

Solving Sudoku Puzzles

Have you ever heard of a Sudoku puzzle? If so, have you ever completed one? If not, would you like to complete one? If interested, this pearl provides you with a foolproof *procedure* to solve Sudoku puzzles.

The goal for a Sudoku puzzle is to fill in every *blank* cell with the correct number. As you proceed, the correct cell numbers will become evident, which leads you to the next step. Some puzzles are fairly easy, some are moderately difficult and some are very difficult. Refer to the attachments for practice puzzles listed from easy (Puzzle-01) to very difficult (Puzzle-20).

The key to completing a Sudoku puzzle is organization and accuracy. If you are using the *attached pre-formatted* puzzles, just print them out and start solving them. They are presented in an Word format, which is the easiest to solve a Sudoku puzzle, especially when you need to guess. If you are formatting your own puzzles, it is easiest to do it in "Word", but can be done on paper. To format a puzzle: 1) Use any Sudoku puzzles from books, newspapers, on line, etc. 2) Print out a Sudoku "Starting Grid" (a PDF of it is in the attachments). 3) Fill in the starting grid with the puzzle numbers, making sure you do it exactly—one mistake and the puzzle is void. It also helps to shade in the cells above the original numbers, as shown below, using a highlighter pen.

The diagram illustrates the process of formatting a puzzle. It shows three main components: an 'Unformatted Puzzle', a 'Starting Grid', and a 'Formatted Puzzle'.

Unformatted Puzzle: A 9x9 grid with some numbers and some empty cells. The numbers are: Row 1: (1,2)=2, (1,4)=3, (1,5)=5, (1,9)=9; Row 2: (2,4)=7, (2,6)=8, (2,8)=4, (2,9)=6; Row 3: (3,2)=7, (3,3)=9, (3,4)=1, (3,8)=2; Row 4: (4,1)=7, (4,5)=2, (4,6)=9, (4,7)=6, (4,9)=1; Row 5: (5,3)=2, (5,4)=1, (5,5)=5, (5,8)=8, (5,9)=4; Row 6: (6,1)=1, (6,4)=6, (6,5)=7, (6,9)=5; Row 7: (7,1)=5, (7,4)=3, (7,5)=9; Row 8: (8,1)=3, (8,2)=6, (8,8)=4, (8,9)=7; Row 9: (9,1)=4, (9,2)=1, (9,7)=7.

Starting Grid: A 9x9 grid of empty cells, used to map the unformatted puzzle into the formatted puzzle.

Formatted Puzzle: A 9x9 grid where the numbers from the unformatted puzzle are placed into the corresponding positions of the starting grid. The formatted puzzle is shown with a color-coded background (alternating light and dark gray) and a list of possible values for each cell. The list of possible values for each cell is: Row 1: (1,2)=2, (1,4)=3, (1,5)=5, (1,9)=9; Row 2: (2,4)=7, (2,6)=8, (2,8)=4, (2,9)=6; Row 3: (3,2)=7, (3,3)=9, (3,4)=1, (3,8)=2; Row 4: (4,1)=7, (4,5)=2, (4,6)=9, (4,7)=6, (4,9)=1; Row 5: (5,3)=2, (5,4)=1, (5,5)=5, (5,8)=8, (5,9)=4; Row 6: (6,1)=1, (6,4)=6, (6,5)=7, (6,9)=5; Row 7: (7,1)=5, (7,4)=3, (7,5)=9; Row 8: (8,1)=3, (8,2)=6, (8,8)=4, (8,9)=7; Row 9: (9,1)=4, (9,2)=1, (9,7)=7.

Procedure to Resolve any Formatted Puzzle:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1		2	6		3	5			9	1, 4, 7, 8
2				7		8		4	6	1, 2, 3, 5, 9
3			7	9	1			2		3, 4, 5, 6, 8
4		7				2	9	6	1	3, 4, 5, 8
5			2	1	5			8	4	3, 6, 7, 9
6		1		6	7				5	2, 3, 4, 8, 9
7		5		3	9					1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
8	3	6					4		7	1, 2, 5, 8, 9
9		4	1			7				2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	1

Formatting:

For *ROWS* 1 through 9, enter the *MISSING* row numbers *on the right*.

For example, Row 9 is 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9

For *COLUMNS* A through I, enter the *MISSING column* numbers below each column.

