

# HOURGLASS DESIGN



This is just another easy design with modification possibilities. The steps I show here are only guidelines for my project. Please use them to help create designs and method that work for you.

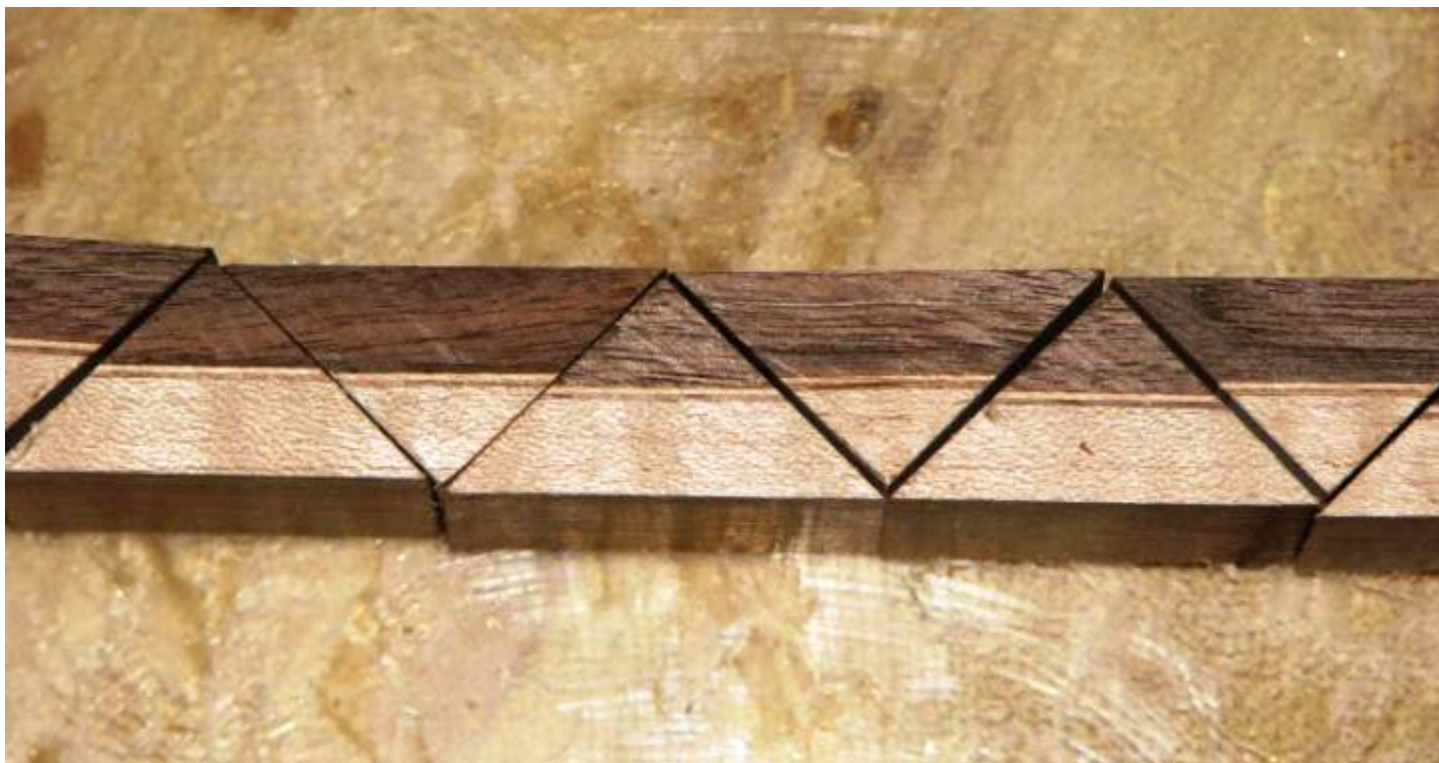
The dimensions for these boards are about  $\frac{3}{4}$ "x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x around 16" or more. So, first off I cut a couple of boards and laminate them together. I typically stick in a couple of contrasting veneers for extra detail.



