# PICTURE DOMINOES©





Encourage residents to stack, sort, or play games with the dominoes matching pictures at the ends. Dominoes should not be used with agitated residents. They should be used in a one to one situation or in a small group. This item is useful for individuals of all functioning levels.

**Cues for this action:** "Here are some dominoes with different pictures on them." *Demonstrate* - Show the resident how the pictures can be matched up. Also show them how to stack them, sort them, or build with them. For example, you line up several dominoes with matching pictures. *Now cue-* "You try

## **Promotes:**

- 1. Cognitive matching skills.
- 2. Focus and concentration.
- 3. Use of hands and eyes.
- 4. Maintaining the skill of reach, grasp, and release.

## **Discussion ideas:**

Did you ever play dominoes when you were younger? Who did you play with? Do you remember how to score the game of dominoes? Did you ever own a set of dominoes? What color were they? Also can discuss the various pictures on the dominoes.

These are jumbo dominoes with pictures instead of numbers. The ready- to-color pictures included here will make a set of 18 dominoes.

#### Needed:

- 45" piece of 1/2" x 6" softwood (or hardwood), with as few knots as possible.
- Elmer's glue and a small (1" or 1-1/2" wide) paint brush
- crayons or waterproof markers
- fine sandpaper or steelwool
- satin finish polyurethane if desired

### **Instructions:**

### Wood:

Rip the board so that it is 5" wide.

Rip it again, so that there are two long strips, each 2-1 ½" wide by 45" long.

Cut into 5" long pieces, so that you have eighteen 2-1/2" x 5" rectangles. Sand each piece smooth.

## **Pictures:**

Neatly color each picture with crayons. Use bright colors, and make sure that each pair of identical pictures is colored identically. For example if you color the cat white with black spots, make sure the other cat is also white with black spots in the same places.

Following the cutting line, cut out the picture pairs so you have eighteen rectangular pieces, each with two pictures on it.

## The dominoes:

Pour some Elmer's glue in a small bowl or cup. Mix in a bit of water, just enough so that you can apply the glue with a paintbrush.

Use your brush to spread a thin, even coating of the glue mixture on the top surface of one piece of wood.

Carefully set a picture pair on the domino and use the brush to coat the top surface of the paper, attaching it smoothly to the piece of wood.

Use the brush or your fingertip to gently smooth out any wrinkles or air bubbles. As you finish each domino, set it aside to dry.

After about 15 minutes check each domino and use your finger tip to gently smooth out any new wrinkles that have formed in the paper during drying.

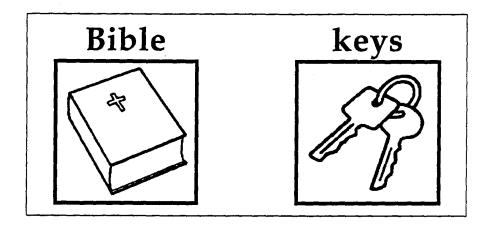
Let the dominoes dry completely.

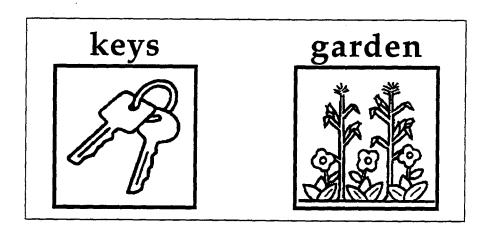
Apply additional coats of Elmer's glue and water or coats of polyurethane, sanding very lightly between coats.

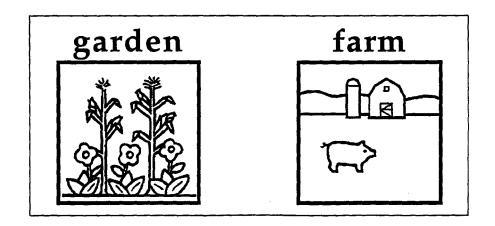
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Buettner, L. & Greenstein, D. (1997). Simple Pleasures: A multi-level sensorimotor intervention for nursing home residents with dementia. (Training manual and instructions)







glasses

