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Sudoku - Mind Games At Their Best?

By Gabriel Adams

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.

Sudoku Puzzles Are Challenging – But They're Not Only For Math Majors

By Mary Murtha

Sudoku puzzles have reached legendary popularity over the past few years. If you play regularly, then you have a pretty good idea what makes this puzzle game so special. If you have never played before there is only one question to ask. Where have you been? Open your eyes and grab a pencil, because it is time to join the rest of civilization.

If you are looking to find information on Sudoku puzzles, do not fear. The Internet is an amazing source of information on Sudoku. If you log on to your favorite web search engine, enter in the phrase "Sudoku puzzles," click the search button and let the World Wide Web do the rest. Within seconds you will find millions upon millions of sources about Sudoku. Just to warn you, you will be shocked at the extent of the following this logical and challenging puzzle game has.

When you first encounter the Sudoku puzzle, try not to think about mathematics. Sudoku does not require any math skills. It is an exercise in logic and logic alone. When you see the numbers try to remember that you will not have to add, multiply, divide, subtract or take the square root of anything. Sudoku is all about reasoning and it can give your brain a pretty good workout. The average solving time for Sudoku Puzzles is between 10 and 30 minutes. Of course, seasoned professionals and Sudoku prodigies can whiz through them in no time.

There are nine 9 x 9 grids inside a box. Some of the spaces in the sudoku puzzle are filled in with clues and numbers. The point of the game is to use those numbers and clues to figure out how to fill in the empty spaces. It sounds pretty easy and in some cases the puzzles can be created to be fairly simple. But as you become more experienced you can test your concentration with more difficult puzzles.

If you start playing Sudoku puzzles you will learn pretty quickly why it is considered one of the most addictive puzzle games in history. Do not take my word for it, pick up a book or log onto one of the millions of web sites dedicated to this great and innovative puzzle game.

To learn more about the Sudoku Game

http://www.sudokudome.com/Articles/Sudoku_Game.php

and

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