

The Sudoku Multiplication Puzzle — Autumn Edition

Task 1.1. Solve the sudoku puzzle. Rules:

- Fill the grid with numbers 1 through 6.
- Each row, column, and 3×2 box must contain all numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once.
- Some squares are marked with a small leaf in the corner. The numbers in the marked squares are hidden (not necessarily the same in each marked square).
- The product of the numbers in the marked squares of each row and of each column is written for you.

1	★			★	6	= 10 = 5 = 30 = 15 = 10 = 12
	★			★		
★	3	★	1			
	1		★		★	
★					★	
		★	★			
====== 12101520515						

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Task 1.2. Decode the word!

- Look at your solution of Task 1.1. Locate all numbers "5".
- In the field below, shade all squares that correspond to the positions of the numbers "5" in the Task 1.1 puzzle.
- You get six letters. Read them in order: first the letter in the first row, then the one in the second row, and so on. They spell an autumn word!

p	j	k	n	f	z
n	o	b	a	z	h
g	i	r	u	q	d
c	p	w	e	y	k
i	v	q	d	l	s
t	j	y	h	b	m

The decoded word:

Answer key

Task 1.1. Solution (green = given, red = marked squares, shaded = the fives):

1	2	4	3	5	6	= 10
3	5	6	2	1	4	= 5
6	3	5	1	4	2	= 30
4	1	2	5	6	3	= 15
2	4	1	6	3	5	= 10
5	6	3	4	2	1	= 12
=	=	=	=	=	=	
12	10	15	20	5	15	

A way in: row 2 has product 5, so its two marked squares are 1 and 5. Column 2 has product 10 (2×5); the square shared with row 2 must be 5, so row 1 column 2 is 2, row 2 column 5 is 1, and row 1 column 5 is $10 \div 2 = 5$. Row 3: $30 = 5 \times 6$; column 1: 12 with one factor from {5, 6} forces 6, so row 3 column 1 = 6, row 3 column 3 = 5, row 5 column 1 = 2. Then divide around: column 3 gives 3, row 6 gives 4, column 4 gives 5, row 4 gives 3, column 6 gives 5; check row 5: $2 \times 5 = 10$. Finish as a normal sudoku.

Task 1.2. The fives are in row 1 column 5, row 2 column 2, row 3 column 3, row 4 column 4, row 5 column 6, row 6 column 1. The word is FOREST.

p	j	k	n	f	z
n	o	b	a	z	h
g	i	r	u	q	d
c	p	w	e	y	k
i	v	q	d	l	s
t	j	y	h	b	m