 post

CUT DIAGRAM
MAKING THE JUMBO JENGA PIECES

Cut the 2×3 boards into 7 1/2” long pieces, you should be able to get 12 – 7 1/2” pieces from each 2×3 board.

Sand each block smooth. Use a belt sander for this part to make it faster, a regular hand sander will work too.

Paint or stain the jumbo Jenga blocks if desired.

Choose paint colors (Red, Dark blue, light blue, white, etc). A note about using latex paint: One issue with latex is that it dries in a day, but doesn’t cure for a few weeks. So the blocks want to stick to each other. You can coat them with a clear coat or wait until the paint has fully cured. (If you leave them natural wood you won’t have this issue.)

MAKING THE CARRYING CRATE

Cut the 4 pieces of 1×8 to be 19 3/4” long. Use a countersink bit (or a regular drill bit about the size of the screw shank) and drill holes for the screws as shown in the sketch. The holes should be about 3/8” away from the side and evenly spaced.
Add a bead of wood glue along one of the sides of a ‘long side’ board. Use 1 1/4” minimum to secure a ‘top/bottom’ board to the ‘long side’ board as shown.

Add a bead of wood glue to 2 sides of the ‘short side’ boards and attach it to the ‘long side’ and ‘top/bottom’ boards with 1 1/4” screws. Attach another ‘top/bottom’ board right by the other ‘top/bottom’ board and secure it to the ‘short side’ board with 1 1/4” screws.
Attach the last ‘long side’ board with wood glue and 1 1/4” screws to the ‘short side’ and ‘top/bottom’ boards. If you want to add handles, add one to each side.

Remove any excess glue. After the glue has dried, sand the carrying crate smooth, especially the top/bottom where the jumbo Jenga will be stacked to play the game.

**MAKING THE DICE**

Cut a piece of 4×4 to a cube, 3 1/2” x 3 1/2” x 3 1/2”. Paint each of the 6 sides a different color (one side will stay natural wood.) After the paint has dried, lightly sand the edges to give a distressed look if desired.

Source: [https://www.theidearoom.net/how-to-make-a-diy-giant-jenga-game/](https://www.theidearoom.net/how-to-make-a-diy-giant-jenga-game/)
How to play Giant Jenga

The game begins when someone builds the tower. The tower should be built by stacking all of the blocks in levels of three placed next to each other along their long sides and at a right angle to the previous level.

The person who built the tower goes first. The steps are then as follows:

- Using only one hand at all times, take one block each turn from any tower level other than the one below an incomplete top level
- Place the block at the topmost level of the tower
- The next player’s turn begins after 10 seconds or whenever they touch the tower, whichever comes first
- If a block is removed and not used, it must be replaced from where it was taken, unless doing so makes the tower fall

The game ends when a player’s move causes the tower to fall or a block to fall out of the tower (other than the one the player is moving).

An alternate form of play can be added to the existing rules by incorporating painted blocks with the corresponding colors also painted on a giant dice. Each player would roll the die and have to choose a block based on the color rolled.

Some Tips

Jenga is a great game because it’s much harder than it looks. As you play Jenga, keep some of these tips in mind to give yourself a better chance of winning.

Be patient. Remember, you lose Jenga by making a bad move, not win it by being daring. Take your time and carefully consider each move. Swap hands. You can only use one hand at a time, but that doesn’t mean you can’t swap hands if it will give you a better grip or leverage. Set it up. Sometimes, your move will allow you to place a block on top that makes the tower extra wobbly. That’s a smart move. Just remember, though, that if the other players manage to make their moves, you’re going to be in a lot of trouble when your turn comes around again.

Keep these rules and tips in mind when you play. But the main thing to remember is just to have fun! It’s a simple but challenging game that can provide hours of enjoyment.