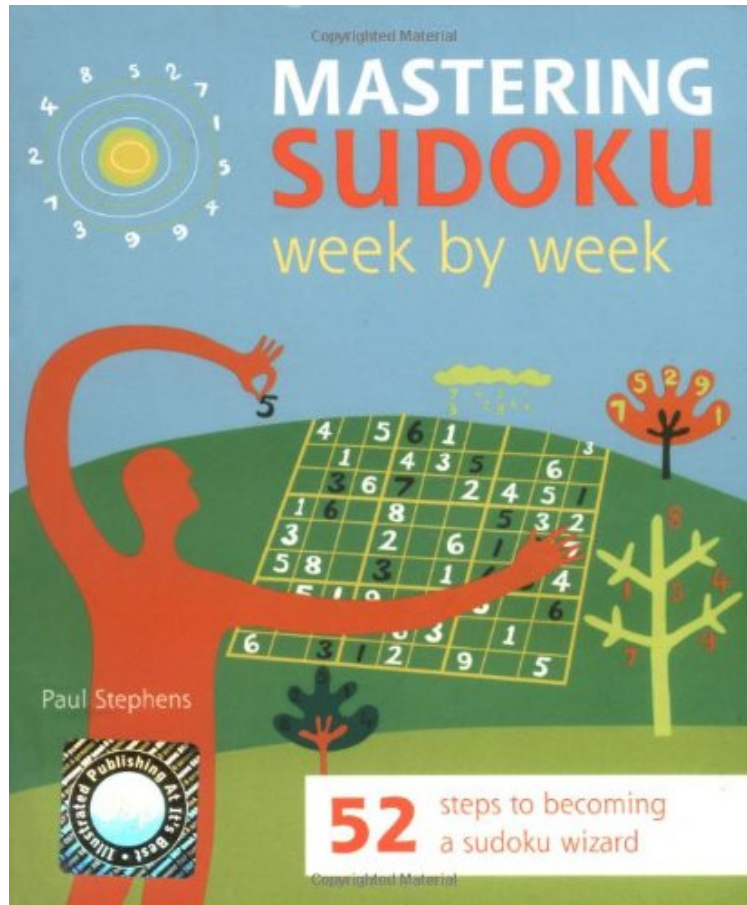


[Download] Mastering Sudoku Week by Week: 52 Steps to Becoming a Sudoku Wizard

Mastering Sudoku Week by Week: 52 Steps to Becoming a Sudoku Wizard

Paul Stephens

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#3110881 in Books 2007Format: ImportOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 .63 x 6.54 x 5.43l, .51 #File Name: 1844833690176 pages | File size: 17.Mb

Paul Stephens : Mastering Sudoku Week by Week: 52 Steps to Becoming a Sudoku Wizard before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mastering Sudoku Week by Week: 52 Steps to Becoming a Sudoku Wizard:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Might as well as be speaking Latin!!!!By PAR-TEEBought this book thinking it would give clear and simple instructions to follow for the more difficult strategies. Other books I have purchased might as well as been speaking Latin when it came to complex strategies. The basic strategies in this book are explained very well and simple to follow but the complex are lacking in detail and instructions that help in understanding the principle. One example would be "Remote Pair Chains"; one page, one example, and the narrative is confusing because simple instructions and examples are lacking. Read the narrative over and over and walk away frustrated and totally confused. This strategy is helpful when dealing with redundant patterns and breaking the gridlock, but the explanation makes it totally useless. This follows suit in other complex strategy explanations...38 of

39 people found the following review helpful. The best "how to do Sudoku" book out there
By Gary Bisaga
In my desire to really learn how to do Sudoku, I first bought the Mensa Guide to Solving Sudoku: Hundreds of Puzzles Plus Techniques to Help You Crack Them All. There are some good things about that book, but I was having trouble applying the techniques presented there. For one thing, it was too much presented all at once. I was an "advanced" kind of level at the time, and I was having trouble understanding how to apply fishy patterns. The MENSA book slammed me with everything from X-wing to Squirmbag, and then presented me a bunch of tiny grid puzzles that used all variety of these fishy patterns. I was about to give it up, when I found this little book. What I found was an absolute gem. The author presents pretty much all the same techniques as the MENSA book, though more gently and not so much like a firehose. To be fair, this book does present a bit less than the MENSA book. For example, regarding fishy patterns, he only tackles X-Wings and Swordfish. But I've now done quite a few "extreme" sudokus, and I've only just now needed anything higher-order than a Swordfish. This highlights a major difference between the two books: the MENSA book presents you absolutely everything and hopes you pick it up immediately; this book gives you what you will actually need for 99.999% of the puzzles out there, and in a way that it's understandable for mere mortals. And, honestly, after doing X-wings and Swordfish for a few weeks, the extension to higher-order fishy patterns is an easy one. I just hit a jellyfish in Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 3 (Mensa) and had no problem with it. You really don't need all those higher-order patterns right at the beginning: better to get a solid foundation with a bit less material. The other (minor) drawback is that this book does not provide a huge number of example puzzles - the number "52" in the title actually being the number of puzzles presented. As they range in difficulty from easy to fairly extreme, there are not many puzzles at any given level. However, I do not consider this a huge drawback, since Sudoku books at every level are easily obtained. My advice is to pick a companion book at a level slightly above where you currently are, and go through the two books together. Here's a short guide on what puzzle book to pick up (sorry! this only covers fairly advanced levels):
* If you need some work on your pairs, triples, and quads, I recommend Will Shortz Presents Ferocious Sudoku: 200 Hard Puzzles. There are no advanced techniques required in this book, but it will give you a good workout of the basic ones.
* If you are at the same level I was when I started, something a bit higher than the previous, try Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 1 (Mensa)
* If you are just getting comfortable with X-wings, I'd recommend Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 2 (Mensa)
* If you are comfortable with level 3 fishy patterns, simple non-unique rectangles, and XY/XYZ wings, pick up Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 3 (Mensa)
There's a testament to this book: last summer I was at the first step of these four; now I'm at the fourth, and I credit this wonderful little book. This book just works. That's why I say it's the BEST "how to do Sudoku" book there is!
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Book...But Incomplete
By Philip McCollum
When I bought this book, I was looking to increase my knowledge of advanced strategies, and the book definitely helped me, although there are a number of advanced strategies that are not covered. The title suggests that 52 strategies are covered, but that is not the case. It turns out that 52 practice puzzles are provided. The book starts with what I consider to be intermediate strategies, and never really explains the solving process to a complete newbie. The book provides succinct descriptions of the covered strategies. The diagrams are mostly effective, the downside being that they are hard read at times due to the usage of fonts and highlighting in different shades of light green to describe the patterns, which while attractive caused me a bit of eyestrain. Don't try reading these diagrams in dim light. There is one area of strategy where the book is noticeably weak, and that is the X-Wing. While the basic X-Wing pattern is covered, there are many variations that are not described, or even mentioned. This is probably due to the publication date of 2007, which may have been before some of those variations were discovered. Now that I have completed my research and written my own Sudoku book, which is available in the Kindle store, I can appreciate the effort that went into this book. I awarded the book 4 stars because it really did help me understand a couple key concepts, and it does a decent job describing the strategies that are covered. However, it must be understood that for beginners the book may be a bit hard to grasp, and people looking for the latest advanced strategies, the book is out of date.