

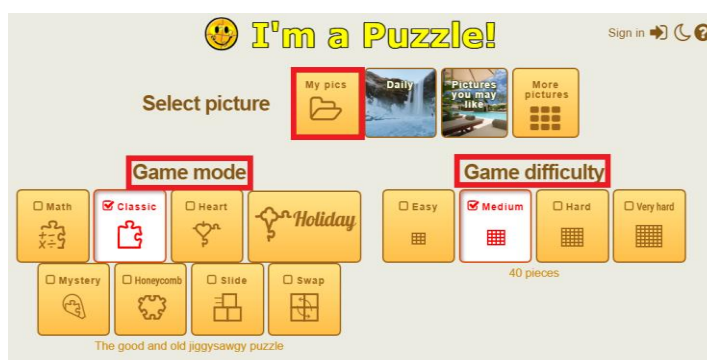
Creating Jigsaw Puzzles from Collection Images

Museum collections present innumerable opportunities for learning. One opportunity is by converting images of artifacts, artworks, postcards and photographs into jigsaw puzzles, and making these freely available to the public. This concept has been adopted by many museums, publicized on social media, using the hashtag #MuseumJigsaws.

There are numerous ways to create jigsaw puzzles online. The jigsaw puzzles produced by these websites and programs vary. In this Tip Sheet, two methods for creating jigsaw puzzles from images will be discussed. These two methods are the most consistent and easy to use.

Creating enjoyable jigsaw puzzles depends on image selection. Images should be well proportioned (the more pixels the better) so that puzzles do not appear pixelated. Picking images without an abundance of text and distracting elements like borders is also important for making the puzzle a more enjoyable experience for the user.

Method 1: This method is a quick and easy way to produce a jigsaw puzzle using the website [I'm a Puzzle](#). Start by selecting a picture by clicking the “My pics” button. Pick a photograph from the computer, double-click or click open. A preview of the jigsaw puzzle will now appear near the bottom of the page. The puzzle is automatically set to use a “Classic” jigsaw puzzle format. The user has the option to change the kind of puzzle pieces by clicking through the options under the “Game mode” section. The number of puzzle pieces can also be changed by selecting the different options under the “Game difficulty” section. Once happy with the puzzle the user can scroll to the bottom of the page. The puzzle is now complete!



The puzzle can be sent to others by using the “Share” button or tested by clicking the “Play” button. After clicking the share button the user can assign a title to the jigsaw puzzle and a

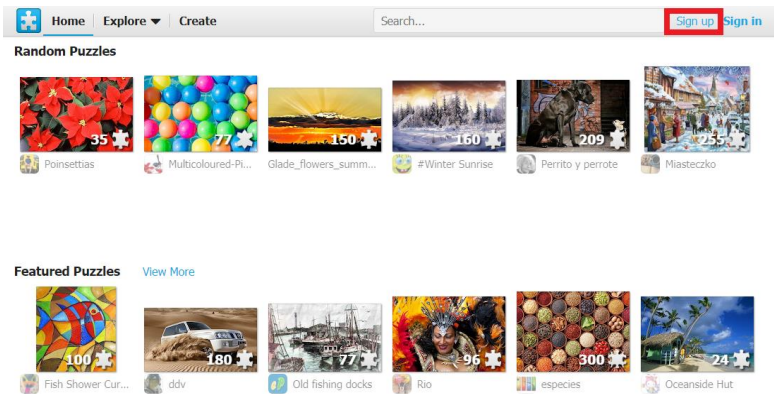
message to the player if desired. The puzzle can also be made public by ticking the box “Publish this puzzle to all”.

Scroll to the bottom of the page and click “Create Puzzle”. Now the user will be given several options to share the jigsaw puzzle. The puzzle can now be distributed by sharing the link provided, or by Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Whatsapp, or email.

When assembling a puzzle using I’m a Puzzle, a preview of the final image can be accessed by clicking the “Preview” button. Puzzle pieces can be better organized by using the “Arrange” button. The puzzle can be assembled in a full screen mode by clicking the “Full Screen” button. The player also has the option to start the puzzle again by clicking the “Restart” button. The website will provide the player with the time it took to complete the puzzle after the last piece has been assigned.