For example, Column-A is 1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1, 4, 8			4			1, 7, 8	1, 7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6	4	3	5			9	
3	1, 5, 9	3, 9	3, 5, 9		2		1, 3, 5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4	4, 5, 8	3, 8		7	2	8		4	6	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
5			7	9	1		3, 5, 8		2	3, 4, 5, 8
6	4, 5, 8		3, 4, 5, 8	4, 8	4, 8					3, 6, 7, 9
7		7				2	9	6	1	2, 3, 4, 8, 9
8	6, 9	3, 9				3, 6, 9	3, 7			1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
9	4, 8, 9		3, 4, 8, 9			3, 4, 9	2, 3	3, 9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
		1		6	7				5	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2, 7, 8		4, 8			1, 4, 6	1, 2, 6, 8	1	2, 8	
		5		3	9			1		1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
			8, 9	2, 5, 8	2, 8	1		1, 5, 9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
	3	6				1	4		7	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2, 8, 9			2, 5, 8	2, 6, 8		2, 3, 5, 6, 8	3, 5, 9	2, 3, 8	
		4	1			7				
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	

Enter a cell's possible numbers:

For each *blank* cell, enter the *matching* Row & Column numbers for each row and column.

For example, Cell 1-A has the numbers 1,4,7,8, because the numbers 1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9 at the *bottom* of Column-A match the numbers 1, 4, 7, 8 on the *right* of Row-1.

Do this for every blank cell in Rows 1 through 9 and in Columns A through I as shown here.

Be careful not to make a mistake; check across each row and down each column twice to make sure they are the correct numbers.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1, 4, 7, 8			4			1, 7, 8	1, 7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6		3	5			9	
3	1, 5, 9	3, 9	3, 5, 9		2		1, 3, 5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4	4, 5, 8	3, 8		7		8		4	6	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
5			7	9	1			2		3, 4, 5, 8
6	4, 5, 8		3, 4, 5, 8	4, 8	4, 8					3, 6, 7, 9
7		7				2	9	6	1	2, 3, 4, 8, 9
8	6, 9	3, 9				3, 6, 9	3, 7			1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
9	4, 8, 9		3, 4, 8, 9			3, 4, 9	2, 3	3, 9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
		1		6	7				5	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2, 7, 8		4, 8			4, 6	1, 2, 6, 8	1	2, 8	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
		5		3	9			1		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
			8, 9	2, 5, 8	2, 8	1		1, 5, 9		2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	3	6				1	4		7	
	2, 6, 8, 9			2, 5, 8	2, 6, 8		2, 3, 5, 6, 8	3, 5, 9	2, 3, 8	
		4	1			7				
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	3

Cross out matching 3x3 Grid numbers:

Cross out the numbers in each of the nine 3x3 Grids that match the *original* numbers within that grid.

It is important to get this step correct to solve the puzzle quickly.

For example, **cross out**:

In Grid-1, the 7 in 1-A

In Grid-5, the 6 in 5-F

In Grid-7, the 4 in 7-C and the 6 in 9-A

In Grid-8, 9 in 8-F

In Grid-9, 1-s in 7-G and 8-H

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

3x3 Grids

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1, 4, 7, 8			4			1, 7, 8	1, 7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6		3	5			9	
3	1, 5, 9	3, 9	3, 5, 9		2		1, 3, 5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4	4, 5, 8	3, 8		7		8		4	6	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
5			7	9	1			2		3, 4, 5, 8
6	4, 5, 8		3, 4, 5, 8	4, 8	4, 8					3, 6, 7, 9
7		7				2	9	6	1	2, 3, 4, 8, 9
8	6, 9	3, 9				3, 6, 9	3, 7			1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
9	4, 8, 9		3, 4, 8, 9			3, 4, 9	2, 3	3, 9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
		1		6	7				5	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2, 7, 8		4, 8			1, 4, 6	1, 2, 6, 8	1	2, 8	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
		5		3	9					1, 2, 5, 8, 9
			8, 9	2, 5, 8	2, 8	1		1, 5, 9		2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	3	6					4		7	
	2, 6, 8, 9			2, 5, 8	2, 6, 8		2, 3, 5, 6, 8	3, 5, 9	2, 3, 8	
		4	1			7				
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	2

Start Solving the Puzzle:

Do this "5-step procedure" to complete a puzzle.

