Koyosegi - Mame- 4 Move

The Personal Secret Box or Trick Box is a traditional Japanese puzzle box that was designed over 100 years ago in the Hakone-Odawara region of Japan. The Hakone Mountains are noted for their great variety of trees. Traditionally the box is adorned with an intricate mosaic woodwork overlay. This marquetry technique originated in the late Edo Period and in May of 1984 was designated a National Traditional Handicraft by the International Trade & Industry Minister.

The craftsman who make the Japanese puzzle box itself do not make the overlay that covers the box it is purchased in sheets from yosegi (overlay) makers. Two boxes that look exactly alike may be vastly different in quality when a master craftsman makes one and an apprentice makes the other the master's box will work flawlessly, the apprentice's box may barely work at all.

The boxes that can only be opened through some obscure or complicated series of manipulations. Some puzzle boxes may require only a simple squeeze in the right spot, whereas others may require the subtle movement of several small parts, to open the box.