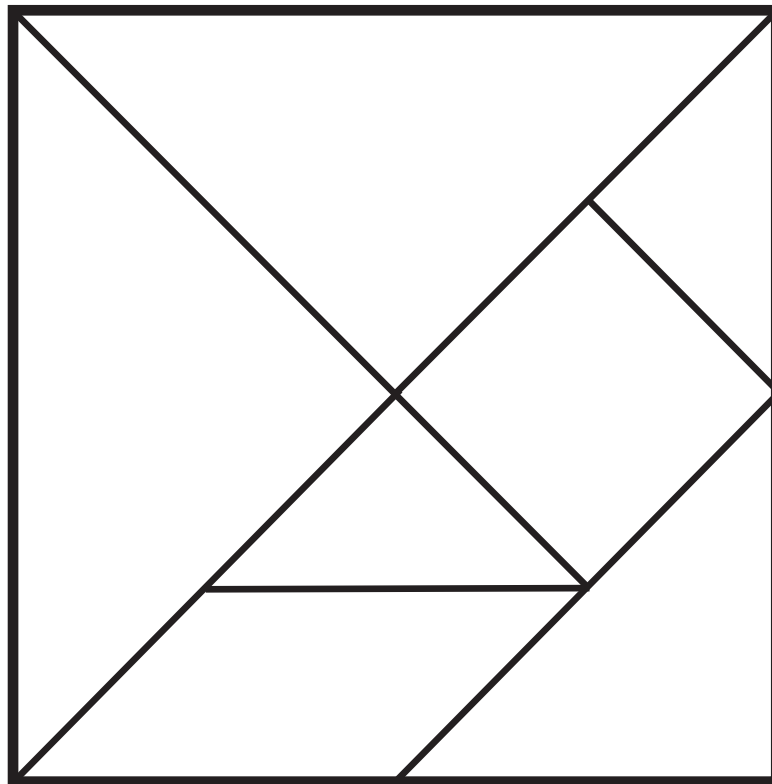


# ***Make Your Own Tangram at Home!***

A tangram is a geometric puzzle that consists of seven shapes (pieces) that fit together to form a larger square. The shapes of the pieces are two large triangles, a medium triangle, two small triangles, a square, and a rhombus. The seven geometrically-shaped pieces can also be manipulated to create other forms. By manipulating the pieces, children develop *spatial sense* -- that is, they learn about what a shape will look like when it is flipped or rotated, and learn to predict what individual shapes will look like when combined with others. Tangrams also help children develop problem solving skills as they think about how to arrange the shapes to get the result they want. Tangrams are a great “hands-on” and “minds-on” activity!

It is easy to make your own tangrams at home with your children:

- 1) Photocopy the template for the shapes below.
- 2) Cut out the shapes very carefully. The more precise the pieces are cut, the more accurate the puzzle will be. (It may be helpful to use a thin blade and a ruler.)
- 3) Trace the shapes onto a thicker material, such as cardboard or thicker paper (cardstock).
- 4) Cut out the shapes (very carefully) along the lines.
- 5) Use the shapes to make other forms. Challenge your children to solve the puzzles on the following pages.

