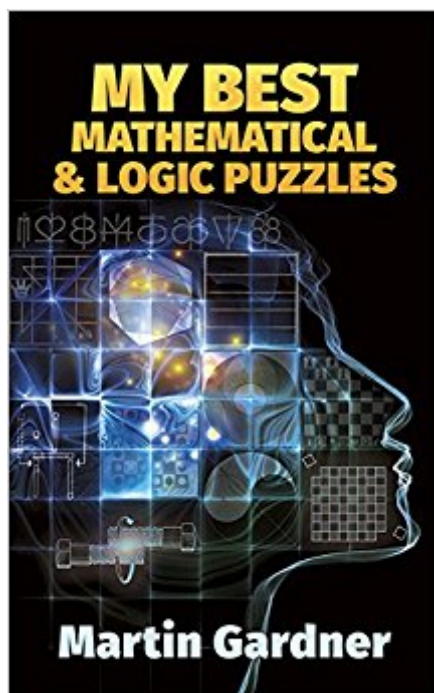


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# My Best Mathematical And Logic Puzzles (Dover Recreational Math)



## Synopsis

Over a period of 25 years as author of the Mathematical Games column for Scientific American, Martin Gardner devoted a column every six months or so to short math problems or puzzles. He was especially careful to present new and unfamiliar puzzles that had not been included in such classic collections as those by Sam Loyd and Henry Dudeney. Later, these puzzles were published in book collections, incorporating reader feedback on alternate solutions or interesting generalizations. The present volume contains a rich selection of 70 of the best of these brain teasers, in some cases including references to new developments related to the puzzle. Now enthusiasts can challenge their solving skills and rattle their egos with such stimulating mind-benders as The Returning Explorer, The Mutilated Chessboard, Scrambled Box Tops, The Fork in the Road, Bronx vs. Brooklyn, Touching Cigarettes, and 64 other problems involving logic and basic math. Solutions are included.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Over a period of 25 years as author of the Mathematical Games column for Scientific American, Martin Gardner devoted a column every six months or so to short math problems or puzzles. He was especially careful to present new and unfamiliar puzzles that had not been included in such

classic collections as those by Sam Loyd and Henry Dudeney. Later, these puzzles were published in book collections, incorporating reader feedback on alternate solutions or interesting generalizations. The present volume contains a rich selection of 70 of the best of these brain teasers, in some cases including references to new developments related to the puzzle. Now enthusiasts can challenge their solving skills and rattle their egos with such stimulating mind-benders as The Returning Explorer, The Mutilated Chessboard, Scrambled Box Tops, The Fork in the Road, Bronx vs. Brooklyn, Touching Cigarettes, and 64 other problems involving logic and basic math. Solutions are included.

Martin Gardner was a renowned author who published over 70 books on subjects from science and math to poetry and religion. He also had a lifelong passion for magic tricks and puzzles. Well known for his mathematical games column in *Scientific American* and his "Trick of the Month" in *Physics Teacher* magazine, Gardner attracted a loyal following with his intelligence, wit, and imagination. Martin Gardner: A Remembrance

The worldwide mathematical community was saddened by the death of Martin Gardner on May 22, 2010. Martin was 95 years old when he died, and had written 70 or 80 books during his long lifetime as an author. Martin's first Dover books were published in 1956 and 1957: *Mathematics, Magic and Mystery*, one of the first popular books on the intellectual excitement of mathematics to reach a wide audience, and *Fads and Fallacies in the Name of Science*, certainly one of the first popular books to cast a devastatingly skeptical eye on the claims of pseudoscience and the many guises in which the modern world has given rise to it. Both of these pioneering books are still in print with Dover today along with more than a dozen other titles of Martin's books. They run the gamut from his elementary *Codes, Ciphers and Secret Writing*, which has been enjoyed by generations of younger readers since the 1980s, to the more demanding *The New Ambidextrous Universe: Symmetry and Asymmetry from Mirror Reflections to Superstrings*, which Dover published in its final revised form in 2005. To those of us who have been associated with Dover for a long time, however, Martin was more than an author, albeit a remarkably popular and successful one. As a member of the small group of long-time advisors and consultants, which included NYU's Morris Kline in mathematics, Harvard's I. Bernard Cohen in the history of science, and MIT's J. P. Den Hartog in engineering, Martin's advice and editorial suggestions in the formative 1950s helped to define the Dover publishing program and give it the point of view which, despite many changes, new directions, and the consequences of evolution, continues to be operative today. In the Author's Own Words: "Politicians, real-estate agents, used-car salesmen, and advertising copy-writers are expected to stretch facts in

self-serving directions, but scientists who falsify their results are regarded by their peers as committing an inexcusable crime. Yet the sad fact is that the history of science swarms with cases of outright fakery and instances of scientists who unconsciously distorted their work by seeing it through lenses of passionately held beliefs." "A surprising proportion of mathematicians are accomplished musicians. Is it because music and mathematics share patterns that are beautiful?"

— Martin Gardner

I purchased this as a stocking stuffer for my husband, who is an engineer. He has made several comments about how much he likes it. He's one of those people who can do calculus while half asleep, and he made the comment that he was having to flex his "math muscle" for this book. That's a good thing.

Some of these are appropriate for my 11-yo, some are pretty challenging. For the latter (or former) there is an awesome set of explanations in the back. I'd been reading Gardner's column for a long time, so these were on par with what I expected. The sample shows the first few in the book, the rest are similarly excellent.

For a couple that met in math class and later married, the puzzles in this book make for fun reading/discussing on the couch in the evening. yup. we're nerds. Fun way to pass the time, exercise your brain, or challenge your friends! Some great mathematics in here, accessible to the average thinker.

You can never go wrong with Gardner books - his puzzles are delightful. Great buy.

Martin Gardner is a master at presenting brain twisting publications.

My husband is a Martin Gardner fan from 40+ years back, so he loved this little book. He has everything that Martin Gardner has ever written, but this book has a synopsis of it all.

Arrived fast and my dad loved it. He plans on using it for his classroom

I'm a fan of logic problems in general and have been a fan of Martin Gardner math puzzles since Omni Magazine came out back in the 80's (I believe it was the 80's.) I have yet to solve all the

puzzles in this book yet so I'm getting my money's worth. I actually expected to have an easier time with the puzzles in this book but that's not the case but it's no fun if they are too easy is it?

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