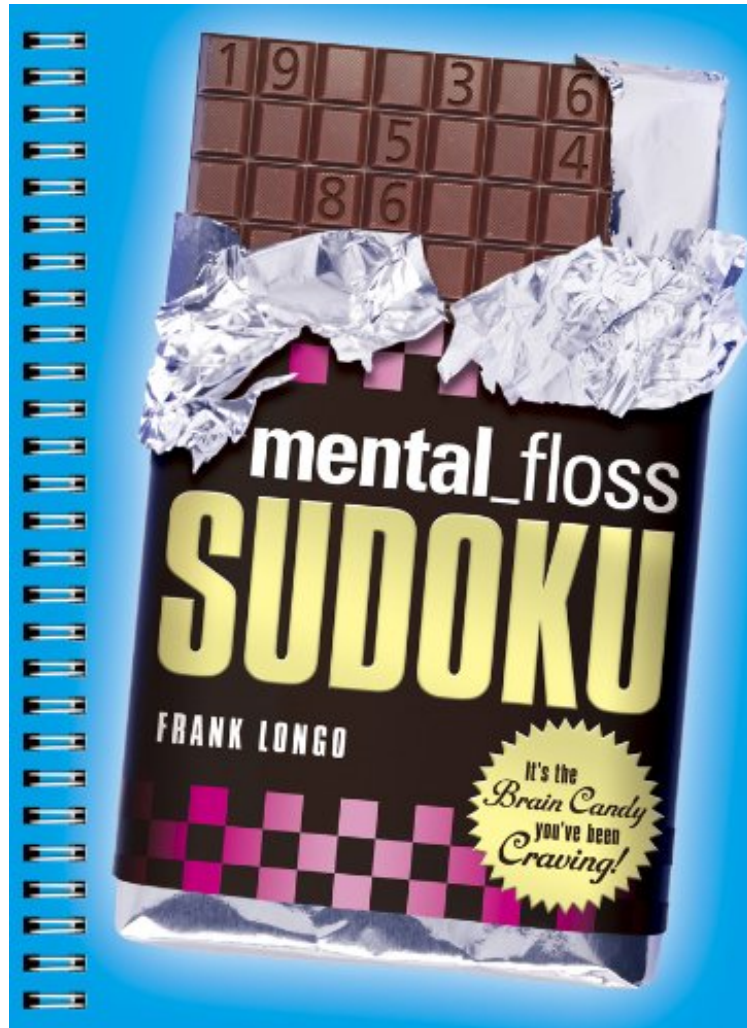


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Frank Longo

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Frank Longo : mental_floss Sudoku: It's the Brain Candy You've Been Craving! before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised mental_floss Sudoku: It's the Brain Candy You've Been Craving!:

33 of 33 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful Sudoku Collection with a Range of Puzzle Difficulty By DrBBI like Sudoku. I like to work different levels of puzzles depending on the amount of time I have, my energy level, and my general mood. That makes Frank Longo's mental_floss Sudoku just about the perfect Sudoku collection for me. Puzzles run from "warm-ups" and "very easy" (which, despite their labels, are not slam-dunks for newbies, but which next-level players should easily master) to "very difficult." The most difficult puzzles in the book

are quite challenging for me. These don't seem to require the most complex Sudoku solving techniques, but that's more than fine with me. At the time of this review, I have attempted about half the puzzles at each level in the book, and I have a couple of observations. First, other Sudoku collections I have purchased by more anonymous puzzle constructors tend to feel somewhat repetitive in structure. That means once I have identified a pattern in one puzzle, it makes solving others much easier. I have yet to discover any of Mr. Longo's Sudoku construction "fingerprints" in this collection, making each puzzle a new experience. Second, the range of difficulty itself doesn't seem to me to be as wide as the labels would suggest. For the most part, each section of puzzles does get progressively more difficult, but the additional challenge is not tremendous. [Surprisingly, I have found the "warmups" presumably the easiest puzzles in the book to be a bit more challenging than the next level "very easy" puzzles.] I love the spiral format. Standard-bound puzzle books are fine for solving at a desk or sitting up, but can get incredibly awkward and unbalanced when laying down and holding the book in one hand, particularly when solving puzzles near the beginning and end of the book. Since I often solve while reclining or laying down, the spiral format is a blessing. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. ... is always doing Sudoku puzzles and this is a good one. He really likes that it has the ... By Pam Bought this for my husband who is always doing Sudoku puzzles and this is a good one. He really likes that it has the spiral binder wonderful. will look for more like it! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Perfect By Leslie T My father is an intermediate Sudoku puzzle solver. I gave it to him for his birthday and he loves it. He's on a long trip so it's great to have for the airplane. Also excellent for waking up and winding down before bed.

Sudoku super-master Frank Longo and mental_floss, the magazine for trivia lovers, bring fans a collection of superb puzzles sure to stimulate the brain. Longo's puzzles are always top-notch, and because these increase in difficulty as the book goes along, they're perfect for helping solvers build their skills.

About the Author Frank Longo has had more than 3,000 crossword puzzles published since 1993, and in the past few years has turned his attention to the sudoku craze. He has published over 90 sudoku books, including Oy Vey! Sudoku; 10x10 Sudoku; Mensa Absolutely Nasty Sudoku Level 1, 2, 3, and 4; The World's Longest Sudoku Puzzle; The Sudoku Code (coauthored with Francis Heaney); and Mensa Guide to Solving Sudoku (coauthored with Peter Gordon).