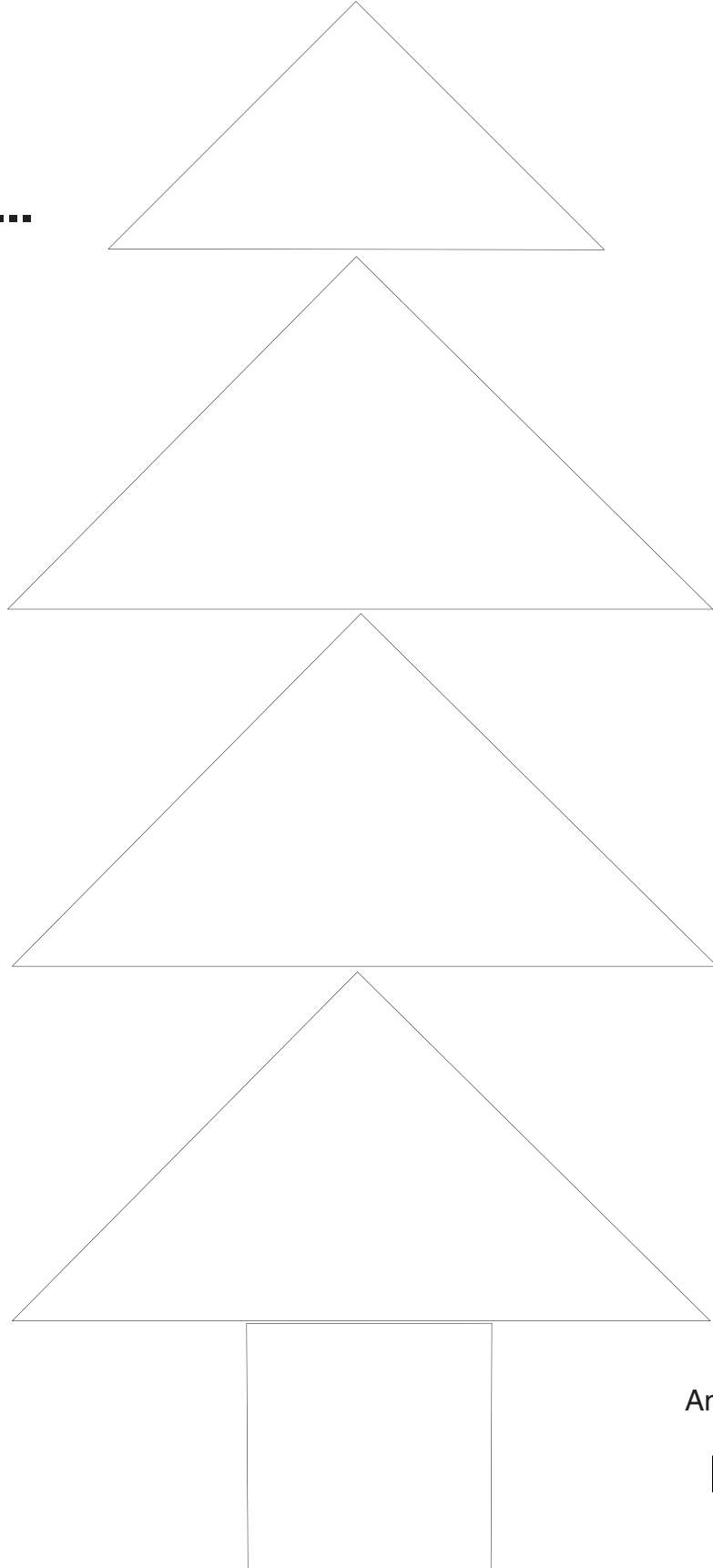


Source: This tip sheet was inspired by “Tangrams: Make It” at <http://tangrams.ca/inner/makeset.htm>.

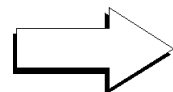
# ***Tangram Puzzles***

Use the tangrams you made to fill in the shapes. You can flip, rotate, and rearrange them any way you like...just do not overlap them. Be sure to use all of the pieces!

**Less difficult...**



Answer on back...

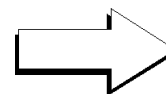


# ***Tangram Puzzles (continued)***

More difficult...

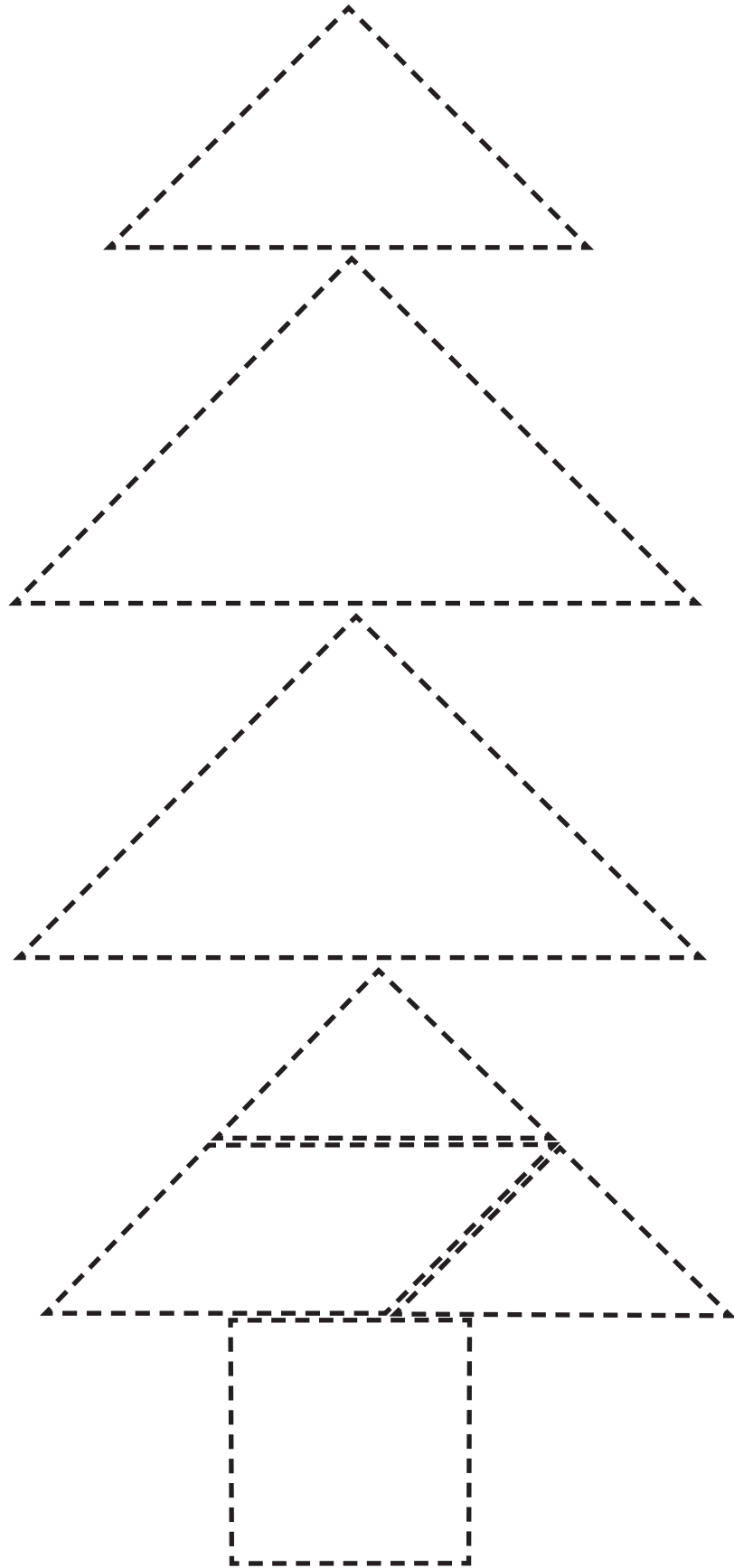


Answer on back...



For more puzzles, including animal shapes, people, and other fun designs, visit: <http://tangrams.ca/puzzles/puzzles.htm>.

# ***Tangram Puzzles (Answers)***



# ***Tangram Puzzles (Answers)***

