

Playful Number Sudoku

1 **2** **3** **4** Find a place for every number!

Write 1, 2, 3, and 4 in the empty cells.

Puzzle 1

	4	1	3
3	1		2
	3		1

Three rules, one puzzle

Write 1, 2, 3, and 4 in the empty cells.

1	2	3	4
3	4	1	2
2	1	4	3
4	3	2	1

Row

Look across: 1, 2, 3, and 4 appear once each.

3	1	2	4
4	2	1	3
1	3	4	2
2	4	3	1

Column

Look down: 1, 2, 3, and 4 appear once each.

1	2	3	4
3	4	1	2
2	1	4	3
4	3	2	1

2 x 2 box

In each little box, 1, 2, 3, and 4 appear once each.

Keep the printed numbers in place.

A separate example

See how to find a number. Check all three rules after each step.

4			3
3	2		
1	4		
	3		4

Keep the printed numbers in place.

The first three steps are on pages 4-5.

The first three steps

See how to find a number. Check all three rules after each step.

1 • Row 1, cell 2

4	1		3
3	2		
1	4		
	3		4

Numbers that could fit

Row: 1, 2

Column: 1

2 x 2 box: 1

Only 1 fits.

Write 1.

2 • Row 1, cell 3

4	1	2	3
3	2		
1	4		
	3		4

Numbers that could fit

Row: 2

Column: 1, 2, 3, 4

2 x 2 box: 1, 2, 4

Only 2 fits.

Write 2.

The first three steps

3 · Row 2, cell 4

Numbers that could fit

Row: 1, 4

Column: 1, 2

2 x 2 box: 1, 4

4	1	2	3
3	2		1
1	4		
	3		4

Only 1 fits. Write 1.

These are just the first three steps. There are still empty cells to fill.

The full example answer is on page 14.

Let's play



Puzzle 1

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

	4	1	3
3	1		2
	3		1

Let's play

1

2

3

4

Puzzle 2

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

1			3
	2	4	
4			2
	1		4

Keep playing



Puzzle 3

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

3		4	1
			3
	3		
2	1	3	

Keep playing

1

2

3

4

Puzzle 4

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

		1	3
	1	2	
2			
1	3	4	

Another puzzle



Puzzle 5

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

		2	
1	2	4	
	1		
	3	1	2

Another puzzle



Puzzle 6

Fill the empty cells. Check the row, column, and box.

4		1	2
	2		
2		3	
		2	1

Answers and first hints

An answer and a first move for each puzzle.

Puzzle 1

2	4	1	3
3	1	4	2
4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4

Row 1, cell 1 · Write 2.

Row: 2

Column: 1, 2, 4

2 x 2 box: 2

Only 2 fits.

Puzzle 2

1	4	2	3
3	2	4	1
4	3	1	2
2	1	3	4

Row 1, cell 2 · Write 4.

Row: 2, 4

Column: 3, 4

2 x 2 box: 3, 4

Only 4 fits.

Puzzle 3

3	2	4	1
1	4	2	3
4	3	1	2
2	1	3	4

Row 1, cell 2 · Write 2.

Row: 2

Column: 2, 4

2 x 2 box: 1, 2, 4

Only 2 fits.

Puzzle 4

4	2	1	3
3	1	2	4
2	4	3	1
1	3	4	2

Row 1, cell 1 · Write 4.

Row: 2, 4

Column: 3, 4

2 x 2 box: 2, 3, 4

Only 4 fits.

Answers and first hints

An answer and a first move for each puzzle.

Puzzle 5

3	4	2	1
1	2	4	3
2	1	3	4
4	3	1	2

Row 1, cell 2 · Write 4.

Row: 1, 3, 4

Column: 4

2 x 2 box: 3, 4

Only 4 fits.

Puzzle 6

4	3	1	2
1	2	4	3
2	1	3	4
3	4	2	1

Row 1, cell 2 · Write 3.

Row: 3

Column: 1, 3, 4

2 x 2 box: 1, 3

Only 3 fits.

Notes for a grown-up

Look at the example together, then let your child choose a puzzle.

- Print on US Letter paper at 100% / Actual Size; turn off Fit to Page.
- Print pages 6-11 for the puzzles. Rules are on page 2; the example is on page 3; its first three steps are on pages 4-5.
- Keep pages 12-14 for hints, answers, and the full example answer.
- Offer a pencil. First, point out a row, a column, and a 2 x 2 box.
- Ask why a number fits: what is already in its row, column, and box?
- If help is needed, offer the first hint for that puzzle on pages 12-13.
- Keep the printed numbers in place. The number-card colors are not clues.

Full example answer

4	1	2	3
3	2	4	1
1	4	3	2
2	3	1	4