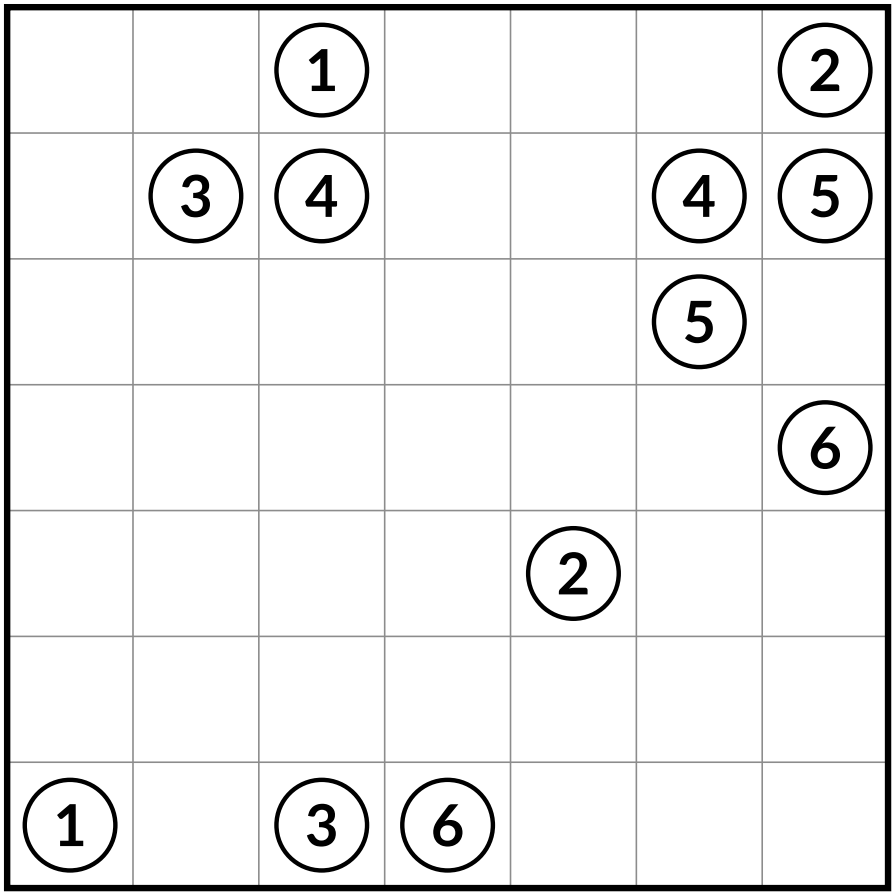
LINK PUZZLE BOOK

Large Print Link Puzzles

80 Easy to Hard Connect the Pairs Puzzles for Adults and Seniors, Big Squares, with Solutions



Harper Lane

Sample pages

Large Print Link Puzzles

80 Easy to Hard Connect the Pairs Puzzles for Adults and Seniors, Big Squares, with Solutions

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All 80 link puzzles in this book are original. Each one has exactly one solution, checked by two separate computer solvers, and can be solved by logic alone, without guessing.