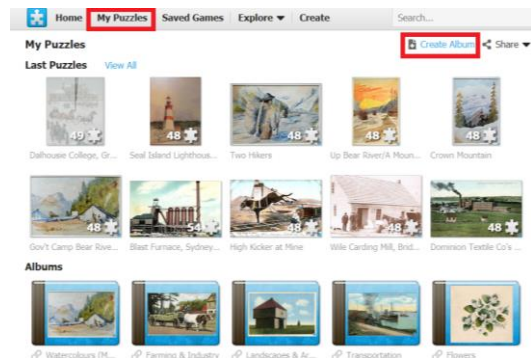


Method 2: This method produces jigsaw puzzles using the website [JigsawPlanet](https://jigsawplanet.com). This website is useful because it enables the user to create folders for multiple puzzles. It also allows the user to create more difficult puzzles by allowing the pieces to be rotated. Start by creating an account. Click “Sign Up” at the top right of the webpage.

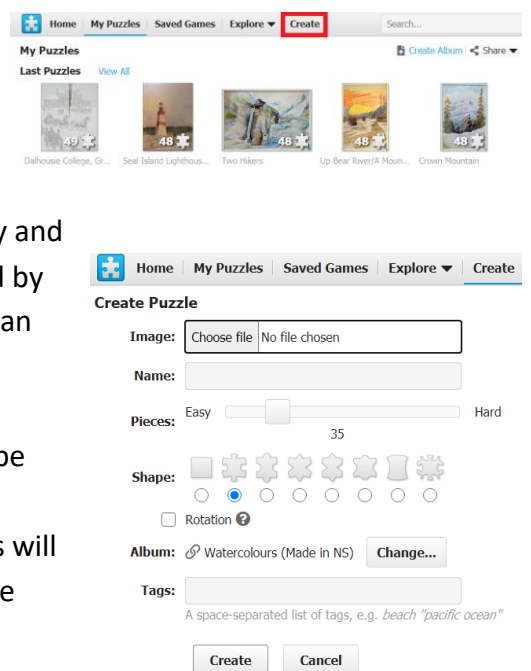


Create a username, and provide an email address and password for the account. Once complete click “Sign Up”. The user will receive a confirmation email. Click the link in the email and sign into the account using the login information that was recently created.

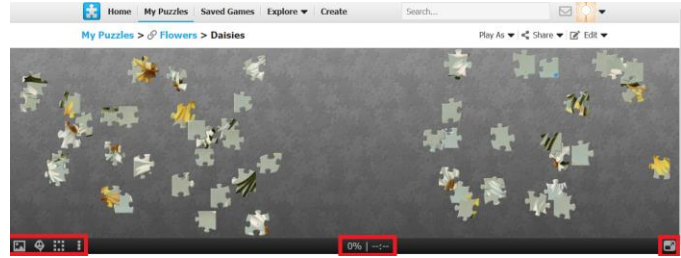
Once logged in, click the “My Puzzles” option at the top of the menu bar. Here the user can access all their puzzles as well as create albums. To create an album click the “Create Album” option near the top right of the page. The user can now name the album and select its visibility (public, private, or anyone with the link). Now click “Create”.



To create a jigsaw puzzle click the “Create” button on the menu bar at the top of the webpage. Then select the “Choose file” button and pick an image from the device. The puzzle can then be named and the difficulty assigned by changing the amount of pieces. Use the “Pieces” slider to adjust the puzzle between easy and hard. The shape of the puzzle pieces can also be changed by toggling between the different shape options. The user can tick the “Rotation” box which will make the puzzle more difficult. The website will rotate the pieces, meaning the player will need to rearrange the pieces. The puzzle can be assigned to an album by clicking the “Change...” button. Lastly the puzzle can be tagged. Assigning the puzzle tags will allow the puzzle to be searchable by keywords (only if the user sets the visibility to public). Now click “Create”. The jigsaw puzzle is now complete!



When assembling a puzzle using JigsawPlanet, a preview of the final image can be accessed by clicking the “Image” icon. The puzzle can be restarted and the background colour adjusted by clicking the three circles icon. Puzzle pieces can be better organized by using the “Arrange” icon also situated at the bottom left. The puzzle can be assembled in a full screen mode by clicking the “Maximize” icon at the bottom right. Progress can be measured by a percent and time elapsed section at the bottom middle of the page.



The puzzle can be shared by clicking the “Share” button when the puzzle has been selected or when in an album. The puzzle can be shared on Facebook, Twitter, Email, or by embedding on a website. When a player receives the shared puzzle they can change the number of pieces or customize the whole puzzle by clicking the “Play As” button. This allows the player to adjust the difficulty.

