

# Arts & Life

## University of Alabama student solves Rubik's Cube during 47-second skydive

by **Kelsey Stein**  
 The Crimson White  
 U-Wire Content

While most struggle to solve a Rubik's Cube with infinite time on their hands and solid ground underneath their feet, University of Alabama student Adam Morgan managed to solve one in 47 seconds while free falling from a plane 14,000 feet in the air.

Morgan, a freshman majoring in computer science, accomplished this feat when he skydived for the first time on April 11. The video of his stunt has been featured on a few blogs already.

A member of the Army skydiving team scrambled the Cube on the way up as Morgan prepared himself for the jump.

"I don't remember much of the free fall," he said. "I wasn't nervous about the jump itself, but I had a lot of pressure to actually do the Cube because if I didn't, it would just be a complete failure."

During the jump, the strong winds proved obtrusive as they constantly forced his hands into his body, he said.

Solving the Cube while skydiving was still much harder than he expected, although he practiced beforehand by hanging out of the moon roof of a friend's car as they sped down the interstate.

But Morgan said he enjoyed the practice, usually solving Rubik's Cubes for three hours on an average day to relieve stress or boredom.

"It's funny that I do something that stresses other people out to relieve stress," he said.

Morgan's father, who has solved Rubik's Cubes since the early 1980s, first taught him how to solve them, and it quickly developed into a hobby.

It now takes Morgan an average of 22 seconds to solve a Cube with a personal best of 15.09 seconds. Not only does he have the well-known 3x3 dimension Cube, but also everything ranging from 2x2 to 7x7.

He has participated in two competitions and is considering organizing one on campus if he can generate enough interest.

"Even if I just have a Rubik's Cube in public with a friend or something, it definitely starts conversations," he said.

Morgan has taught an estimated 40 or 50 friends how to solve Rubik's Cubes, and though none are as serious about it as he is, many do it casually.

Anyone is welcome to look him up on Facebook if they are interested in learning

to solve Rubik's Cubes, or even to speed solve them, he said.

"If you're really determined to solve it, you'll learn more quickly," Morgan said. "The fastest I ever taught someone was in less than an hour, but it usually takes a day or two."

You can watch Morgan solve the Rubik's Cube during free fall at [youtube.com](http://youtube.com).

### Cartoon by Karam Boeshaar

DAX AND KEVIN - Avalanche



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