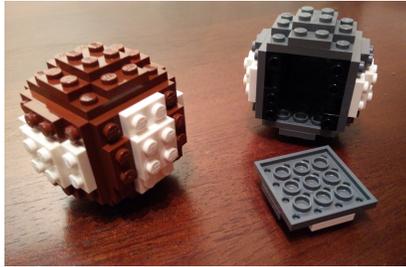
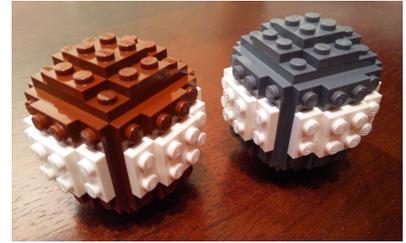


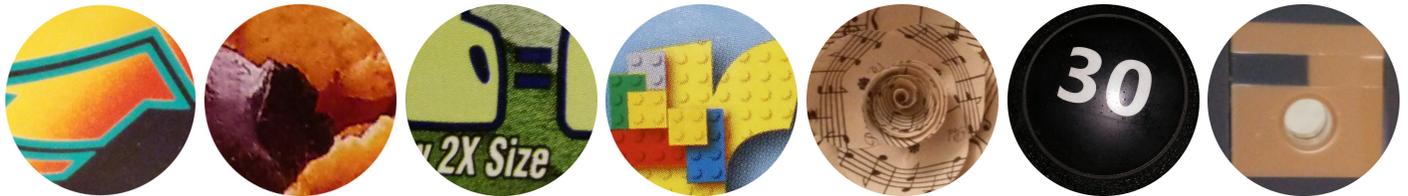
The Ornament Puzzles

In addition to the tags on the gifts, I made some additional, hidden components for the puzzlehunt this year. I made 16 ornaments out of LEGO and placed them on the Christmas tree gradually throughout the month of December. At one point, when there were perhaps three on the tree, I know one of my sons saw one as he wondered aloud, “When did we get a LEGO ornament?”, but he didn’t make the connection to the puzzlehunt.



A few days later, when there were 4 or 5 on the tree, another son saw one and was really curious. He asked his brother, “How did someone make this? Do you think I can take it apart?”. As he began to disassemble it, he soon realized that one of the side panels was loose and fell off easily. (I had provided a small hint by mounting the loose panel sideways—interrupting the stripe around the ornament.)

Once the boys got the ornaments open, they found that each contained a small close-up photograph, and now they knew that they had found a piece of the puzzlehunt. I’ve reproduced a few of the photographs they found below:



The boys eventually realized that each photograph corresponded to an item or location in our home, and once they correctly identified it and found the location, they found a one-page puzzle hidden in that location. Now, if any of you have the chance to visit my home in the future, I’ll be happy to let you search for these items. In the meantime, I’ve reproduced on the following pages each of the puzzles that they found by finding the items pictured in the ornaments.

And if you are curious, here is what is pictured in each of the photographs above:

- A movie poster for Back to the Future
- A blueberry among corn flakes on a cereal box
- A bottle of laundry detergent
- The title on the “LEGO Creator” board game
- A framed, decorative rose formed by a piece of folded sheet music
- A 30-pound medicine ball
- The “a” in the “Palace” sign on the Palace Cinema LEGO set