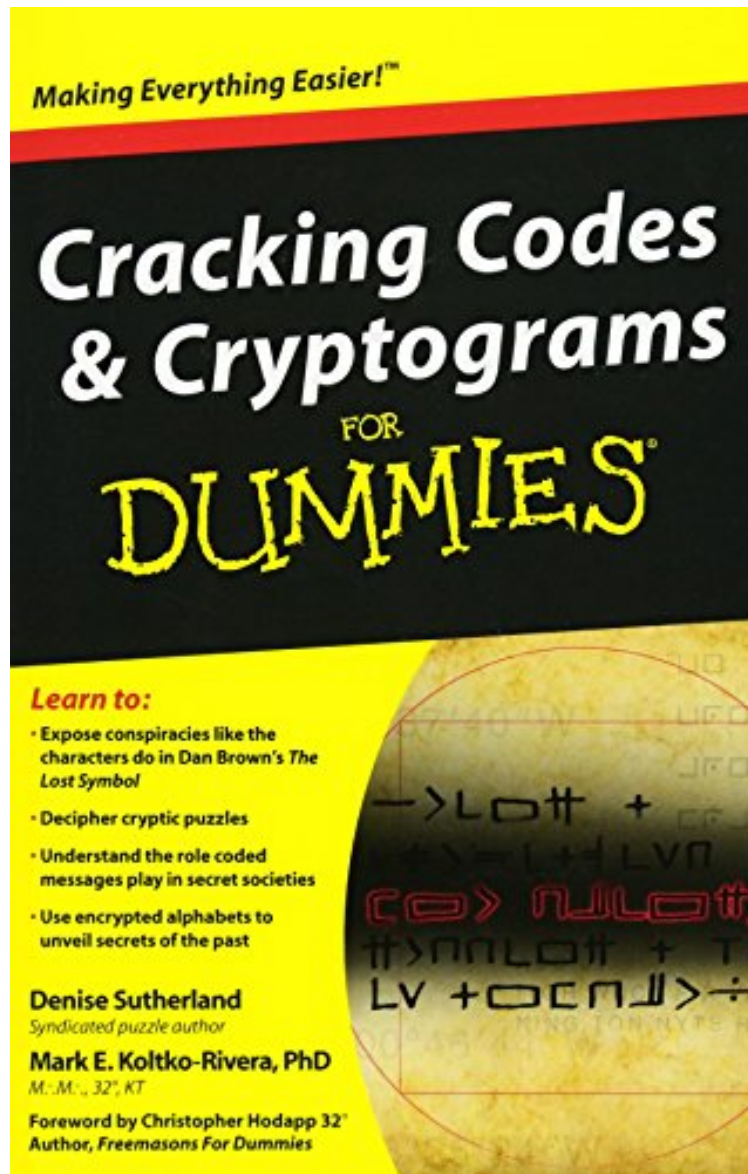


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Denise Sutherland, Mark Koltko-Rivera : Cracking Codes and Cryptograms For Dummies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cracking Codes and Cryptograms For Dummies:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Disappointed. By Mike If you are looking for a book to teach you about cryptology, codes and ciphers. Look else where. If your looking for a book of puzzles you've found it. I got this

book looking to help me understand codes and ciphers and the first 40 pages served as a fantastic intro. Then they throw you into 290ish pages of puzzles with minimal explanation. (40 pages to cover I believe 12ish different types of ciphers as you can imagine that makes for a pretty bare bones synopsis especially when you add in the pictures and the fact that this book isn't much bigger than your average paper back and uses large font and frequent headers) almost 100 pages of this book are puzzles that basically just tell you guess what letters those other letters / numbers / symbols should be until you figure out the code. The only guide you get for these puzzles are things "q is always followed by u" and what the 12 most common letters at the beginning of English words are. Not that I don't appreciate the content to let me stretch my legs and try to crack some on my own. But the information provided / puzzle ratio is way too heavy one way. There's a few hint / answer chapters at the end that provide the absolute minimum in ways of answers. it would have been nice if it said "here's the answer. Now let's walk through how we figured this out. " even if that came at the cost of how many puzzles could be fit into this book. For such a fascinating and complex topic it seems a waste to only provide 40 pages of limited detail. Had this been in the \$20 - \$30 dollar range id have been very upset. But the \$7 dollar price is the only thing that saves it from a 1 star review. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. just what I was looking for, many puzzles to ...By Jim just what I was looking for, many puzzles to keep me busy and has answers too. the beginning of the book shows you how the different types of cryptograms work. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Broad and Informative By J. Robideau As most "For Dummies" books, this book does an excellent job of going very broad to cover a wide variety of subjects related to codes and cryptography. It seems to have everything from history to many examples of early codes and ciphers, but don't expect in-depth commentary on more modern cryptography.

The fast and easy way to crack codes and cryptograms Did you love Dan Brown's The Lost Symbol? Are you fascinated by secret codes and deciphering lost history? Cracking Codes and Cryptograms For Dummies shows you how to think like a symbologist to uncover mysteries and history by solving cryptograms and cracking codes that relate to Freemasonry, the Knights Templar, the Illuminati, and other secret societies and conspiracy theories. You'll get easy-to-follow instructions for solving everything from the simplest puzzles to fiendishly difficult ciphers using secret codes and lost symbols. Over 350 handcrafted cryptograms and ciphers of varying types Tips and tricks for cracking even the toughest code Sutherland is a syndicated puzzle author; Koltko-Rivera is an expert on the major symbols and ceremonies of Freemasonry With the helpful information in this friendly guide, you'll be unveiling mysteries and shedding light on history in no time!

From the Back Cover Solve compelling and challenging puzzles to uncover secrets and conspiracy plots Fascinated with the culture of conspiracy? Uncover the mysteries and test your knowledge of secret societies by solving cryptograms and deciphering codes that not only unveil historical fact and fiction but entertain you as well. Walk in the footsteps of a symbologist by solving everything from the simplest puzzles to fiendishly difficult ciphers, using secret codes and lost symbols. Think like a symbologist discover a variety of codes and wordplay and the strategies for solving each one Build your code-cracking skills work your way from solving simple cryptograms to difficult Masonic and double level ciphers Uncover a bigger mystery use the answers you discover to solve three conspiracy stories contained in the book Appreciate the history of code and encryption reveal the secret world of Freemasonry, the Illuminati, and the Knights Templar Check your work find hints and answers for all the book's puzzles Open the book and find: Over 350 handcrafted cryptograms and ciphers of varying types Tips and tricks for cracking even the toughest code An introduction to the history and relevance of using code Puzzle strategies and hints to help nudge you in the right direction Fun and intriguing anagrams and story wordplay puzzles Fascinating number ciphers that reference the keypad letters on your cellphone Puzzles of all levels: Easy, Tricky, and Treacherous Learn to: Expose conspiracies like the characters do in Dan Brown's The Lost Symbol Decipher cryptic puzzles Understand the role coded messages play in secret societies Use encrypted alphabets to unveil secrets of the past About the Author Denise Sutherland is a syndicated puzzle author. Her puzzles appear in a range of publications, including the Reader's Digest Mind Stretchers series, and she is the author of Word Searches For Dummies. Mark E. Koltko-Rivera, PhD, is a 32 degree Freemason and expert on the major symbols and ceremonies of Freemasonry. Using this expertise, he analyzed prepublication clues to uncover and blog about key elements of The Lost Symbol. He co-hosts the weekly podcast Masonic Central.