

Here's a summary of the rules of sudoku, in case you've never played before or need a refresher.

The rules are quite simple, actually. The hard part lies in solving the puzzle!

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 by 9 grid. This grid is subdivided into nine 3 x 3 boxes.

Some of the cells in the grid are prefilled with a number between 1 and 9, while many other cells are blank. Your job is to determine the correct number to be entered in each of the empty cells.

To figure out which number between 1 and 9 belongs in a particular cell, you need to adhere to the following rules:

- The numbers 1 through 9 must appear exactly once in each **row**.
- The numbers 1 through 9 must appear exactly once in each **column**.
- The numbers 1 through 9 must appear exactly once in each **3x3 box**.

The challenge of sudoku is using the process of elimination and other strategies to identify the unique solution for the sudoku puzzle. Sudoku really is an excellent brain game, as it trains logical reasoning and visual perception, among other brain skills.