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Get Hold Of A Hot Games Trend – Sudoku

By Dave Lloyd

Sudoku is one of the hottest trends in games and entertainment. The interest in this Japanese

number crossword puzzle is absolutely at a fever pitch. The rules are simple – fill in the squares so that all numbers are represented only once per row. Simple rules, difficult to follow. What makes Sudoku almost addicting is the consistent challenge of finding the right match. The trial and error matched with a pre-planned strategy based on the clues you're provided make success possible for everyone. And of course it helps that there are different game levels available. So you can start with, or always go back to, the easiest level in order to gain an understanding of how the game works and what strategies work best for you. And unlike crossword puzzles, which are popular in their own right, Sudoku does not require an infinite knowledge of words or a long-term commitment to figure a puzzle out. And the frustration level stays low because one can always go back to the most basic level and focus on speed rather than mere completion. In a 5–30 minute time period, one can play a game or a few, be challenged intellectually, get the satisfaction out of completing a puzzle, and walk away refreshed to go use their brain in another matter. And with the online resources and local clubs and competitions, the Sudoku experience is only becoming more popular. School children use it in their classroom to practice addition, number patterns, and logical thinking – while many in assisted living programs have incorporated Sudoku into their regular bingo rotation.

The best thing about Sudoku is it provides an equal playing ground for everyone. Four year old kids, elderly adults, PhDs in math, and those who don't speak English can all play the same game, with varied difficulty levels, and get the same level of satisfaction from it.

Dave Lloyd has published an online guide to learning about the Sudoku Japanese number puzzle game at

<http://www.sudokuhere.com>

Sudoku - Mind Games At Their Best?

By Gabriel Adams

Get Hold Of A Hot Games Trend – Sudoku

Sudoku is a logic based puzzle, somewhat similar to a crossword puzzle, except it uses digits instead of words. The name Sudoku is an abbreviation of a Japanese phrase which means "the digits must remain single". It is also sometimes called Number Place or Nampure.

The history of Sudoku

You can find predecessors of Sudoku as early as 1895, when an early version or variant of Sudoku appeared in a French newspaper.

The game now known as Sudoku was not invented until 1979, however, and was actually invented in Indianapolis, not Japan. Sudoku became widely popular in 1986, when the Japanese puzzle publisher Nikoli found and published the puzzle.

The game of Sudoku

Sudoku is based on a graph of squares, nine squares by nine squares. This graph is sub-divided into 9 3x3 squares or regions. The board looks much like 9 tic tac toe games all together.

The game is played by placing digits (1–9) in the squares on the game. Easy enough. The tough part is that each region (3x3 square, each diagonal row, each horizontal row, and each vertical row of squares must contain one of each of the nine digits, but may not have duplicates.

Each Sudoku game has some of the fields pre populated with numerals, called givens or clues. The difficulty is not necessarily related to how many fields are populated, though.

Difficulty

Sudoku is a very simple game in it's construction, but it can require some serious brain effort and skill to solve. Publishers often rank games according to difficulty, using 4–5 levels to organize games by their difficulty.

Accessibility

Sudoku puzzles are published in many newspapers and magazines around the world. They are also available in print form, and as computer games. Probably the easiest way to get them, though, is from a website that features free Sudoku puzzles. Many websites can also generate custom puzzles for free.

Visit

<http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net>

for free sudoku games and more.



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