

# Sudoku Origins

---

Although number-based logic puzzles have been around for many centuries, most people attribute the first Sudoku-style puzzle to Howard Garns as was published in Dell Magazines in 1979.

In 1986 the Japanese puzzle company Nikoli was the first to publish games under the Sudoku name, roughly translating to “Single Number”. These puzzles were a big hit in Japan, and started working their way back to the west.

Sudoku started being regularly picked up in papers around 2005, and quickly became an international sensation, spawning countless computer games, newspaper competitions, game shows, and live competition gaming.