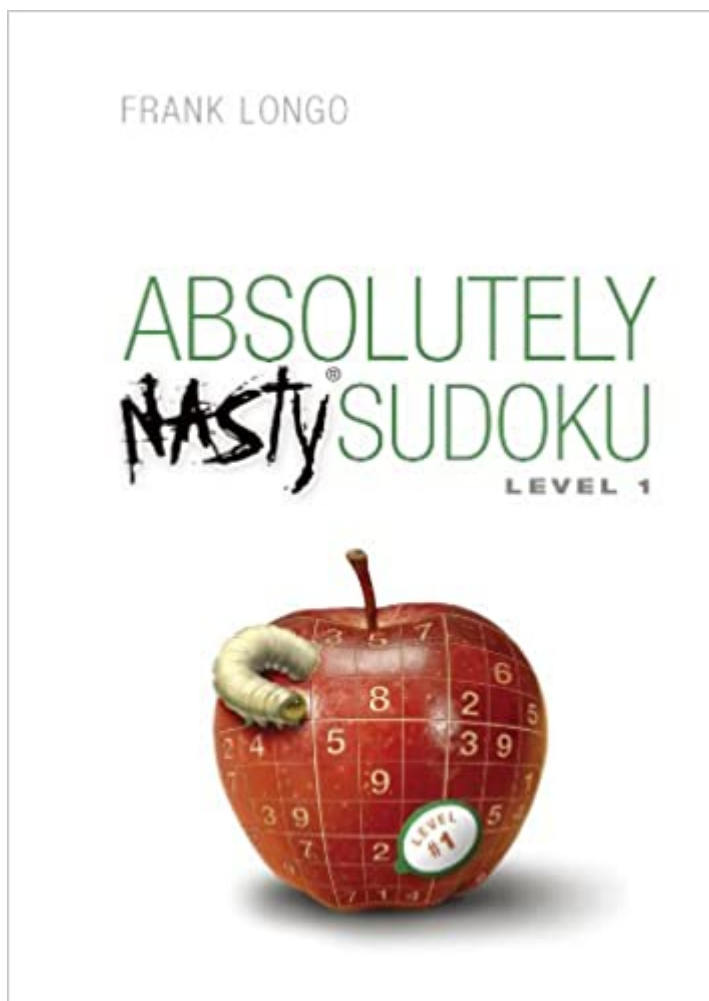


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# Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 1



## Synopsis

The vast majority of sudoku puzzles that are labeled "hard," "expert," "challenger," are not really all that difficult. And in a surprising number of cases, they are downright easy. In the "Absolutely Nasty Sudoku" books, you will find puzzles truly worthy of the label "hard." The puzzles increase in difficulty throughout the four books in the series. It ranges from basic and intermediate puzzles and techniques at Level No. 1, to the most advanced techniques at Level No. 4, along with puzzles that require multiple advanced techniques each time.

## Book Information

Age Range: 8 and up

Series: Absolutely Nasty® Series

Spiral-bound: 160 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 60 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #87,734 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Sudoku #150 in Books > Humor & Entertainment >

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## Customer Reviews

Sudoku puzzles -- how can you actually judge them? If you do many, most yield to a fairly simple formula or technique, which can get a little boring. So, from time to time, I stop with the solving and move on to other mind benders. But, from time to time, I dive back in again, and relearning the basic technique, and then some of the more advanced techniques, can be quite fun. After a three year hiatus, I picked this series to dive in again -- Longo has been a great puzzle maker for many years, including some superb crosswords -- see for example Absolutely Nasty® Crosswords Level 4, and this first volume was excellent; I am looking forward to the challenges in the next two books in the series. (Skip the Level 3 book; many repeats from other puzzle collections -- good if you haven't seen them though.) 242 puzzles, a good price for both quality and quantity. Spiral bound so puzzles lay flat, a bit larger than other books but still quite comfortable in my backpack. High

quality paper; I like to use ink and there is no bleed through. Point of clarification on using ink: if I am absolutely certain my answer is correct, I enter the number with a fine point black Sharpie Pen; possible answers in difficult section are entered with a soft pencil, and those marks are erased when the correct number is entered, now with the Sharpie. It will be a great accomplishment to complete one of these puzzles all with the Sharpie! :) One suggestion: print the even numbered pages upside down. For right handed solvers, the spiral won't hurt the solver's hand; of course, that makes every puzzle hurt the left handed solver's hand. My solution: tear the page out of the book when solving the even numbered pages. Best of all, there seemed to be a consistent standard for difficulty; in my puzzling experience, Sudoku usually presents a fairly easy introduction where a few squares fall easily; a very difficult middle section where there are many possibilities for almost every square; and then a mopping up period where squares fall like clockwork. The familiar pattern occurred on every single puzzle -- that challenging middle occurred on every one. Great fun -- no slam dunks here for me. Robert C. Ross January 2015

Difficult, challenging, hard to complete, a lot of fun for those looking for hard-to-work Sudoku puzzles this series is the ONLY book to have truly hard puzzles. If you want hard puzzles that make you think and look everything over twice, the Absolutely Nasty Sudoku book series is for you. Each book is harder than the last, making the fourth book an ultimate test of your Sudoku abilities and your patience. This series is for those who know hard to work Sudoku puzzles and can finish a newspaper puzzle in under five minutes. I am now solving these puzzles for a third time and have yet to solve each puzzle. This is a series you can count on to make a prime solving event each time you open the book, and every time to try the book. If you can get every puzzle in one of these books then you are a true Sudoku master.

This is an excellent book, with lots of difficult puzzles. Be warned that book 1 in this series does not (as the front matter says) require any very difficult techniques. This is not a negative, however: one really nice thing about this series as a whole is that it provides you a clear path of improvement. If you are using the Mensa Guide to Solving Sudoku: Hundreds of Puzzles Plus Techniques to Help You Crack Them All or Mastering Sudoku Week by Week: 52 Steps to Becoming a Sudoku Wizard, this is a great series to have alongside. One problem I have with most Sudoku reviews is that they are not specific about what techniques are and are not required, so I will attempt to list here all the ones I've found required in book 1: \* Elementary techniques (cross-hatching, single cell, single candidate) \* Locked candidate elimination \* Naked pairs, triples, and quads I will do reviews of

the further books in the series as I get to them, including required techniques. The book is spiral bound, which is very nice, but I would have rather had the cover not continue over the binding. I suppose it's a trade-off, but it would be easier to have it lay flat without the cover there. Some might dislike the concept of paying for Sudoku books at all - countering that puzzles are available online for free - but I think there's great benefit in having a book you can take with you. Overall, a great series of books. Start by buying the one that applies to you and get going improving your Sudoku!

Hardest puzzles I have ever solved. I'm only 11 in so far and it's taken me forever. Some puzzles seem insolvable while others only take a couple hours. This is not for the novice. You will get frustrated. You will yell. You will erase all numbers over, and over and over again... Just when you think you've beat it and you can sigh a breathe of relief you will realize that once again; your numbers are wrong somehow. You will want to burn this book. However if you're looking for puzzles and find the ones in the paper and magazines too easy then this is the book for you. While I want to give it 1 star because I'm having difficulty I have to give it 5 because it really is absolutely nasty sudoku. I just wish there was a "sort of rude" to preference this first. I had no idea of what I was getting myself into.

I'm still struggling to find the perfect level but I'm getting closer. I love the weight of the paper and the binding. These features make this series a wonderful experience.

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