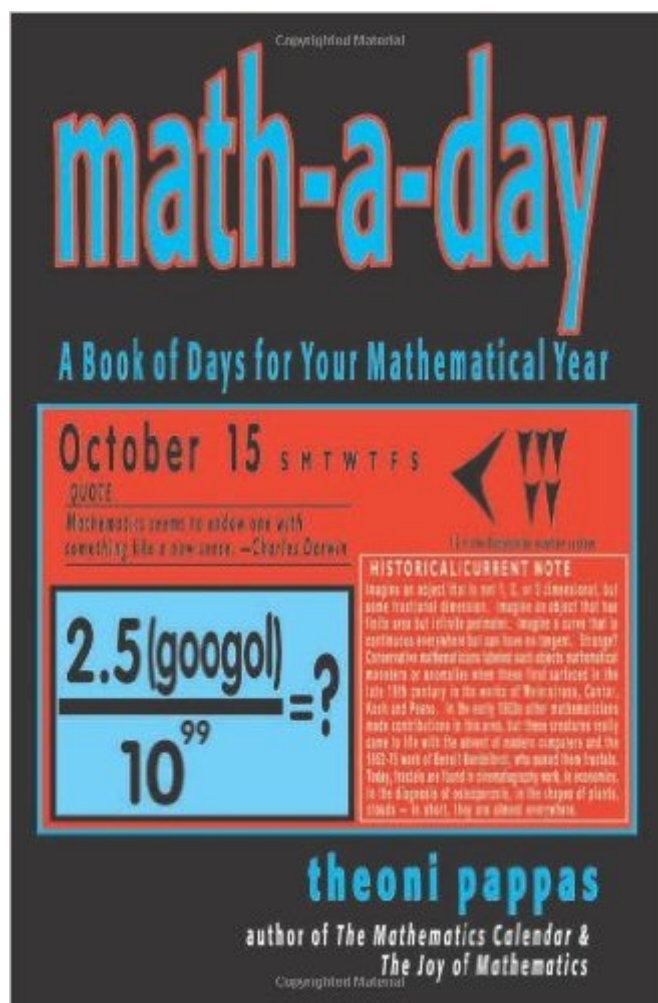# Math-A-Day: A Book Of Days For Your Mathematical Year

Synopsis

This entertaining book of mathematical days exercises the brain with confounding puzzles, intriguing math problems, and, of course, detailed solutions to all the conundrums. Readers will enjoy 366 days' worth of stimulating math.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.5 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #893,671 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #116 in Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Number Systems   #211 in Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Reference #288 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Math Games

Customer Reviews

I'm generally very critical about current math and puzzle books. I don't want to brag, but at last count, I owned some 150 math/puzzle books. In other words, I think can say that I've pretty much seen them all...Well, this book is one of my favorites! Yes this book has some old chestnuts, but the majority of the problems are quite original and only difficult enough to be entertaining. It's also full of interesting historical facts, all related to math of course.Up until now, I've generally stayed away from Pappas books. I find them a bit too elementary, but this one, I'll keep.Thanks Theoni for a fine book.

For every day of the year there are three items; 1) a math problem (usually requires no more than high school algebra to understand) 2)an anecdote, and 3)a quote. I paticularly liked the quotes and am glad to have a reference for when I forget exactly how one goes. I think the book would be appropriate for any math fan who doesn't want something overly demanding.

