

# Welcome to Hidato

## How to Play:

Each Hidato puzzle starts with a grid partially filled with numbers:

6		⑨
	2	8
①		

6	7	⑨
5	2	8
①	4	3

The goal is to fill the grid with consecutive numbers that connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:

## Tips and Strategies:

- Each puzzle has only one possible solution.
- Hidato puzzles can be solved using 100% logic. No guesswork is needed.
- The first and last numbers of a puzzle will be in circle markers.
- It is not necessary to start from the first number. Sometimes it is better to jump around.
- Working backward (counting down in numbers) can also reveal key clues to solving the puzzle.

## Sample Puzzle Walk-Through:

The following demonstrates how to solve a Hidato puzzle:

	8		4
			3
	10		①
12		⑩	15

	8		4
		2	3
	10	2	①
12		⑩	15

The circles indicate the lowest number in the grid is 1 and the highest is 16. Start by trying to complete chain 1-to-3. There are two possible places to put the 2.

It is not clear which position is correct. The best plan is to look for other connections that will eventually provide the clues needed to place the 2.

Scanning through the puzzle, there is also not enough information to solve chains 4-to-8, 8-to-10 and 10-to-12. However, there is only one way to connect 12-to-15. By working backward, the only possible position for the 14 can be deduced because the 15 has only one open box connected to it:

	8		4
			3
	10	14	①
12		⑩	15

With the 14 placed on the grid, the locations for the 2 and the 13 are revealed:

	8		4
		2	3
	10	14	①
12	13	⑩	15

Now numbers 5, 6 and 11 also have exact positions:

	8	5	4
	6	2	3
11	10	14	①
12	13	⑩	15

The final numbers can now be placed to complete the puzzle:

7	8	5	4
9	6	2	3
11	10	14	①
12	13	⑩	15

These strategies can be used to help solve all levels of Hidato puzzles.