

Calcudoku Puzzles

Volume 1

Hard

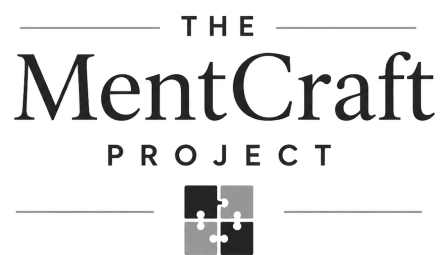


150 Puzzles + 10 Bonus Puzzles

8x8 & 9x9 Grids - Complete Answer Key
Unique Solutions - No Guessing Required

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Calcudoku Puzzles

Hard - Volume 1

160 Puzzles Including 10 Bonus Puzzles

For David

My son, you have a wonderful mind.
Always remain curious and never assume you know everything.

How to Get the Most Out of This Book

Every MentCraft collection is built on a simple belief: a mind that's challenged regularly stays sharper, more curious, and more capable. Different puzzles exercise different mental muscles, and Calcudoku has a special place in that family: it combines orderly number placement with arithmetic reasoning, asking you to see both the grid and the cages at the same time.

Each puzzle uses an $N \times N$ grid. Fill every row and every column with the numbers 1 through N exactly once. Thick-outlined cages show a target and, except for single-cell cages, an operation. The values inside a cage must combine to reach that target. Addition and multiplication cages may contain several cells; subtraction and division cages contain two cells and may be evaluated in either order. A one-cell cage simply fixes that cell's value.

Start with cages that allow the fewest arithmetic combinations, then compare those possibilities with what each row and column can still accept. Single-cell cages give immediate anchors, while small subtraction and division cages often narrow choices quickly. As values become fixed, revisit neighboring cages and let each deduction tighten the next. Strong Calcudoku solving is not about trial and error. It is about combining arithmetic with elimination until every placement follows from constraints you can trust.

This volume contains 150 Hard main puzzles followed by 10 bonus puzzles. The main section combines 75 8×8 grids with 75 9×9 grids, and the bonus section adds ten more 9×9 puzzles at the same verified Hard level. Every puzzle has one unique solution and has been independently verified to solve logically without guessing. Expect fewer obvious openings, larger candidate sets, and deductions that become useful only after several arithmetic and row-and-column relationships are tracked together.

Puzzle 1

Main - Hard - 8x8

24x		35x	11+	1-		18x	
				16+			23+
3-	1-			14+			
	18+				12x	1	
30x	5-		21+	6			11+
				3	14+		
	10+	9+				224x	
				35x			

My Notes:

Puzzle 2

Main - Hard - 8x8

20+	16x			14+			10+
		13+			18+		
	2-		9+		4		
4-		8		4	7+	14x	720x
24x	18+		4-				
		2-		3/	48x		
72x		2-				13+	
			16+				

My Notes:

Puzzle 3

Main - Hard - 8x8

5	5x	784x			12x		2/
9+		2/			48x		
	28x		2-	6x		3-	
5+	19+			16+			
	2/		256x		14+		
336x				13+	16+	2x	
						1-	8/
	8	8+		3			

My Notes:

Puzzle 4

Main - Hard - 8x8

2-		4	96x			9+	168x
11+	6	7+		2	140x		
	15+						
56x			720x	3x		2-	6x
		24x			6/		
16+				56x		9+	
	7+	2-			9+		
		28x		19+			

My Notes:

Puzzle 5

Main - Hard - 8x8

10x	84x		18+	12+			9+
					14+	3	
1-		280x		7+			160x
36x	120x						
		11+		7	3-		5-
	20+			4-		10+	
			16x	60x			
1-					5	42x	

My Notes:

Puzzle 6

Main - Hard - 8x8

3/	7+			15+	280x		
	6	15x			112x	5-	
56x			144x			5-	
	2/	120x			19+		6/
						7	
19+	21x		7+	15+		1-	
	17+				3/	3-	6x
	8		9+				

My Notes:

Puzzle 7

Main - Hard - 8x8

11+		48x			22+	3-	
30x	1-	3/				13+	3-
			80x				
42x			8+		2-		128x
7	5+		11+		160x		
1-	18+	6				7x	
			56x	7/		3	2/
32x				12+			

My Notes:

Puzzle 8

Main - Hard - 8x8

15+		14x			23+		
	1-	26+	3-	96x		3/	
17+				48x			5
					17+	1-	
84x	17+		4			14+	
		8+			5-		
		4/		5	224x		
	1-		12+				

My Notes:

Puzzle 9

Main - Hard - 8x8

48x	8+		13+	10+			4
	10+			24x	19+		
		15+			14x		
1-			6-		15+		
70x		32x	22+			4	18x
	16+		3+		10+		
2-						2-	21x
	30x		11+		1		

My Notes:

Puzzle 10

Main - Hard - 8x8

30x	12+			3-	210x		15+
	12+				112x		
	28x					6/	
96x		6	1-		16+		
		3-		42x		20x	
	29+			72x			2
19+						1-	
6		1-		4/		5+	

My Notes:

Puzzle 11

Main - Hard - 8x8

2	16+	40x		2/		4x	
240x		14+		3+		19+	
			32x		1		
	84x			15+	8	10x	
2-	4/	16+			12x		
			10+	80x	16+	20+	96x
16+							

My Notes:

Puzzle 12

Main - Hard - 8x8

7-		14+		1-	15+		2
11+		210x			16x		12+
56x			16+				
	13+			13+			21+
			112x	24x		6+	
5	6						
18x	14x	28x		240x		32x	2-

My Notes:

Puzzle 13

Main - Hard - 8x8

4-	3-	5x	8+		2	2-	
			240x	4	13+		
19+		16+		8x		5+	4-
				48x	35x		
12x	7+						17+
		3	16+		240x		
17+		4/	7+			8+	28x

My Notes:

Puzzle 14

Main - Hard - 8x8

120x		20+	32x		14x		6
			20+		16+	2-	
336x						18x	5
	6+						13+
		5-		19+	5/		
	7	160x	3-			1008x	
40x							
		90x			13+		

My Notes: