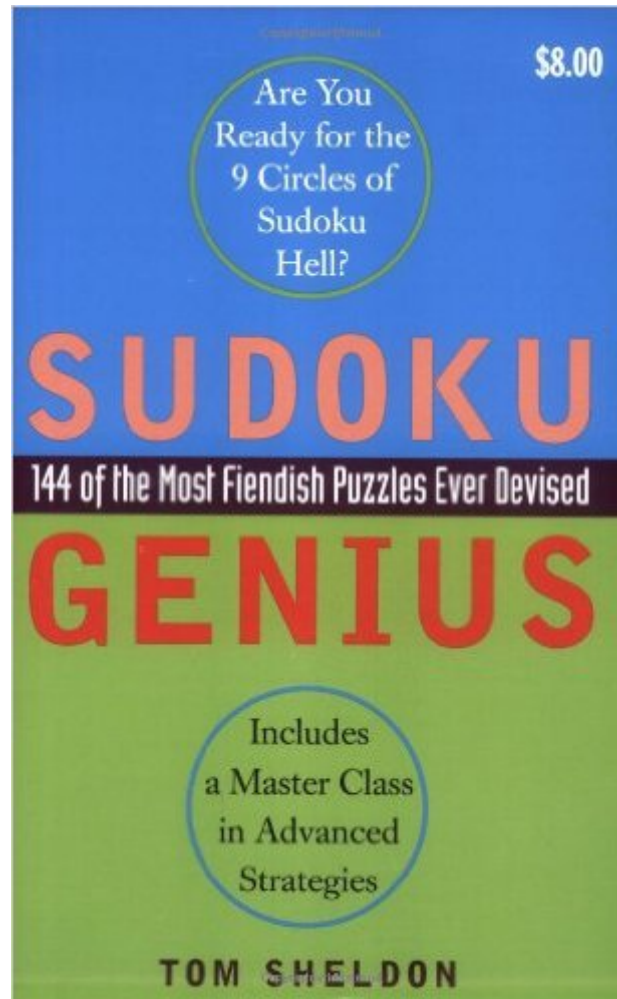


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Sudoku Genius: 144 Of The Most Fiendish Puzzles Ever Devised



Synopsis

"Are you ready for the 9 Circles of Sudoku Hell?" Includes a Master Class in Advanced Strategies. "Most Sudoku books have puzzles from easy to hard; this book contains all difficult puzzles, taking you through the nine "circles" of Sudoku Hell. The levels are Daunting, Tortuous, Merciless, Harrowing, Horrific, Maddening, Murderous, Devastating, and Deadly. The introduction contains a very brief explanation of the basic concepts and methods. Then, for the seasoned Sudoku addict, there are 15 pages of "expert methods" which includes new strategies." -- RoeDudster

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (57 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Tom Sheldon's second book of sudoku puzzles picks up where the introductory Big Sudoku Brain Workout leaves off, presenting 144 difficult puzzles graded in nine levels of difficulty, from Daunting to Deadly. Though these are described as "the most fiendish puzzles ever devised," they can all be solved (albeit on the second or third try, sometimes) by someone who has a basic knowledge of sudoku strategies and a good sense of logic. I began at the beginning, and either there is not much difference between the puzzles from the beginning to the end or I learned some tricks as I went along, but I found myself spending about the same amount of time on the puzzles at the end as at the beginning. Some of this may be because I gained greater practice using some of the techniques Sheldon includes in his helpful Master Class in Advanced Strategies, in the introduction. The author helpfully lists the thirty puzzles which require "trailing," his term for the technique that is sometimes necessary when groups of pairs block further progress in solving the puzzle. He makes a case for

why this controversial technique (which involves choosing one of the numbers in a pair at random and following it throughout the puzzle) is still logical, not simply trial and error. He didn't convince me, but the puzzles could easily be solved (especially when the first trial number was done on a Xerox copy). Several intriguing puzzles are completely missing one given number, but those turned out to be the most fun, and, as a rule not difficult. Some not listed as requiring trailing did require it, and three or four listed as requiring trailing did not. and one puzzle, done by both my husband and me, turned out to have two completely different and correct solutions!

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