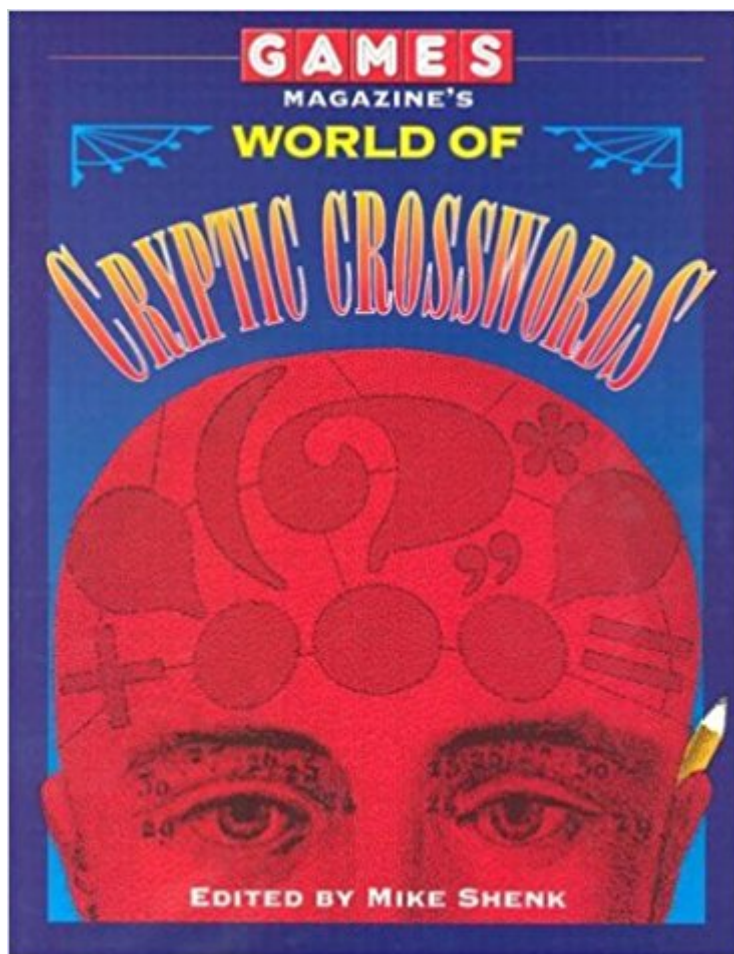


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Games Magazine's World Of Cryptic Crosswords



Synopsis

A mind-bending new treasury of fifty fabulous, fun-filled crossword puzzles from Games magazine! Cryptic crossword clues have two parts. One is the definition of the answer, and the other is a description of it through wordplay. The trick is discovering which part is which, and cracking the anagrams, hidden words, and other language play within the clues. Games Magazine's World of Cryptic Crosswords includes a detailed, step-by-step explanation of how to solve cryptics, plus six warm-up puzzles, each illustrating the basic cryptic clue types. Also included are ten variety cryptic puzzles at the end of the book, for those intrepid solvers who have advanced to Master Solver status.

Book Information

Spiral-bound: 80 pages

Publisher: B and P Publishing Company; 1st edition (March 10, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0812919998

ISBN-13: 978-0812919998

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,947,688 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Crosswords > Cryptic](#) #4113 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Puzzles](#)

Customer Reviews

A mind-bending new treasury of fifty fabulous, fun-filled crossword puzzles from Games magazine! Cryptic crossword clues have two parts. One is the definition of the answer, and the other is a description of it through wordplay. The trick is discovering which part is which, and cracking the anagrams, hidden words, and other language play within the clues. Games Magazine's World of Cryptic Crosswords includes a detailed, step-by-step explanation of how to solve cryptics, plus six warm-up puzzles, each illustrating the basic cryptic clue types. Also included are ten variety cryptic puzzles at the end of the book, for those intrepid solvers who have advanced to Master Solver status.

Very few obscure foreign words! Clues are nicely constructed, answers are words you should

probably know. Puzzles do not feel like they were run through a thesaurus and anagram computer program like so many do. These are from years of Games Magazine (I think), so they were constructed in an artisan manner rather than in a rushed "gotta meet deadline" fashion. Rules are outlined in the book and followed to strictly. No single definitions or unrelated words are in the clues. Can be difficult to decipher the definition from the clue, and some clue words can have multiple meanings, a sign of good puzzle creation. Wish another edition would come out, this is my favorite cryptic crossword book of the dozen or so purchased (bought twice over 10 years, and erasing now to do again). There are different puzzle authors so you get a variety of clue trickery. Completion time 1-3 hours per puzzle. Highly recommended.

I LOVE cryptic crossword puzzles, and this is the best book of them all! They don't come out too frequently here (as they do in the UK where they originated), and I am so glad I xeroxed the pages so I can do the puzzles in this book again and again! I have bought other cryptic books but this is by far the best! There are puzzles here by different enigmatists, and none are too difficult or too easy yet I find them challenging. Cryptics seem to be quite difficult when you are new to them, but don't give up--and you too will be hooked for life!

I bought this when it was published and it remains, for me, the gold standard of cryptic collections. The book's variety finale, 'Diamond Mine', is the most satisfying cryptic I've ever come across. Don't pass this one up!

Overall this is a very good collection. Almost all are straightforward, though, with only ten "variety" cryptics in the back.

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