Irish jigsaw puzzles a masterclass in design by Anne Mary

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There is something about the good old fashioned jigsaw puzzle that remains quite magical even in to adult years. So simple, but also so brilliant in their creation, design and ability to concentrate the mind. Despite the modern technology of today, with the play stations, x-boxes, and i-pods occupying many kids bedrooms, they still remain incredibly popular and the Irish jigsaw puzzles in particular continue to act as an educational tool held in extremely high regard, for their ability to bring on the learning of a child.

Labeled entirely in the Irish language and designed to stimulate children in a variety of age groups, these fabulous puzzles are made from solid wood, usually of a quarter of an inch in thickness, to give them a real sustainability. The processes involved in creating these Irish jigsaw puzzles is one which begins with the preparation procedure. The wood is cut to accept the image that has been chosen, this could be a pre-selected picture of a standard design, aimed at educating a young child, or it could just as easily be a photograph, allowing for a personalization of the puzzle.

Checks are then made on the coloring and if required, any text involved. The image is then correctly sized and permanently attached, before a glossy laminate finish is applied to give added protection, followed by some expert trimming down, to fit perfectly into place. Then a soft cutting exercise occurs, which evenly breaks up the puzzle into however many segments are desired. Once this is complete, the Irish jigsaw puzzles are then ready for assembly. This is carried out piece by piece, before the puzzle is flipped over and hand sanded for a smooth finish. A fine brush then removes any collected dust particles, until it is finally ready for disassembly and eventual packaging.

The package itself is always a marketing triumph, with an attractive vinyl zip bag accompanied by a soft cloth handle, very often proving a winner with the impressionable young eye. These handcrafted puzzles are unique and built to last an entire lifetime, so something that can be passed down from generation to generation, especially those that are personalized. It is always possible to add a little caption, which is meaningful to the recipient and can also be presented in an attractive gift box.

There are some really amazing novelty Irish jigsaw puzzles available for purchase which will allow a child to really immerse themselves in an absorbing activity. Equally, the personal touch of creating a puzzle from a specific photograph also makes for a wonderfully heart warming present. If the personalized option is of interest, then it is worth remembering to check the quality of the image that is to be used. The image itself might be of the digital type, in which case it could be either uploaded, or alternatively e-mailed to the manufacturer. It could also be placed on a disc and posted, or if it is a hard copy photograph, that could also be placed in the mail. In all options though, it is vital that the picture is sharp and clear, as otherwise this will be reflected in the quality of the puzzle.

These captivating puzzles have been around for a long time and their continuing popularity indicates that they will remain in the public domain for many years to come.

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Anne Mary - About Author:
There are some wonderful a Irish jigsaw puzzles available that can either be used to educate the kids or act as a unique, personal reminder of something special. Take a look at a www.vividstories.ie for a great a jigsaw puzzles selection.

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