Then I cut 45 degree wedges from the laminate on the miter saw.



Every other cut wedge is half of my design. This also produces two designs from the same board, each with opposite color designs.



By flipping each corresponding wedge I can line them up for my design and create two separate color schemes.





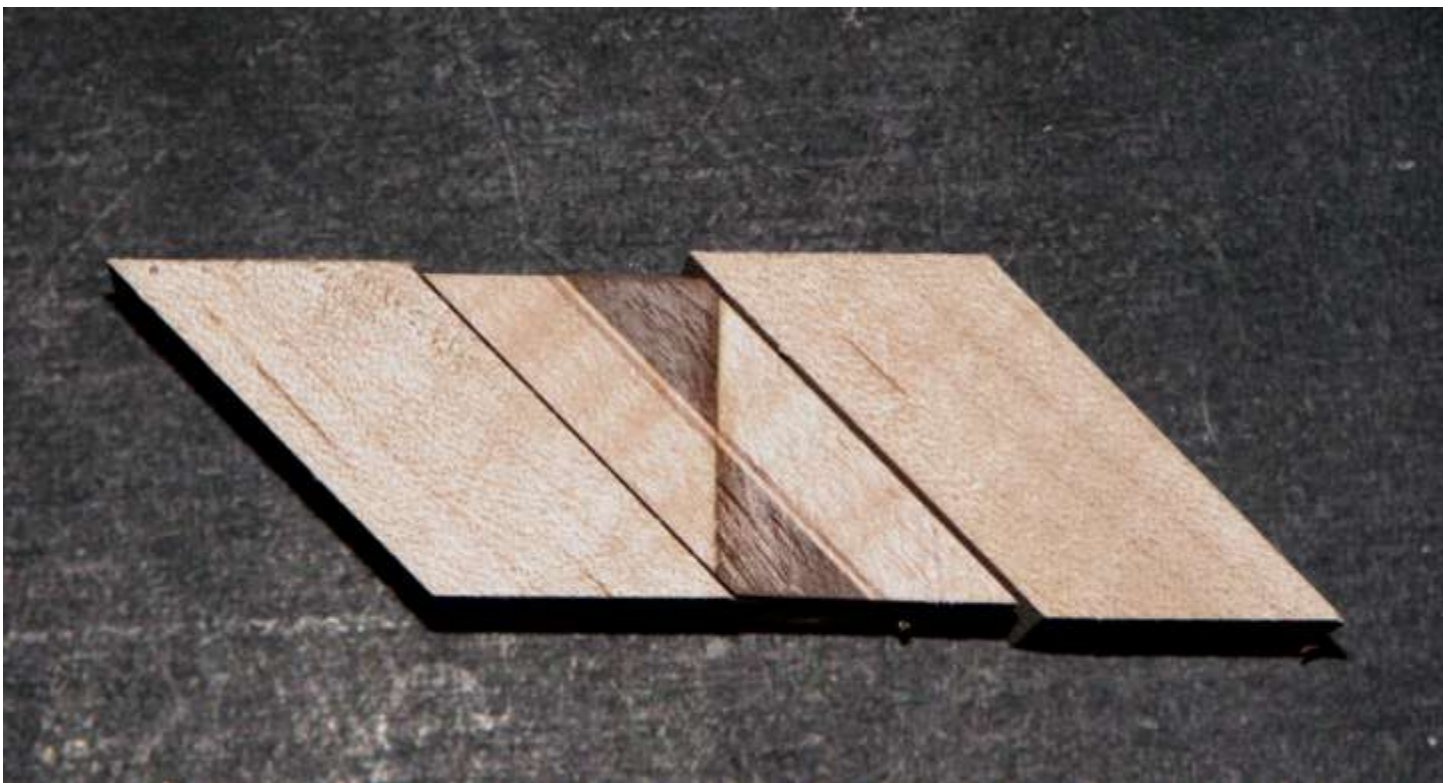
By lining up the edges of the woods or the veneers, I can sand and glue the pieces to form the hourglass.



