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Simon & Schuster Mega Crossword Puzzle Book #14



Synopsis

This classic crossword series returns for its ninetieth year with 300 never-before-published puzzles! Simon & Schuster published the first-ever crossword puzzle book in 1924. Now, ninety years later, the tradition continues with a brand-new collection of 300 crosswords from expert puzzle constructor, John M. Samson. The Simon & Schuster Mega Crossword Puzzle Book #14 is designed with convenience in mind and features perforated pages so you can tear out puzzles individually and work on them on-the-go. This new super-sized book will delight existing fans and challenge new puzzle enthusiasts as they discover this timeless and unique collection of entertainment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John M. Samson is an expert crossword puzzle constructor and editor. His crosswords have been published in leading magazines and newspapers across the country, including The New York Times. He lives in upstate New York.

I absolutely love crossword puzzles, and the Simon & Schuster books are the best. I like the fact that they are all "themed", they come in moderately easy to hard all in the same book. Some may take additional time to solve, but the thought process is great exercise for the brain. For anyone who enjoys puzzles, these books are a must.

Great puzzles! Really like that pages are perforated and can be separated from the book!!

I have loved crosswords since I was in 9th grade and hopelessly bored in English class where, incidentally, we also got the LA Times delivered daily. I am no Sunday-er but I can get through Thursday in the LA Times with only a few trips to the crossword dictionary. New York Times? That's another story. Mondays are even a bit too hard still. With that being said, I find these puzzles to be adequately challenging while still being fun. I like that they vary in size and that they can be easily torn out to take with me. Also, the clues are fairly relevant with some pop culture references. This book will keep me puzzling for at least the year to come and I would definitely consider buying another edition to keep my brain sharp.

The puzzles in this book range from 15 cells square to 21 cells square. They range in difficulty from easy to moderate. While the book was hardly a standout, it could have served as a reasonable diversion -- a solid three stars. Unfortunately, frequent poor construction drops this down to two stars -- barely worth doing. Far too many of the puzzles seem to have been constructed hastily, and IF the puzzles were tested prior to publication, the testers should be let go. Common problems included: singular clues with plural answers; wrong part of speech (e.g., a clue implied the answer was a verb, when in fact it was a noun); clue not abbreviated, but the answer is abbreviated, and vice versa; typos in some clues, sometimes with a whole word missing. There were also cases where a number of obscure names, with obscure spellings, were placed in a small section of the puzzle. I would only expect to find something like this in a difficult puzzle, not an easy one. It comes across as lazy construction -- something done because the author couldn't finish the puzzle otherwise.

I purchased this for my father as a Christmas gift, who is an avid lover of crossword puzzles. He enjoys crosswords that have a higher level of challenge and this was perfect! While searching for a book to get for him, it was important to me that I find one with enough content to keep him busy for a while - as he tends to go through them very quickly, as well as trying to avoid a book with puzzles he might have already done in the past. I have since purchased quite a few of the Simon & Schuster crossword puzzle books for him, and they always deliver! He has never been disappointed and often comments on how much he enjoys them! The larger print is great for him, and the variety in the range of difficulty is fantastic! If you are debating on the quality of these crosswords I can honestly say that I highly recommend this and other crossword puzzle books from Simon & Schuster!

A lot of fun here. The puzzles go from fairly easy to moderately challenging with an occasional "man, I have no clue". If you fill out the daily paper puzzle, take an hour or two for a (god rest his soul) Merl Reagle and typically leave a few blanks on the Sunday NYT, (as I do) you'll like it. If you do The Sunday NYT in ink like my smart ass, know it all brother does it may be a bit light for you.

My boyfriend and I have tried to work through a few of these puzzles and they're pretty hard. So, just beware that if you're not a veteran crossword-puzzler, you may struggle with these. We haven't been able to finish a single one yet. Also, in my experience crossword puzzle clues usually specify things like "two words" or "abbrev." if the answers do in fact include two words or an abbreviated word, but these don't always do so.

I really enjoy this series because there's always such a fun range of themes and styles. The puzzles start out fairly easy, and then progressively get more difficult. This book has 174 15x15 crosswords, 73 17x17 crosswords, 8 19x19 crosswords, and 45 21x21 crosswords (for 300 total). Most of the puzzles have themes, but there's a generous portion of the non-themed more difficult puzzles mixed in. The pages are perforated so they're easy to tear out and take with you. Can't go wrong with these books!

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