

# 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



**Tuesday**  
Feb 17 '26  
★ Expert

Use a consistent sweep rhythm—rows, then columns, then boxes—to avoid missing easy placements. A predictable cycle moves new progress and visibility when you loop back around.  
sudokuway.com/sweeping

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 hidden single is a cell with just one candidate. They appear constantly after each elimination round—expect for singles frequently, even in late stages of a hard puzzle.  
sudokuway.com/hidden-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



**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.  
sudokuway.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		8				4	



**Wednesday**  
Feb 18 '26  
★ Expert

Pencil marks are your map. Add candidates as they become logical and clear them as soon as they're not. Fresh notes prevent phantom contradictions and reveal pairs and hidden singles as a game.  
sudokuway.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



**Friday**  
Feb 20 '26  
★ Expert

A hidden single is the only place a digit can go in a row, column, or box—until that digit has other marks. Check each digit 1-9 per unit to uncover hidden singles efficiently.  
sudokuway.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						



**Saturday**  
Feb 21 '26  
★ Expert

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

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

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	5	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	8	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

X-Wing: If a digit appears in exactly two cells in the same column for two different rows forming a rectangle, eliminate that digit from the rest of those columns. Works symmetrically for rows.  
sudokuway.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