

How to Solve a Logic Grid Puzzle

Ava, Ben and Mia each have one pet: a cat, a dog and a fish. Use the clues to find out who has which pet.

Clue 1. Ava does not have the dog. **Clue 2.** Ben does not have the dog. **Clue 3.** Ben does not have the cat.

1. Read the story and look at the grid

Three friends, Ava, Ben and Mia, each have one pet: a cat, a dog and a fish. The names go down the side and the pets go across the top. Every box asks one question. The top left box asks: does Ava have the cat?

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava			
	Ben			
	Mia			

2. Mark an X for every "no"

Clue 1 says Ava does not have the dog, so put an X where Ava meets dog. Clue 2 says the same about Ben, so put an X where Ben meets dog.

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava		X	
	Ben		X	
	Mia			

3. One box left means "yes"

Look down the dog column. Two boxes are crossed out and one is empty. Somebody has the dog, so it has to be Mia. Put a ● there.

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava		X	
	Ben		X	
	Mia		●	

4. A ● crosses out its row and column

Mia has the dog, so she cannot also have the cat or the fish. Cross out the rest of Mia's row. Do this every time you place a ●.

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava		X	
	Ben		X	
	Mia	X	●	X

5. Use the next clue and repeat

Clue 3 says Ben does not have the cat. Mark the X. Now Ben's row has one empty box, so Ben has the fish. Put the ● and cross out the rest of the fish column.

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava		X	X
	Ben	X	X	●
	Mia	X	●	X

6. Finish and check

Ava's row has one box left, so Ava has the cat. Every row and every column now has exactly one ●. Read each clue once more against your answer to make sure none is broken.

	Name	Pet		
		cat	dog	fish
	Ava	●	X	X
	Ben	X	X	●
	Mia	X	●	X