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Puzzle Log 89

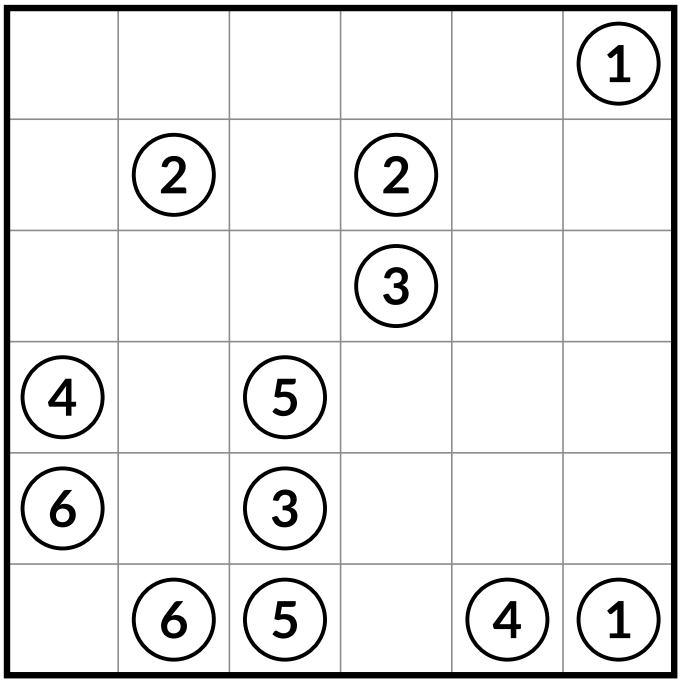
Sample pages

How to Play

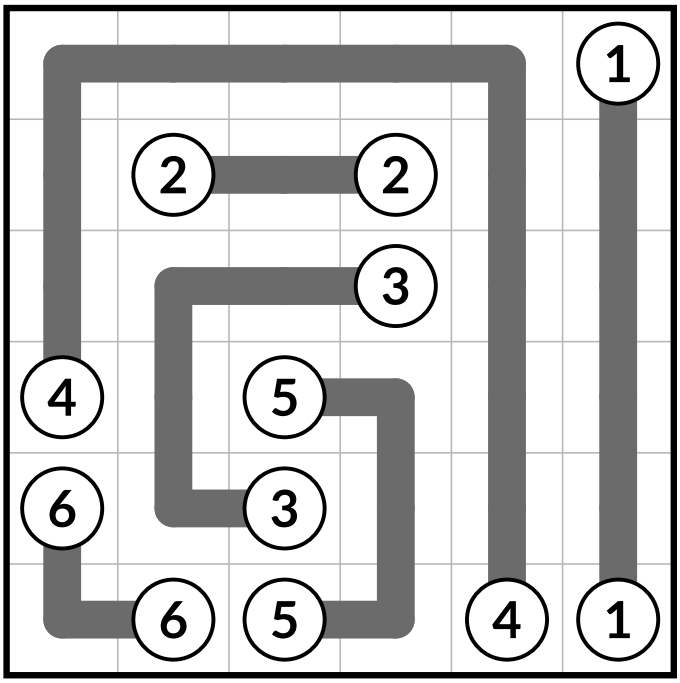
- ✓ Draw a line to join each pair of matching numbers: 1 to 1, 2 to 2, and so on.
- ✓ Lines go from square to square: up, down, left or right, never diagonally.
- ✓ Lines never cross, never branch and never pass through another number.
- ✓ Every square in the grid is used by exactly one line.

Every puzzle has exactly one solution and can be solved by logic, never by guessing. Use a pencil. The solutions start on page 75.

A worked example



The puzzle



Its one solution

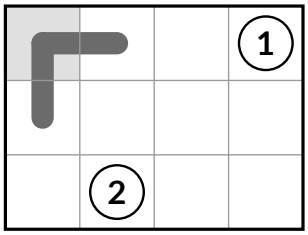
In the example, start in the corners: the corner squares can only be filled one way. Then follow the lines that have only one way to go, and keep every pair able to reach its partner. The rest falls into place.

Sample pages

Solving Tips

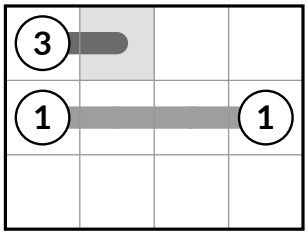
Corners and edges first

A corner square has only two neighbours, so the line through it must use both. Lines often hug the border: start along the edges and work inwards.



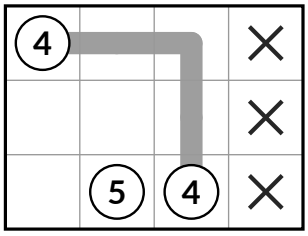
Forced moves

When a square has only two ways in or out left, the line through it must use both. When a number has only one free neighbour, its line goes there.



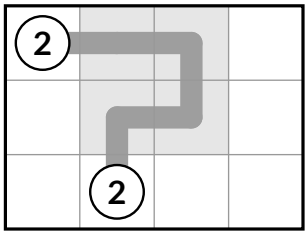
Don't cut anyone off

A line must never wall off a number from its partner, or leave a pocket of empty squares that no line can reach.



The 2 x 2 rule

In these puzzles a line never fills a 2 x 2 block of squares on its own. If yours does, look for a shorter route: there is one.



Think one step ahead

On the harder levels, try a line in pencil and follow it: if it leaves a pair with no way to meet, the other choice is the right one.

Sample pages

How the Puzzles Are Graded

Every puzzle was checked by a solver that works like a person: it only draws lines it can prove, and never guesses. The level comes from the size of the grid and from how far ahead the solver had to think. A second, separately written solver then confirmed that every puzzle has exactly one solution.

★☆☆☆ **Easy**	**Puzzles 1–30 · 7 x 7 to 8 x 8 grids, 5–9 pairs**	Forced moves and keeping every pair able to meet
★★☆☆ **Medium**	**Puzzles 31–60 · 9 x 9 to 10 x 10 grids, 7–15 pairs**	Thinking one move ahead
★★★☆ **Hard**	**Puzzles 61–80 · 11 x 11 to 12 x 12 grids, 9–17 pairs**	Thinking two moves ahead

The steps you will use

★ **Forced moves**

A corner, a dead end or a number with only one free neighbour: there is only one way the line can go.

★★ **Keeping every pair able to meet**

A line may not cut a number off from its partner or leave a pocket of squares no line can fill. Spotting that rules out moves.

★★★ **One move ahead**

Try a line in pencil and follow what it forces. If it breaks a rule, the other choice is the right one.

★★★★ **Two moves ahead**

The same, but the trial line leads to a second choice before the contradiction shows. Only the hardest puzzles need this.

Sample pages

EASY



Puzzles 1 to 30

Small grids: every move can be found by looking at one number or square at a time.

Sample pages

Puzzle 1 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1	2	3		4		
		5				
			5	6		
			2			
			7			
		6				
1			7	3		4

Puzzle 2 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

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

Sample pages

Puzzle 3 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1	2					
			3	4	5	
	6					
6	1		3			
	7		7			
4	5				2	

Puzzle 4 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1						
2		3				
4		5				
			2			
		4	5		3	
1						
6						6

Sample pages

Puzzle 5 ★☆☆☆ EASY Time: _____

1						
			2	3		
			4		3	
			2	4	5	6
		7		7		1
			6	5		

Puzzle 6 ★☆☆☆ EASY Time: _____

1	2	3				4
			4			5
			5			6
				3		7
		6				
					2	
		1	7			

Sample pages

Puzzle 7 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

	1					
1	2		3		4	
			5	3		
	6			5		7
					7	
		2		6	4	

Puzzle 8 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1	2					
				3		
						1
		4				2
		5			5	4
		3				

Sample pages

Puzzle 9 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1	2		3			
				4	1	
5						3
	6					7
			2			
			4			
5	6					7

Puzzle 10 ★☆☆☆ EASY

Time: _____

1	2				1	3
	4					
	5		4	2		
	6		7			
			5	7		
		6				
				3		

Sample pages