My next step is cutting strips to fill in the edges so I can have enough wood on the sides to cut my pieces into segments.



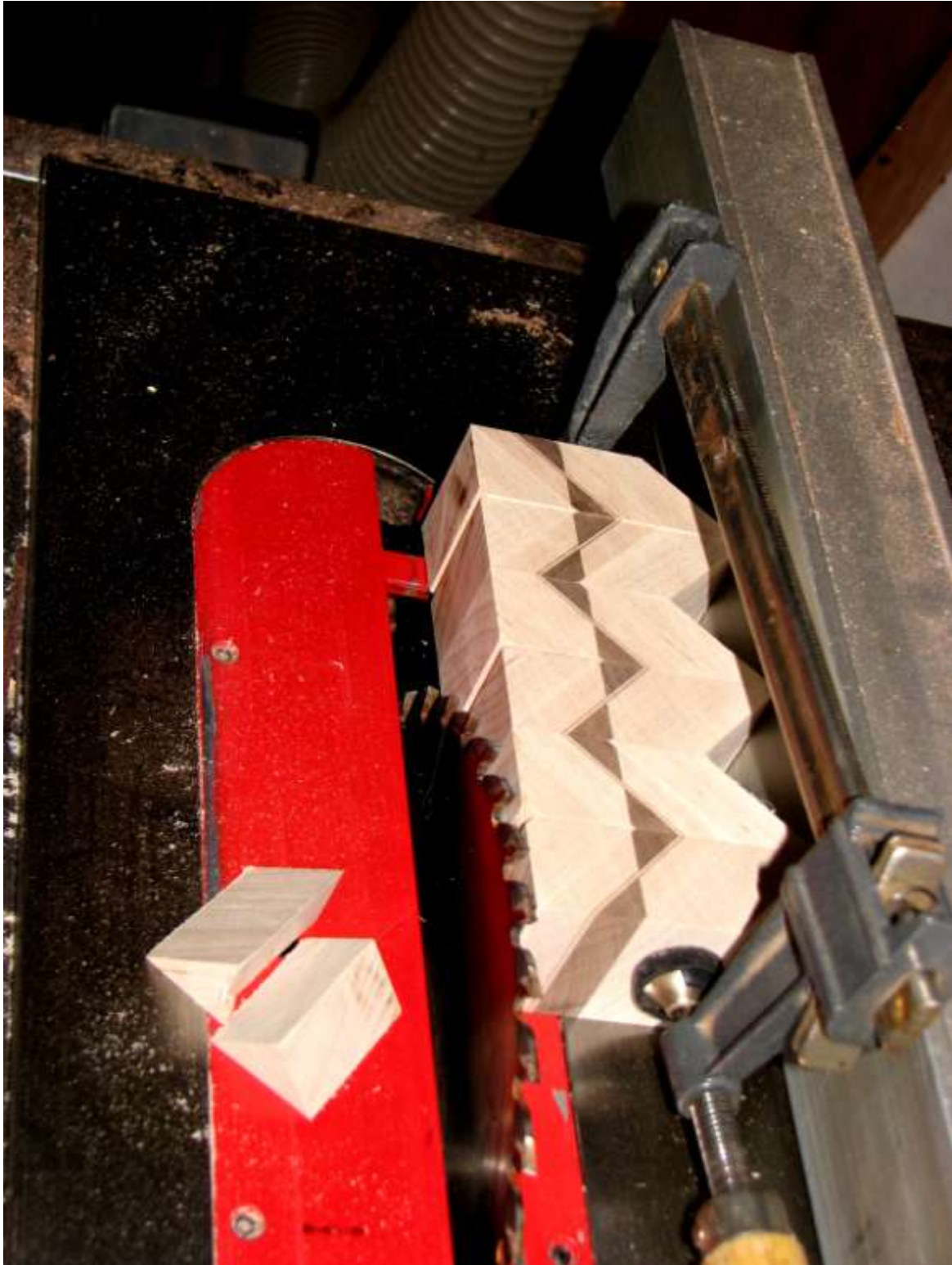
These maple pieces, also cut at 45 degree angles, will be sanded and glued to each side of a segment as shown below. I cut them slightly over length and sand back down to flush. These are just assembled with a rubbed glue joint to squeeze out excess glue and no clamping. If you need to clamp, by all means find a way to do it.