- 1) Enter the obvious numbers, for example the 4 in 1-D, 2 in 2-E, 1 in 7H, 1 in 8-F
- 2) Cross out the row numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers—for example the 4 in 1-A, the 1's in 7-F&G, 1 in 8-H
- 3) Cross out the column numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the 4 in 4-D, 2 in 8-E & 9-E, 1 in 8-H (already crossed out)
- 4) Cross out the numbers in each 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers, for example the 4 in 3-F, 1 in 7-G (already crossed out)
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or 3x3 Grid (none here)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1,8			4			1,7,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
3	1,5,9	3,9	3,5,9		2		1,3,5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4				7	2	8		4	6	
5	4,5,8	3,8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
6			7	9	1	6		2		
7	4,5,8		3,4,5,8	8	4,8					3, 4, 5, 8
8		7		8		2	9	6	1	
9	6,9	3,9				3,6,9	3,7			3, 6, 7, 9
10			2	1	5			8	4	
11	4,8,9		3,4,8,9			3,4,9	2,3	3,9		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
12		1		6	7				5	
13	2,7,8		8			4,6	2,6,8	1	2,8	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
14		5	8	3	9			1		
15			8,9	2,5,8	8	1		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
16	3	6			8	1	4		7	
17	2,8,9			2,5,8	2,6,8		2,3,5,6	3,5,9	2,3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
18		4	1			7				
19	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9	3,8,9	3,4,5,8,9	2,4,5,8	2,4,6,8	1,3,4,6,9	1,2,3,6,7,8	1,3,5,7,9	2,3,8	5

Fill in and Cross out a *new* Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **7** in 1-H, **6** in 3-F, **8** in 4-D, **8** in 7-C, **8** in 8-E
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **7** in 1-G, **8** in 4-A, C & E, **8** in 7-A, G & I, **8** in 8 C & D
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **8** in 4-C & 8-C, **8** in 8-D (already crossed out), **8** in 8-D & 9-D (already crossed out), **8** in 4-E & 9-E (already crossed out),
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers, for example, the 8 in 9-A
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or Grid (none here)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1,8			4			1,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
3	1,9	3,9	3,5		2		1,3,5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4				7	2	8		4	6	
5	4,5,8	3,8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
6			7	9	1	6		2		
7	4,5		3,4,5	8	4					3, 4, 5, 8
8		7		8	4	2	9	6	1	
9	6,9	3,9				3,9	3,7			3, 6, 7, 9
10			2	1	5			8	4	
11	4,8,9		3,4,9			3,4,9	2,3	3,9		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
12		1		6	7				5	
13	2,7		8			4	2,6	1	2	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
14		5	8	3	9	4		1	2	
15			9	2,5	8	1,9		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
16	3	6	9		8	1	4		7	
17	2,9			2,5	2,6		2,3,5,6	3,5,9	2,3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
18		4	1		6	7				
19	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9	3,8,9	3,4,5,8,9	2,4,5,8	2,4,6,8	1,3,4,6,9	1,2,3,6,7,8	1,3,5,7,9	2,3,8	6

Fill in and Cross out a *new* Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **4** in 4-E, **4** in 7-F, **2** in 7-I, **9** in 8-C
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **4** in 4-A & 4-C, **2** in 7-A & 7-G,
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **9** in 6-C, **4** in 6-F,
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **9** in 9-A
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, *column* or 3x3 Grid, for example, the **6** in 9-E, allowing you to **cross out** the **6** in 9-G

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1,8			4			1,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
2		2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
3	1,5,9	3,9	3,5		2		1,3,5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
4				7	2	8		4	6	
5	4,5,8	3,8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
6			7	9	1	6		2		
7	4,5		3,5	8	4					3, 4, 5, 8
8		7	3	8	4	2	9	6	1	
9	6,9	3,9				3,9	3,7			3, 6, 7, 9
10			2	1	5			8	4	
11	4,8,9		3,4			3,9	2,3	3,9		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
12		1		6	7				5	
13	7		8			4	6	1	2	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
14	7	5	8	3	9	4	6	1	2	
15			9	2,5	8	1,9		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
16	3	6	9		8	1	4		7	
17	2			2,5	6		3,5,8	3,5,9	3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
18	2	4	1		6	7				
19	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9	3,8,9	3,4,5,8,9	2,4,5,8	2,4,6,8	1,3,4,6,9	1,2,3,6,7,8	1,3,5,7,9	2,3,8	7

Fill in and Cross out a *new* Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **5** in 4-A, **7** in 7-A, **6** in 7-G, **2** in 9-A
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **1** in 4-C, **2** in 9-D
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **5** in 2-A & 3-A
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers (none here)
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or 3x3 Grid, for example, the **3** in 4-C, allowing you to **cross out** the **3** in 6-C, **3** in 5-B

