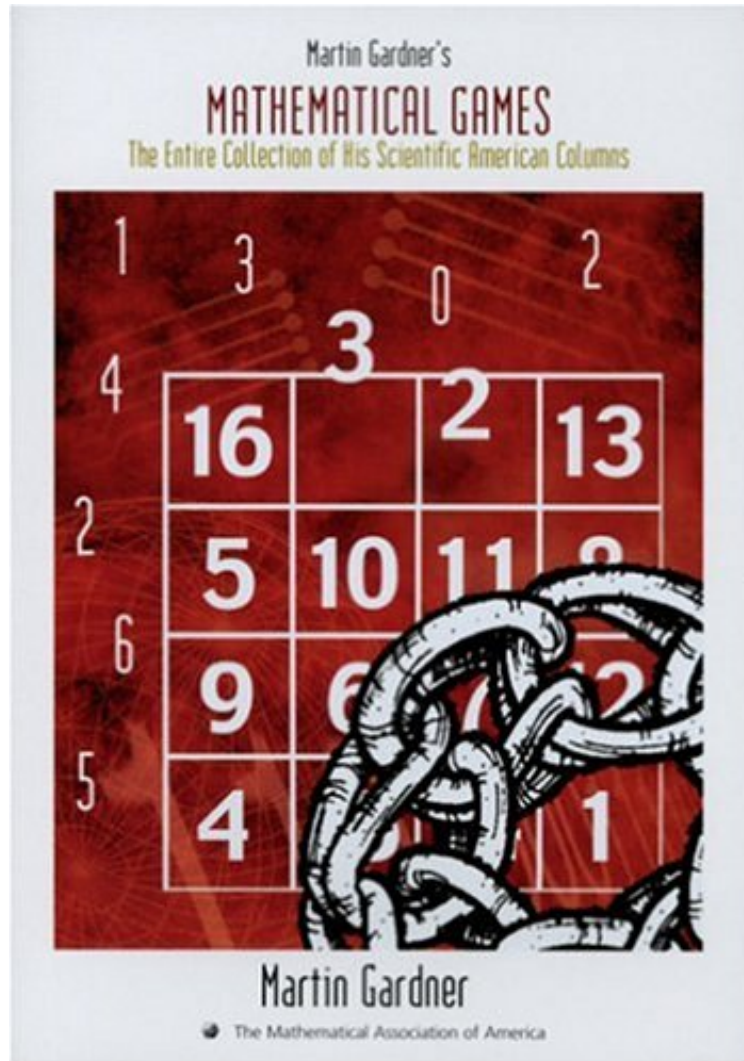


Martin Gardner's Mathematical Games

Martin Gardner

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Martin Gardner : Martin Gardner's Mathematical Games before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Martin Gardner's Mathematical Games:

23 of 23 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous content, some image transfer issues By D. Neff Martin Gardner's 30 years of Mathematical Games columns in Scientific American magazine are some of the most fun and interesting reading I've enjoyed. I searched out back issues in the high school library, had my own subscription, and collected as many of the books as I could find. When I was looking for one of the books I didn't have and found this complete collection, I immediately ordered it. There are very few authors in any field who are as clear in their writing and as enthusiastic in their delivery as he is. The content is easily worth the full 5 stars. But the reason I dropped the

rating to 4 for this particular edition is its sometimes haphazard quality of image scans. In the worst cases, the color or shading in the original figures is now black-and-white and of such high contrast that important distinctions are mostly or completely lost. For example, the reversi piece colors in figure 29 of "New Mathematical Diversions" are indistinguishable as are the four-color map areas (of all things!) in figure 43. Many figures show moire patterns from rescanning the original halftones. Yet other figures have been reproduced with much greater care, even in color. Some pages with landscape layout have been rotated for easier reading but others have not. In a few cases, the black-and-white photographs in my books have been replaced with much better color photos. Some books are missing a back cover scan. The oddest example though, and somehow in keeping with the topic, is figure 109 in "Fractal Music". In my copy of the book, this is a reproduction of Magritte's "The Two Mysteries" and the caption says so. In this edition, it is a redrawn version and the caption now says it is "a caricature" of the Magritte work. At least 4 of the books appear to be affected by poor images and at least 6 of them appear to be fine. Despite these problems, it's very handy to have the complete set of books in one place. But I'll be keeping the 4 books with the bad scans until a new edition fixes them.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is the ultimate collection for a great price. Anybody into recreational math or even into ...

By bob crumrine This is the ultimate collection for a great price. Anybody into recreational math or even into interesting puzzles will love this. Math is everywhere and it is explained in a fun way. Hard to find Mr. Gardner's Scientific American collections anymore so this is a major treat.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. INSPIRATIONAL

By Eric Moorehead WONDERFUL NOW A BARGAIN GREAT FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SEE THE MOST INTERESTING PARTS OF MATHEMATICS AND PUZZLES. MARTIN HAS INSPIRED MANY AND PROBABLY EXPANDED MANY MINDS, INCREASED LIFETIME ABILITIES, FRIENDSHIPS, MAYBE EVEN SUCCESS IN READERS LIVES.

The entire collection of Martin Gardner's Scientific American columns on one searchable CD! Martin Gardner's Mathematical Games column ran in Scientific American from 1956 to 1986. In these columns Gardner introduced hundreds of thousands of readers to the delights of mathematics and of puzzles and problem solving. His column broke such stories as Rivest, Shamir and Adelman on public-key cryptography, Mandelbrot on fractals, Conway on Life, and Penrose on tilings. He enlivened classic geometry and number theory and introduced readers to new areas such as combinatorics and graph theory. The CD contains the following books: 1. Hexaflexagons and Other Mathematical Diversions 2. The Second Scientific American Book of Mathematical Puzzles and Diversions 3. New Mathematical Diversions 4. The Unexpected Hanging and Other Mathematical Diversions 5. Martin Gardner's 6th Book of Mathematical Diversions from Scientific American 6. Mathematical Carnival 7. Mathematical Magic Show 8. Mathematical Circus 9. The Magic Numbers of Dr. Matrix 10. Wheels, Life, and Other Mathematical Amusements 11. Knotted Doughnuts and Other Mathematical Entertainers 12. Time Travel and Other Mathematical Bewilderments 13. Penrose Tiles to Trapdoor Ciphers 14. Fractal Music, Hypercards, and more Mathematical Recreations from Scientific American 15. The Last Recreations: Hydras, Eggs, and Other Mathematical Mystifications. A profile and interview with Martin Gardner is included in this collection

From Scientific American Gardner's column, which ran in this magazine from 1956 to 1986, introduced thousands of readers to the delights of puzzles and problem solving. His column also broke important mathematical stories--on cryptography, fractals, the game of Life, and tilings. Now all these columns are gathered on one, searchable CD, ending frustration for many fans. Gardner, who turns 91 this month, continues to write on a variety of topics. Editors of Scientific American

About the Author Martin Gardner is the author of more than 65 books and countless articles, ranging over science, mathematics, philosophy, literature, and conjuring. He has inspired and enlightened generations with the delights of mathematical recreations, the amazing phenomena of numbers, magic, puzzles, and the play of ideas. He is our premier writer on recreational mathematics, a great popularizer of science and a debunker of pseudoscience.