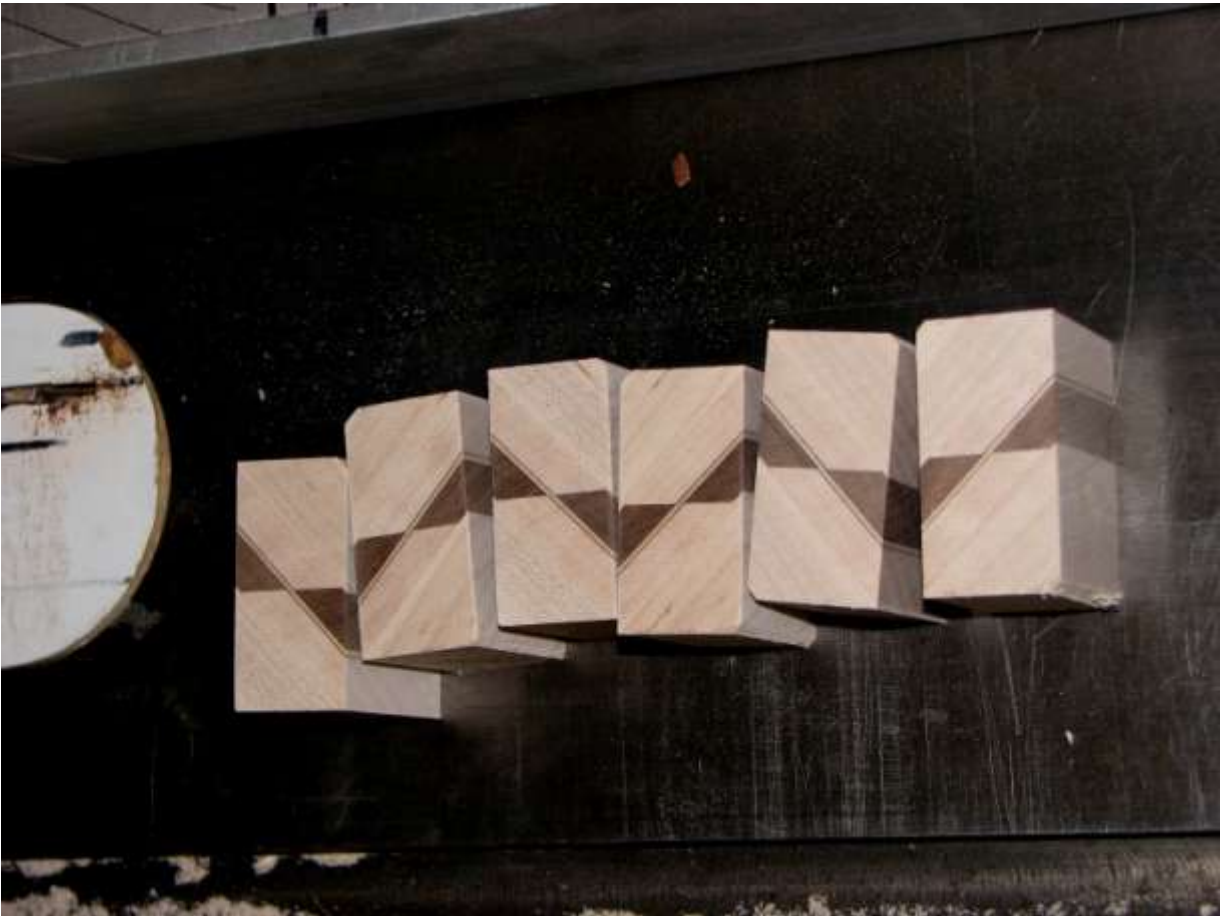
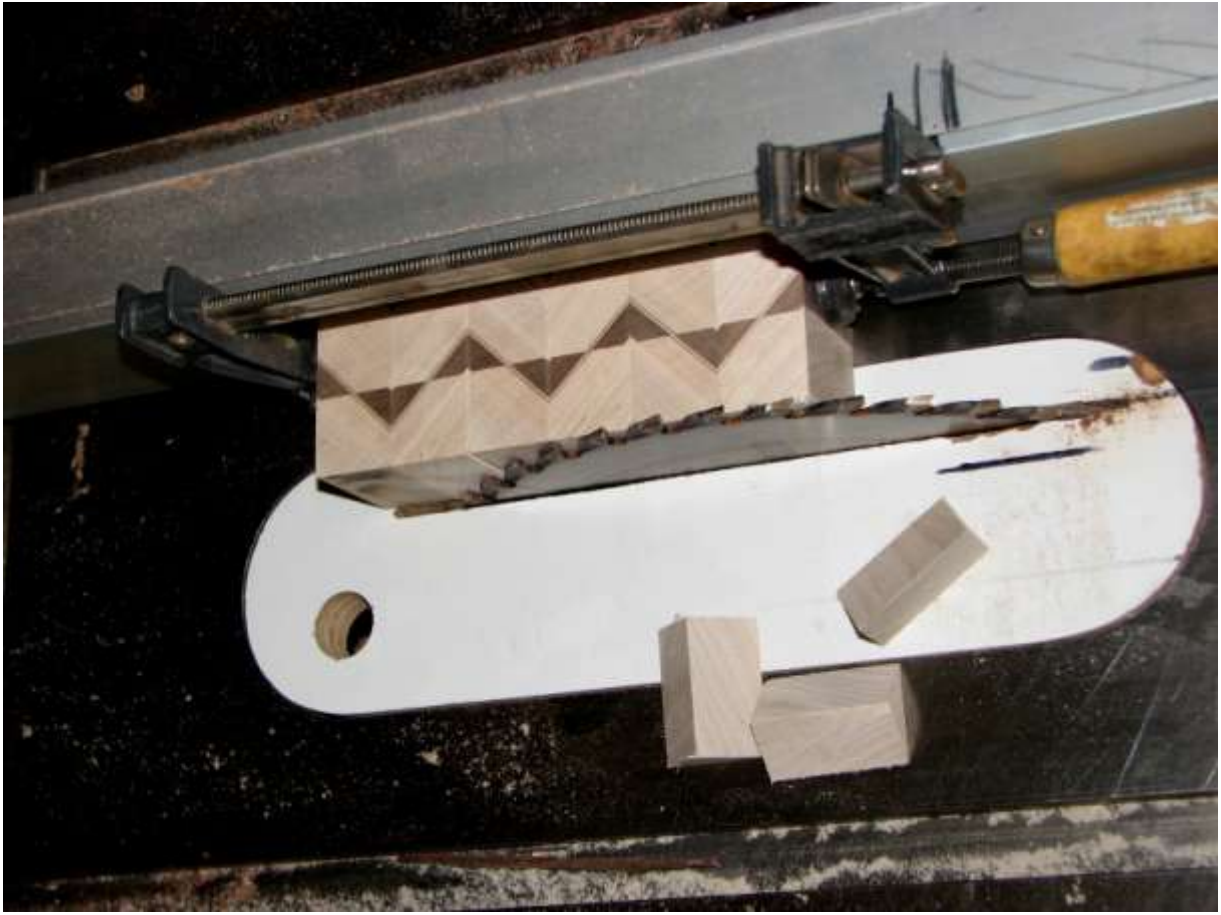