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1,8			4			1,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
		2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
2	1,9	3,9	5		2		1,3,5			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
			5	7	2	8		4	6	
3	4,8	3,8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
			7	9	1	6		2		
4	5		3	8	4					3, 4, 5, 8
	5	7	3	8	4	2	9	6	1	
5	6,9	9				3,9	3,7			3, 6, 7, 9
		9								
6	4,8,9		4			3,9	2,3	3,9		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
		1	4	6	7				5	
7	7		8			4	6	1,7	2	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
	7	5	8	3	9	4	6	1	2	
8			9	2,5	8	1,9		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
	3	6	9		8	1	4		7	
9	2			5	6		3,5,8	3,5,9	3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2	4	1	5	6	7				
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	8

Fill in and Cross out a new Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **5** in 2-C, **9** in 5-B, **4** in 6-C, **5** in 9-D
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **5** in 2-G, **9** in 5-A & 5-F, **4** in 6-A, **5** in 9-G & 9-H
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **9** in 2-B, **5** in 8-D
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **9** in 6-A
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or 3x3 Grid (none here)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1,8			4			1,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
		2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
2	1,9	3	5		2		1,3			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
		3	5	7	2	8		4	6	
3	4,8	3,8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
			7	9	1	6		2		
4	5		3	8	4					3, 4, 5, 8
	5	7	3	8	4	2	9	6	1	
5	6	9				3	3,7			3, 6, 7, 9
	6	9	2	1	5	3	7	8	4	
6	8		4			3,9	2,3	3,9		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
	8	1	4	6	7	9			5	
7	7		8			4	6	1	2,8	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
	7	5	8	3	9	4	6	1	2	
8			9	2	8	1,9		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
	3	6	9	2	8	1	4	5	7	
9	2			5	6		3,8	3,9	3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2	4	1	5	6	7				
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	9

Fill in and Cross out a new Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **3** in 2-B, **6** in 5-A, **3** in 5-F, **8** in 6-A, **2** in 8-D
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **3** in 2-G
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **8** in 1-A & 3-A, **3** in 3-B
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers (none here)
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or 3x3 Grid, for example, the **7** in 5-G, **9** in 6-F (allowing you to remove the **9** in 6-H), **5** in 8-H

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1	1			4			1,8	7		1, 4, 7, 8
	1	2	6	4	3	5		7	9	
2	1,9	3,9	5		2		1			1, 2, 3, 5, 9
			5	7	2	8	1	4	6	
3	4	8				6	3,5,8		3,8	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
	4	8	7	9	1	6		2		
4	5		3	8	4					3, 4, 5, 8
	5	7	3	8	4	2	9	6	1	
5	6	9				3	7			3, 6, 7, 9
	6	9	2	1	5	3	7	8	4	
6	8		4			9	2,3	3		2, 3, 4, 8, 9
	8	1	4	6	7	9	2	3	5	
7	7		8			4	6	1	2,8	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8
	7	5	8	3	9	4	6	1	2	
8			9	2	8	1,9		5,9		1, 2, 5, 8, 9
	3	6	9	2	8	1	4	5	7	
9	2			5	6		3,8	3,9	3,8	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
	2	4	1	5	6	7		9		
	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	3, 8, 9	3, 4, 5, 8, 9	2, 4, 5, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	1, 3, 4, 6, 9	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 7, 9	2, 3, 8	10

Fill in and Cross out a new Set of Numbers:

- 1) Enter the **obvious** numbers, for example the **1** in 1-A, **1** in 2-G, **4** in 3-A, **8** in 3-B
- 2) **Cross out** the *row* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example the **1** in 2-A, **8** in 3-G & 3-I
- 3) **Cross out** the *column* numbers that are the same as the obvious numbers, for example, the **1** in 1-G, **1** in 2-A
- 4) **Cross out** the numbers in *each* 3x3 Grid that are same as the obvious numbers (none here)
- 5) Fill in the **OBVIOUS** row, column and 3x3 Grid numbers that complete a row, column or 3x3 Grid, for example, the **2** in 6-G, the **9** in 9-H

NOTE-2: You can format and solve your own Sudoku Puzzles or use the attached puzzles. You can just print out one of the attached PDF puzzles and solve them on paper.

It is best to use a "Word" file to create the formatted puzzle with the "possible numbers" filled in and save the Word file. Then copy that initial table and past it below the to start working on it without messing up the initial table, which you may need to start over. Also, save the file as you move along.

If you like to work with Word files, especially for difficult puzzles, just complete each step within a table, copy and paste that new table as the next step to work with it; doing this until the puzzle is solved.

I hope that you enjoyed learning about Sudoku puzzles. See the attachments for a list of puzzles; from easy to difficult, along with a blank starting grid to create your own spreadsheet puzzles from books, newspapers, etc.—

HAVE FUN!