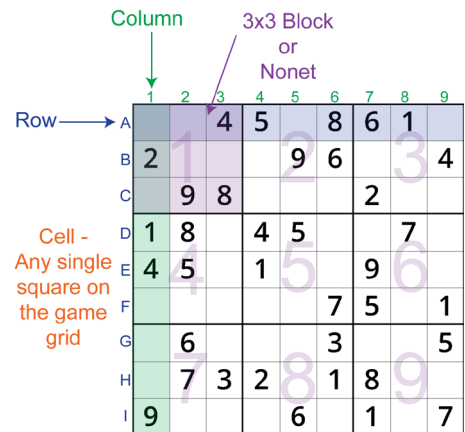# GOLD STAR PUZZLES

## Classic 9x9 Sudoku Instructions

While solving classic Sudoku puzzles vary from easy to a substantial challenge, every puzzle has just one correct solution. There are a certain strategies used to solve harder puzzles, this instruction sheet is just going to cover the beginning basic strategies. You will be able to solve Easy and some Medium puzzles with the below guidance.

The rules for uncovering a solution are logical, and apply to all 9x9 classic difficulty levels:
- The classic Sudoku game involves a grid of 81 cells with several given numbers to start. The more starting numbers, typically the easier the puzzle.
- The grid is divided into nine 3x3 blocks (aka nonet), each nonet block contains nine squares
- Each number (1-9) can only appear once in a row, column or nonet
- The sum of all numbers in a nonet, row, or column must equal to 45.
- Sudoku is a rewarding game of logic and insight, you should never guess, there is always a next logical step.



Direct Solve - The first and easiest strategy, and the only method you will need to solve Easy level puzzles. Direct solve uses the basic process of elimination. Let's solve the cell C1!



Figure 1



Figure 2

To solve C1 look at rows A & B in Figure 2. You will notice the number 6 in each row. This means the only number that can go into C1 is the number 6 since each row must contain the numbers 1-9. Using the Direct Solve method look at cell C5, can you see the number 1 is the logical answer?

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