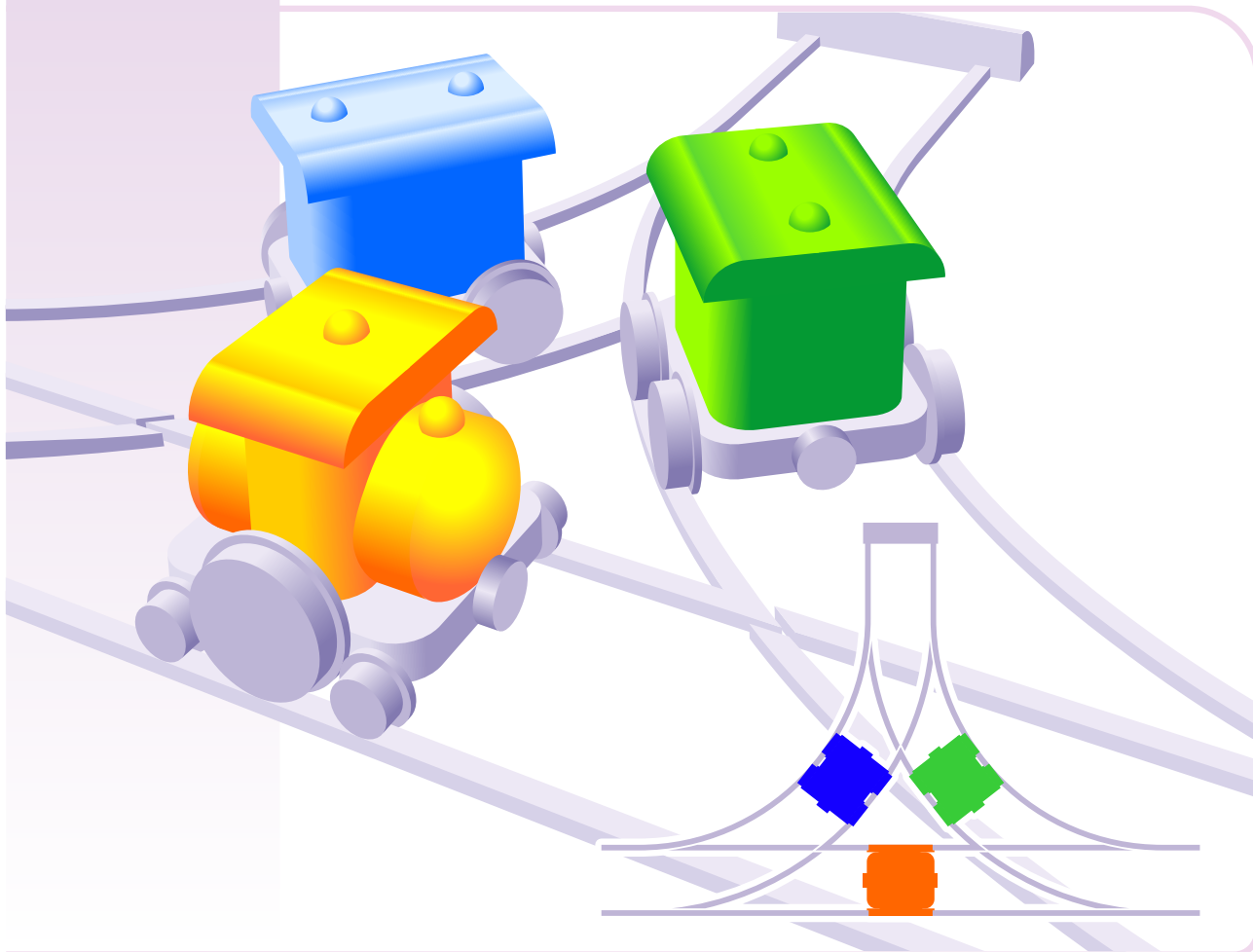


Treasure of Classic
and Modern Puzzles

Puzzles with Trains



Switch the Cars

Two sidings join the main track of a railroad. They meet together and lead on to a dead end. All this is shown in the illustration above. The dead end is long enough to hold a car or an engine at a time.

Currently a blue car is located on the left siding and a green car - on the right siding. An engine is located on the main track on the midway between the two cars.

The objective of the challenge is to exchange the positions of the cars and then return the engine to its initial position. And it has to be done with the smallest number of couplings and uncouplings.

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Treasure of Classic
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Puzzles with Trains

12 numbered puzzles showing different configurations of train cars (blue, green, orange) on a three-track railway. The puzzles are arranged in two columns of six.

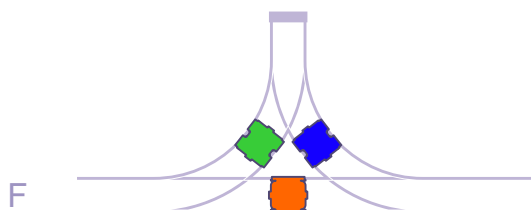
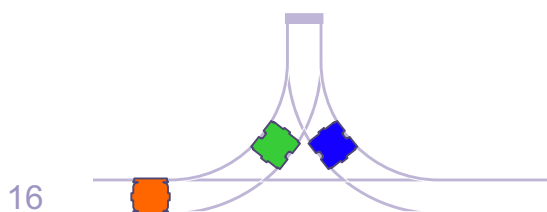
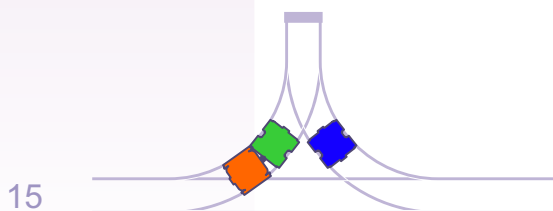
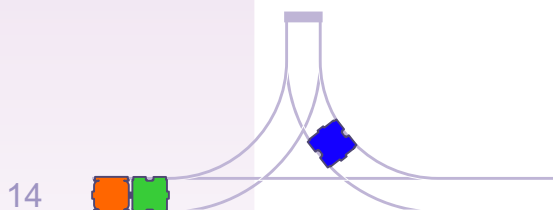
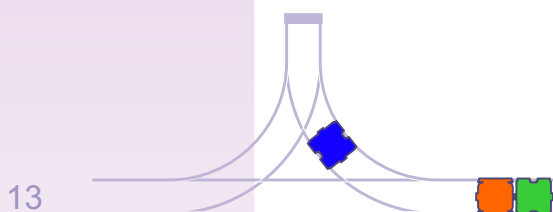
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Treasure of Classic
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Puzzles with Trains



Switch the Cars (solution)

To exchange the cars and return the engine to its initial position 16 moves are required. Within the moves six* couplings and uncouplings are performed. A move is either a coupling/uncoupling or moving of an engine alone/with car(s) till the moment it reverses its direction. The moves are shown in the illustration in the illustration.

*

The improvement on the number of required couplings and uncouplings, decreased from 8 to 6, has been sent to us by Japhet Stevens. Many thanks!