

Lesson 7

Grid Patterns

Grid patterns are a special type of pattern (viewed best in Solo mode) and deserves special attention.

This example demonstrates a 2 x 2 grid. A grid is formed when 2

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	4					1			6
2		6	1					4	
3		9			8				1
4									7
5			3		7	9			2
6	5				6		9		4
7						3			9
8		2						5	
9	3		6	9	5		4		

pairs of squares are aligned in a grid pattern, like in cells D3, F3, D8, and F8. As you can see, the number (in this case 4) is going to be in one of the highlighted squares in row 3, and one of the highlighted squares in row 8. However, because of their placement above each other, they form a mutually exclusive pattern. Because we can't have two 4s in the same column, the two squares that have 4s will either be D3 and F8, or D8 and F3. Which it is doesn't matter, but what does matter is that there are only two possible locations for 4 in both columns D and F. That means that you can eliminate any other options in those columns for the number 4 (squares D4, D5, D7, and F4). Grids are very powerful, and can be applied to rows, columns, and boxes. You can also extend the concept to 3 x 3 grids and beyond.

This is the final lesson in this help series, but we've only touched on the surface. We leave it to you to carry on from here. Good luck!