Theoni Pappas seems to have a mixed reputation (at least, if we go by reviews). Some people like her art deco approach to popularizing math and like the fact that it is aimed toward kids, parents,

and self-learner adults who only have a vague recollection of high school math. Others diss her books as being too simplistic, too easy, too derivative, etc.Whichever side of that argument you fall into, I think any reasonable person that is interested in math should agree (after perusing *Math-A-Day*) that this is clearly her best book and a good popular math book by any standard.As others have pointed out, this book is organized as mathematical vignettes for 366 days of the year (which includes leap years). Each of these math capsules includes a brainteaser-type question that requires at most high school level math knowledge, some math trivia, and a math-related quote. From what I can tell skimming through it, the problems seem to be a nice mix of relatively accessible questions that aren't too hard all the way up to fairly challenging problems requiring a lot of sophistication (although, like I said, not much knowledge).The problems and their solutions (included in the end of the book), as well as the math trivia, should be of interest to all ages and of particular interest to those with an interest in learning as much about math as possible. This is a great book and is definitely not for juvenile primates or for drunken neighbors as suggested elsewhere. Learning about interesting mathematical trivia -- like Mayan mathematics -- should be of great interest to any genuine math lover and other clever, intelligent people.In short, whether you like Pappas' other books or you'd like to lump them, THIS book, *Math-A-Day*, is definitely an interesting book and worthy of the attention of math lovers.

This book does a good job of keeping to ol' noodle from turning into mush. But....Just a few days ago I was somewhat frustrated by it. When checking my answers I was led to believe that I was wrong, but after checking and rechecking and writing a program treverse the curve (Dec 21) I found that the book was incorrect on this one(don't let that stop you from working it though). Maybe I am wrong.Another frustration was that yesterday's question (Dec 28) was a little off from the answer, it asks for area but supplies 1st of the 3 consecutive integers. The second issue has me working the problems in the fullest detail so that if another aspect of the problem is answered I'll still have the saticfaction of seeing that I had the correct answer.I'm not knocking the book. These issues kinda' keep me on my toes. The book is great otherwise. I look forward to the next problem(day) and sometimes discover that I have completely forgotten how to answer some questions. I would quickly buy a new version of this book.

I bought this book just three days ago and I am hooked. The book has a variety of puzzles and problems that will keep you turning the pages consistently. I have bought many math puzzles books, and have been disappointed, but this book is up there with The Moscow Puzzles. Great job,

Mrs. Pappas.

It has a nice lay-out. It has interesting stuff. I wish it were ten times as long and more like a short essay for every day. I've been teaching high school math for 30 years and although not much material was new to me I liked this way of organizing it.

This is an entertaining book, but note that some of the problems have NOTHING to do with mathematics (Feb. 24 - Question: "It was Monday and Tom and Jerry were at the same job. When it came time for Tom to go home, Jerry wouldn't let him. Why?" Answer: "Tom and Jerry are baseball players on opposing teams.") Where's the math in this problem?Also, there are incorrect answers. (Mar. 5 = Question: "Given a triangle ABC, |AB|=5 and |BC|=6, what is the smallest positive value for |AC| so that ABC would NOT be a triangle?") The answer is 1 (6-5) [though any fraction less than 1 and greater than zero also fits, but I stuck with natural numbers here], because any two sides of a triangle MUST be greater than the third side. The answer given is 11, which is not the smallest as requested.And on March 7, we are asked to determine the odds (expressed as "_?_ to 1" in the book) of rolling a total of 4 using two dice. Out of the 36 (6*6) rolls, we can roll 1&3, 2&2, or 3&1 to get a 4. So there are three opportunities out of 36, which is 1/12. But the ODDS for a 1/12 chance are 11 to 1, NOT 12 to 1. The answer is 11, but the Answer Key gives the answer as "12 to 1".Overall, this can be an enjoyable book for a nice daily brain exercise, but it needs better editing / reviewing.

Math-A-Day: A Book of Days for Your Mathematical Year 21 DAY FIX: 30 Top 21 DAY FIX RECIPES with complete container count PREP IN 15 MIN OR LESS (21 day fix recipes, 21 day fix cookbook, 21 day fix book) First Grade Page Per Day: Math Skills (Sylvan Page Per Day Series, Math) Secret Of Mental Math Arithmetic: 70 Secrets To Super Speed Calculation & Amazing Math Tricks: How to Do Math without a Calculator 2nd Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) 3rd Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Improving Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) 4th Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Improving Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) 1st Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) Kindergarten Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven

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