



SIBLING FUN FRIDAYS

Sudoku

A brain-teasing number puzzle you can solve solo, race, or team up on

What You Need

- A pencil (**Not pen!** You'll want to erase a few guesses!)
- A sudoku puzzle — print one from the resources below, or use a sudoku app
- A sibling, friend, or family member (*optional*)

How to Play

1. Every sudoku puzzle is a 9x9 grid, split into nine smaller 3x3 boxes. Some squares already have numbers filled in.

		8	4					3
9		2	1				5	
	4			6		8		
		7					1	
4								
	2				3			
			9			3		
3			6	1		7		
8							2	

2. The goal is to fill each empty square with a number from 1 to 9, but there are three rules: no number can repeat in any **row**, any **column**, or any **3x3 box**.

7	5	8	4		9	1		3
9	6	2	1		8		5	7
1	4	3		6	7	8		
		7	2		6		1	
4		9			1		3	
6	2	1	8	9	3	5	7	4
		6	9		5	3		
3			6	1	2	7		5
8		5			4		2	9

3. You can play the game solo, race with a sibling, or team up and tackle the same puzzle together. Sudoku logic touches the whole grid at once, so it's common for one person to spot the answer in one box while the other spots a different one elsewhere. Two sets of eyes really can solve it faster than one!
4. The puzzle is solved when every square is filled in and every row, column, and box has the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

I Don't Understand the Rules

Sudoku could look like a wall of numbers that doesn't make any sense when you're just starting out, but no worries! You can watch a video on how to play sudoku [here](#), or search up: "Sudoku Puzzles - Basic Introduction" on YouTube.



Sibling Tips

Start with the row, column, or box that already has the most numbers filled in, it's the easiest to figure out!

Alternatively, you can start with the number with the most occurrences in the puzzle, and eliminate boxes that cannot be that number. Remember, you can never have the same number repeat in the same row, column, or 3x3 box!

Take breaks if you need to, there's no timer rule that says you have to rush.

Learning Resources

You need to practice a lot to master this game, so here are some free places to learn the strategy and play interactively:

Play Online

- [Sudoku.com](https://www.sudoku.com) — huge free puzzle library from easy to evil, with built-in beginner tutorials

Learn the Strategy

- [Sudoku.coach](https://www.sudoku.coach) — free website that teaches solving techniques step by step, from total beginner to advanced

Why We Love This One

Sudoku is quiet, screen-optional, and endlessly repeatable. The same grid never gets boring because every puzzle is different. It's a great way to sit side by side with a sibling, focus on something calm together, and celebrate when that last number finally clicks into place!

Printable Sudoku Puzzles

From <https://www.puzzles.ca/sudoku/>

LEVEL 1 - EASY

7								
	5		4	7				1
4		2	5			7		
	3	1			6			9
8					2			
2				4			6	3
			2					
		3	6					
1					8		9	

ANSWERS

6	6	4	8	5	3	7	2	1
2	8	5	7	1	6	3	4	9
7	1	3	4	9	2	5	8	6
3	9	8	5	4	1	9	7	2
5	7	1	2	3	9	4	6	8
9	4	2	6	8	7	1	3	5
8	3	7	1	6	5	2	9	4
1	2	6	9	7	4	8	5	3
4	5	9	3	2	8	6	1	7

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		5		1				4
	8				6			
				9	2	3		
			4			2	7	
				5	1	8		
					8		6	
3	2					6		
	5					1		
	4		3					

1	4	6	3	2	7	9	5	8
8	5	7	9	6	4	1	3	2
3	2	9	1	8	5	6	4	7
9	3	1	2	7	8	4	6	5
4	7	2	6	5	1	8	9	3
5	6	8	4	3	9	2	7	1
7	1	4	5	9	2	3	8	6
2	8	3	7	4	6	5	1	9
6	9	5	8	1	3	7	2	4

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LEVEL 2 - MEDIUM

	7	3				8		
			1		7	9		
		9		2				
				1			3	
	8		9			6		
	6	7			8			4
		8					5	
			4					
	1	2					4	

ANSWERS

6	4	3	9	8	5	2	1	7
9	8	2	1	7	4	5	3	6
1	5	7	2	6	3	8	9	4
4	9	1	8	2	3	7	6	5
2	7	6	5	4	9	1	8	3
8	3	5	6	1	7	4	2	9
7	6	7	2	9	4	5	6	3
8	3	5	6	1	7	4	2	9
1	5	9	8	2	3	4	6	7
8	4	6	1	5	7	9	2	3
2	7	3	6	9	4	8	1	5

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3	7							9
8						5		
	9	2						
			3		2			6
4				8				
			6				9	3
	5						1	
	8				7	6		
			9	3			4	

1	6	7	9	3	5	2	4	8
9	8	4	2	1	7	6	3	5
2	5	3	8	6	4	9	1	7
5	2	8	6	7	1	4	9	3
4	3	6	5	8	9	7	2	1
7	1	9	3	4	2	8	5	6
6	9	2	1	5	8	3	7	4
8	4	1	7	9	3	5	6	2
3	7	5	4	2	6	1	8	9

Printable Sudoku Puzzles

From <https://www.puzzles.ca/sudoku/>

LEVEL 3 - HARD

								7
8	1			7				
						2		5
	2			3	5	7		
						9		
			4		8		3	
		2					6	
7	5		9					8
9		3		2				

ANSWERS

1	7	5	4	2	8	3	9	6
8	2	4	3	6	9	1	5	7
9	6	3	1	5	7	2	8	4
2	3	1	8	9	4	6	7	5
6	5	9	7	1	2	8	4	3
4	8	7	5	3	6	9	2	1
5	4	2	9	8	1	7	3	6
3	9	6	2	7	5	4	1	8
7	1	8	6	4	3	5	9	2

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	2			4	8	3		
		7				5		8
			5				4	6
			4		5	7		
	1	2			7		3	
	8		6					
						1		
5		6					9	

2	9	8	4	1	7	6	3	5
3	6	1	9	5	8	4	7	2
7	5	4	2	3	6	9	8	1
5	3	6	7	8	9	2	1	4
1	8	7	5	4	2	3	6	9
4	2	9	1	6	3	8	5	7
8	9	1	5	7	3	2	4	6
3	4	7	2	9	6	5	1	8
9	7	3	8	4	1	5	2	6