

# Sudoku a Day

## Week 9, 2026

Monday Feb 16 '26 – Sunday Feb 22 '26

★ Expert

Scan the QR code next to each puzzle to open it in the Sudoku a Day app



**Monday**  
Feb 16 '26  
★ Expert

Start each puzzle by scanning for singles: sweep every row, column, and box to find cells that have only one possible number. A couple of clean scan passes build momentum and often unlock the entire early game.  
sudokuaday.com/scanning

			9					
8	1		6	5				
	3	1	4	2			8	
		5				1	6	
6	7		1	4				
1								9
2								3
	8	2		3				
5	6	2	8				4	



**Tuesday**  
Feb 17 '26  
★ Expert

Use a consistent sweep rhythm—rows, then columns, then boxes—to avoid missing easy placements. A predictable cycle makes new progress pop visually when you loop back around.  
sudokuaday.com/scanning

1		9		6	3	8		
				2				
4								7
7					2	9		
3		7				4	1	
	9							
		7	5				1	2
		4	6			8		
				1	8			4



**Thursday**  
Feb 19 '26  
★ Expert

A naked single is a cell with just one candidate. They appear constantly after each elimination round—so recheck for singles frequently, even in late stages of a hard puzzle.  
sudokuaday.com/naked-single

		2	7	5				4
			4					
	4	3					9	7
	8		5	9				2
			1	8	3		5	
	7					1		
			6					
2		7					3	
8	1	6	3	7				5



**Wednesday**  
Feb 18 '26  
★ Expert



**Friday**  
Feb 20 '26  
★ Expert

Pencil marks are your mob. Add candidates as they become legal and clear them as soon as they're not. Fresh notes prevent phantom contradictions and reveal pairs and hidden singles at a glance.  
sudokuaday.com/pencil-marks

1								9
2	3							4
4		9		7	3			
				9		2		
							6	8
		7	6					1
	1			6	5	9	4	
5	8			4		6		
6	4		1				7	



**Saturday**  
Feb 21 '26  
★ Expert

A hidden single is the only place a digit can go in a row, column, or box—even if that cell lists other marks. Check each digit 1-9 per unit to uncover hidden singles efficiently.  
sudokuaday.com/hidden-single

				4				3
			1	9	7			
	7	5						2
9	8		4					7
	3			1	2			
2						3	8	
			5		9	6	3	
							4	5
		9	7					



**Monday**  
Feb 16 '26  
★ Expert

Try digit-focused scanning: pick a number and sweep the grid to see where it can go. This perspective makes spotting pairs and box-line reductions much easier to spot than unit-by-unit scans.  
sudokuaday.com/scanning

5		4						9
	2		1				4	
7							1	5
8		6				9	5	
		8						
9			5				3	6
	7			6	3			
		1	9			5	7	
	5	4						

7	4	5	8	9	2	3	6	1
8	2	1	3	7	6	5	9	4
9	6	3	1	4	5	2	7	8
3	7	4	5	2	9	8	1	6
6	9	8	7	3	1	4	2	5
1	5	2	4	6	8	7	3	9
2	1	7	6	5	4	9	8	3
4	8	9	2	1	3	6	5	7
5	3	6	9	8	7	1	4	2

Monday, Feb 16 '26

1	2	9	4	7	6	3	8	5
5	7	8	3	2	1	4	6	9
4	3	6	9	8	5	1	2	7
7	4	1	8	5	3	2	9	6
3	8	2	7	6	9	5	4	1
6	9	5	1	4	2	7	3	8
8	6	7	5	3	4	9	1	2
2	1	4	6	9	7	8	5	3
9	5	3	2	1	8	6	7	4

Tuesday, Feb 17 '26

1	7	5	4	8	6	3	2	9
2	3	6	1	5	9	7	8	4
4	8	9	2	7	3	1	5	6
6	4	1	5	9	8	2	3	7
9	5	3	7	2	1	4	6	8
8	2	7	6	3	4	5	9	1
7	1	2	8	6	5	9	4	3
5	9	8	3	4	7	6	1	2
3	6	4	9	1	2	8	7	5

Wednesday, Feb 18 '26

1	6	2	7	9	5	8	3	4
7	9	8	4	3	6	5	2	1
5	4	3	8	1	2	6	9	7
3	8	1	5	7	9	4	6	2
6	2	4	1	8	3	7	5	9
9	7	5	2	6	4	1	8	3
4	3	9	6	5	1	2	7	8
2	5	7	9	4	8	3	1	6
8	1	6	3	2	7	9	4	5

Thursday, Feb 19 '26



**Friday**  
Feb 20 '26  
★ Expert

X-Wing: If a digit appears in exactly two cells in the same columns for two different rows (forming a rectangle), eliminate that digit from the rest of those columns. Works symmetrically for rows.  
sudokuaday.com/x-wing

				8			7	
2	3	6						9
	5	4		9				
4	1	7				5		
	2	7		3				
3	6	5						
			5				4	8
7	4	8	3					2

1	9	8	2	5	4	7	6	3
6	2	3	1	9	7	5	8	4
4	7	5	6	3	8	1	2	9
9	8	1	4	6	5	3	7	2
5	3	7	8	1	2	9	4	6
2	4	6	9	7	3	8	5	1
8	1	4	5	2	9	6	3	7
7	6	2	3	8	1	4	9	5
3	5	9	7	4	6	2	1	8

Friday, Feb 20 '26

5	3	1	4	6	7	2	8	9
6	2	8	9	1	5	7	4	3
7	4	9	3	8	2	6	1	5
8	1	2	6	3	4	9	5	7
3	5	6	9	7	9	4	2	1
9	7	4	2	5	1	8	3	6
1	8	7	5	2	6	3	9	4
4	6	3	1	9	8	5	7	2
2	9	5	7	4	3	1	6	8

Saturday, Feb 21 '26

1	9	4	2	3	8	6	7	5
2	7	3	1	6	5	4	8	9
8	6	5	4	7	9	2	3	1
4	1	7	6	8	2	5	9	3
5	2	9	7	4	3	8	1	6
3	8	6	5	9	1	7	2	4
6	3	2	9	5	7	1	4	8
9	5	1	8	2	4	3	6	7
7	4	8	3	1	6	9	5	2

Sunday, Feb 22 '26