

Here are the Sudoku instructions from p.264 in *Kiss My Math*.  
See page 2 of this PDF for a bigger version of the puzzle!

## Do You Sudoku?

I was first introduced to Sudoku on the set of *How I Met Your Mother*. (See pp. 190–1 for a testimonial from executive producer/Director Pam Fryman!) During the taping of my first episode of the series, Alyson Hannigan (character: Lily) taught me how to play. I quickly discovered that the whole set was obsessed with it—actors, crew members, you name it! Whenever they're not taping, out come the Sudoku puzzles.

Here are the basic rules: The goal is to fill in each square with a number 1 through 9, so that every column has exactly one of each digit (no repeats), every row has exactly one of each digit, and every bolded  $3 \times 3$  box has exactly one of each digit. The challenge is that every row, column, and  $3 \times 3$  box must have *one and only one* of each digit.

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

Wanna try? Let's look at the middle horizontal row—the one that starts with a 6 and ends with a 5. It only has three open spots, and if you look at the digits already in that row, you'll see that the only digits "needed" in the row are 1, 2, and 3. Looking at the first empty spot (the one shaded gray), let's see if we can figure out what goes there. Checking its column, there's already a 3 (up top). We can't have another 3 in the column, so that's out. Also, within its  $3 \times 3$  box, we can see that there's already a 2, and since we can't repeat the same digit within a bolded  $3 \times 3$  box, the spot can only be filled in with a 1! Go ahead, write it in. Tip: Never write in a number unless you know it *has* to be true. Also, be sure you've finished your homework before you do these; they can be addicting! For more puzzles and strategies, do an Internet search for "easy Sudoku," and for the solution to this one, see [kissmymath.com](http://kissmymath.com). Good luck!

(For the solution, click on "Sudoku Solution" from the "Extras" page of [kissmymath.com](http://kissmymath.com))

# Sudoku

from p.264 in *Kiss My Math*

Here's a larger one for you to print!

Remember, start by figuring out what number the shaded box has to be; it'll be an easier way to start.

Good luck!

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