By stacking the new segments and clamping them tightly, I can run them thru my table saw to cut the ends off. You may wish to find yourself a method that makes you feel more comfortable and by all means do so. This works for me. Either way be careful-I'm not responsible for anything you do (I'm hardly responsible for the things I do).



I cut only enough to give you a flat gluing surface. I can always trim the pieces a bit more later.





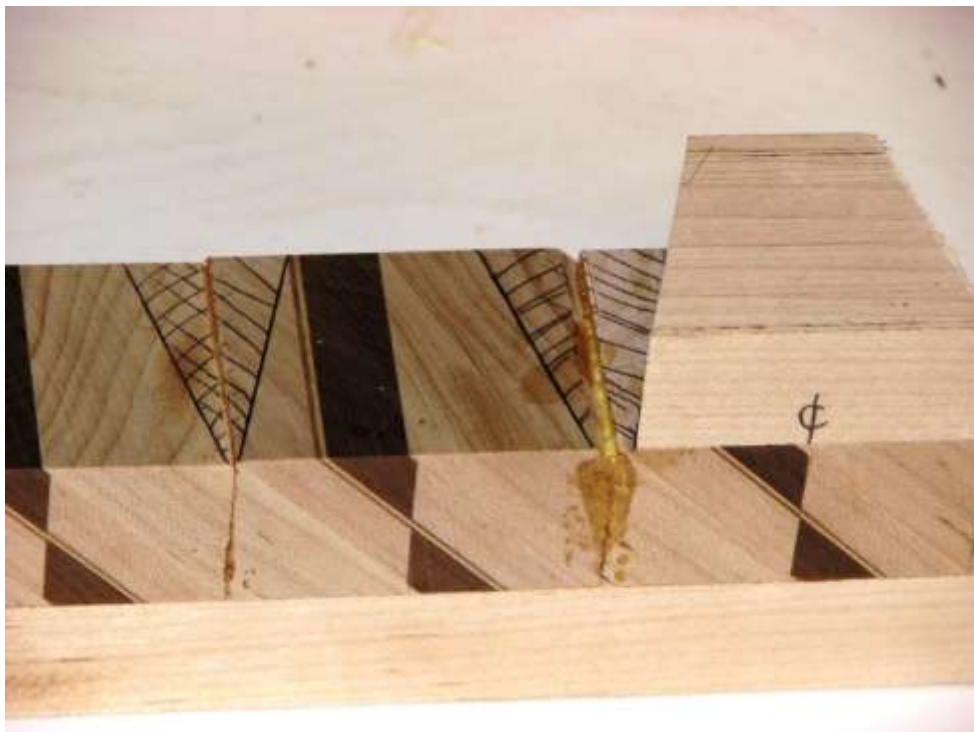


Now that the segments ends are squared off, I glue them end-to-end to form a board of segments. It's a good idea to glue another scrap piece of wood to one end so you can have something to hold onto when you are cutting the last segment.





At this stage I cut a segment from a waste piece of wood the same dimension as the final segment size. I use this as a template to mark my new 'segment board' so I can cut the segments on my table saw sled the same way I cut pieces for any other ring.



Now I can cut my board to the rough dimensions I need for my design and then take each piece to the disc sander to true up the angles.



For this particular feature ring I decided to only use the walnut hourglass pieces and insert walnut spacers in between (see photo below). You can just as easily use both sets of designs from your original cutting and have maple and walnut hourglass designs alternating thru you feature ring.



I also sanded one of the walnut spacers to give the assembly a tight fit and enable me to glue the entire ring at one time. Shaving just a bit off one little walnut wedge will go unnoticed.

Each angle for this 12 piece ring was cut at the standard 15 degrees. No compensation needed to be made for the different length segments.



So that's about it. Pretty simple, but kind of a neat design.

And you could get two separate designs (one predominately maple and one walnut in this case) from one board cut at the same time. That could save a little time and you could have a nice set of vessels with contrasting and complementary designs.



Again-be careful anytime when cutting any piece of wood with any saw. Take precautions and only attempt what you are confident that you can safely manage.

Good Luck and have fun!-Robin