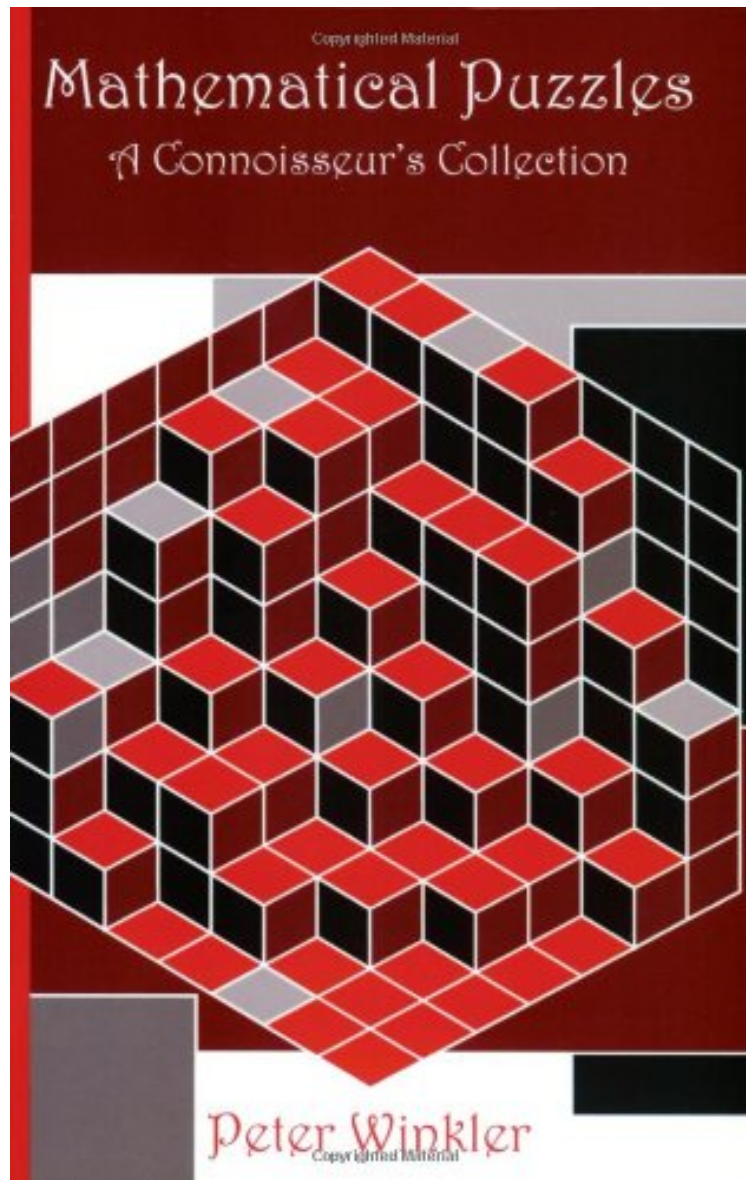


(Library ebook) Mathematical Puzzles: A Connoisseur's Collection

Mathematical Puzzles: A Connoisseur's Collection

Peter Winkler

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Peter Winkler : Mathematical Puzzles: A Connoisseur's Collection before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mathematical Puzzles: A Connoisseur's Collection:

18 of 19 people found the following review helpful. A puzzler's delight! By peteWow, what a splendid collection of varied and challenging puzzles - a puzzler's delight! I especially liked the "handicap" puzzles - these are new to me, and involve algorithmic puzzles with bizarre handicaps having to do with memory. The book also has extensive

references so you can further your interests for a particular type of puzzle. There's even an unsolved puzzles section to challenge even the professional mathematician. In terms of difficulty level, I would say that 2/3rds of the puzzles are meant for the seasoned puzzler and do require some "mathematical maturity". But there are quite a few "insight" puzzles that required almost no math. There's even geography puzzles of all things - that's quite refreshing and original for a math puzzle book. congrats Dr. Winkler on a splendid collection!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Puzzles, Very Tricky
By 112358I thoroughly enjoyed the puzzles in this book. I received many hours of entertainment, and learned a great deal as well. But, being a layman and not knowing much at all about mathematics, some of the later problems were rather difficult. A few of the problems had writing that was difficult to understand. But overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and definitely recommend it!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great gift for math lovers
By CustomerMy brother is quite the mathematician, so I figured he would love this book, and I was right! I was a little nervous the puzzles would be too easy for him, but many of them were quite challenging. A few are not really 'math' puzzles but rather plays on words, but all in all, this is a great book for anyone who wants to exercise their brain.

Collected over several years by Peter Winkler, of Bell Labs, dozens of elegant, intriguing challenges are presented in *Mathematical Puzzles*. The answers are easy to explain, but without this book, devilishly hard to find. Creative reasoning is the key to these puzzles. No involved computation or higher mathematics is necessary, but your ability to construct a mathematical proof will be severely tested--even if you are a professional mathematician. For the truly adventurous, there is even a chapter on unsolved puzzles.

" Winkler's book will certainly appeal to the mathematician, as well as to students of all ages high-school, college, and graduate. His philosophy of what constitutes a good puzzle is right on the mark, showing that this Connoisseur's Collection really is of quality and depth. -James Tanton, MAA Online, September 2004 ""I have gained great satisfaction from those [puzzles] I've managed to solve . . . This is a great collection of seriously hard questions."" - The Mathematical Gazette, March 2006 ""As an enthusiastic solver and collector of mathematical puzzles myself, I was absolutely delighted with this book. The sheer density of mathematical ideas and challenges sets it apart from other books of a similar nature while the lucid yet informal style of exposition makes the journey from ignorance to enlightenment enjoyable."" -Norman Do, The Australian Mathematical Society Gazette, July 2004"

About the Author Peter Winkler is Director of Fundamental Mathematics Research at Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies. Currently he is on sabbatical at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ. He is the author of 125 research papers in mathematics and holds a dozen patents in computing, cryptography, holography, optical networking, and marine navigation. In some circles he is best known as the inventor of cryptologic methods for the game of bridge, currently illegal for tournament play in most of the western world.