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USA TODAY Crossword 2: 200 Puzzles From The Nations No. 1 Newspaper (USA Today Puzzles)



Synopsis

The nation's #1 newspaper, USA TODAY, presents a new collection of 200 crossword puzzles. The USA TODAY brand reaches over 6 million people daily. The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) finds that cognitive puzzles such as crosswords "can bolster the mind in the same way that physical exercise protects and strengthens the body." This cranium compendium features 200 brain-boosting crosswords from The Nation's No. 1 Newspaper, USA TODAY. Puzzlesmiths of all skill levels will enjoy this ultimate puzzling challenge offering hours of enlightening entertainment and brain-bolstering fun from America's trusted news--and gaming--authority, USA TODAY. Keep your brain in shape with USA Today Crossword 2.

Book Information

Series: USA Today Puzzles (Book 17)

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Customer Reviews

USA TODAY® has been in circulation since September 15, 1982, and has a daily readership of nearly 6 million in print and online. Online: puzzles.usatoday.com

We love the USA Today puzzle series. The 'difficulty' level is just right for us. Only wish they would publish these in a spiral binding, as this book is a little hard to handle for working the puzzles. We usually cut out the page we're working on, then throw it away when done.

I love doing crosswords, and like them to be challenging, but not stupidly "clever." These puzzles

meet my criteria. They're also generic and the book is a perfect size to take along when traveling. In fact, I like this, and Crossword 1, so much that when I finish this one I'm going to order both again and give myself a second chance at them!

I bought this book because the crosswords that appear in the daily issue of USA TODAY are half-way decent. Of the 200 puzzles I found about half to be acceptable crosswords. The rest contain clues that are some sort of irrelevant or incoherent pun or wordplay sentences or titles, some ridiculously lengthy, while the small number of straight clues does not enable one even to start figuring out such sentences. Quite a lot of entries try to replicate not only colloquial language, but gangbanger slang, with some entries not even found in the Urban Dictionary. The majority of the clues are aimed at celeb wannabes as they come from pop culture hinting at some character on a TV show, movie, play, novel, sports team, etc., and their relatives, or even their exes. The plethora of arbitrary abbreviations (the first three letters of any word are considered an abbreviation!), some typos and pure errors (such as attributing the lute to Homer) reflect ignorance and deficient editing. The worst feature of this edition is that, unlike spiral crossword editions, it is in paperback form that makes working on puzzles cumbersome.

Bought it for a hospitalized friend. Liked it so much I bought one for myself and am glad I did. Challenging but not absurd. Really a crossword lovers find.

These puzzles are not too hard, and not too easy. Very clever clues. We quit the USA Today newspaper, so it's nice to have these.

Tougher than expected. For the average crossworder who wants to be able to at least finish 75% of the crossword on their own, this may be too tough. My boyfriend and I are both college educated with bachelors degrees (3 between the both of us) and we can get about 30-40% of the way through before looking at the solutions for help. Not that a college degree means you can finish crossword puzzles, I'm just saying I thought we were intelligent enough to have fun with these crosswords but we might be ditching the books soon.

The puzzles in this collection are not only small in size -the book measures 5" x 8" --but the puzzles themselves have very few words so this makes the cost per puzzle, or per entertainment hour, very high. Also, nowhere is the recommended skill level available for the prospective buyer to see. I find

them way too simple, and I tossed the book in trash.

Disappointed. Printed on cheap, virtually non-erasable paper and difficult to read when lighted with cross lighting. Certainly not up to the standards of previous USA Today Crossword publications.

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