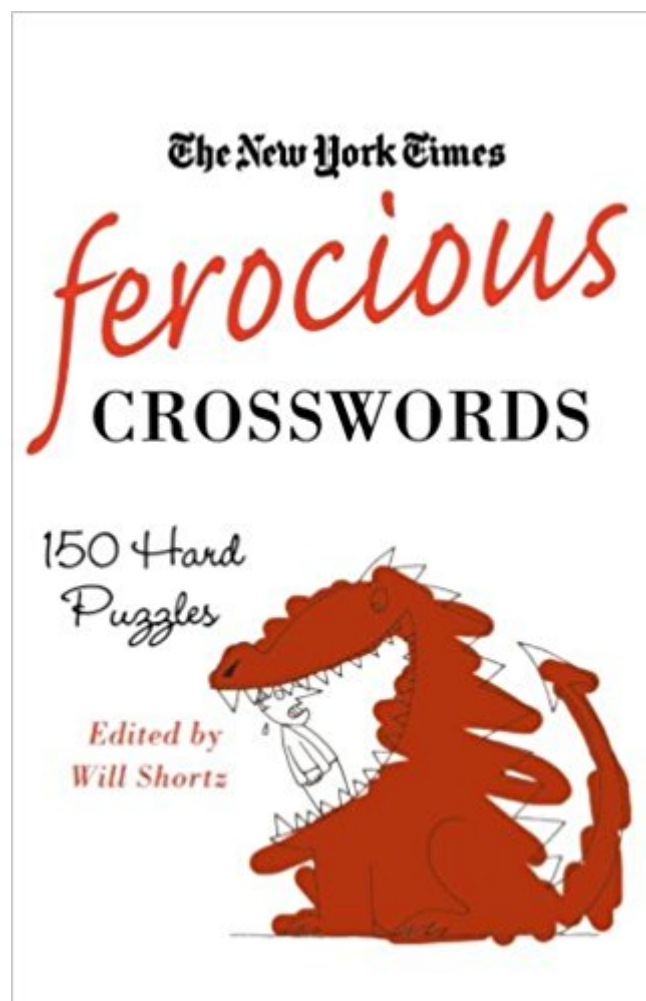




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# The New York Times Ferocious Crosswords: 150 Hard Puzzles (New York Times Crossword Puzzles)



## Synopsis

Are you tough enough? More and more crossword fans want to test their skills against the fiercest puzzles the Times has to offer.\* 150 challenging New York Times crosswords\* Fresh vocabulary and wordplay\* Edited by Will Shortz

## Book Information

Series: New York Times Crossword Puzzles

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## Customer Reviews

Will Shortz has been the crossword puzzle editor of The New York Times since 1993. He is also the puzzlemaster on NPR's Weekend Edition Sunday and is founder and director of the annual American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. He has edited countless books of crossword puzzles, Sudoku, KenKen, and all manner of brain-busters.

This is a fabulous book! The difficulty with crossword books is finding a book that's really challenging without being too hard to be fun. This really hits the spot for me. I can do the Saturday NYTimes crossword without help 90 percent of the time, but I'm not a "speed solver" of the Rex Parker ilk and these puzzles are just the right amount of tough for me. They are only occasionally too obscure for me--mostly it's just the cleverness of the cluing that trips me up. If anyone can recommend a book with a similar degree of difficulty, I'd love to know about it.

I bought this book for my dad, who does crosswords on a daily basis. He LOVES the puzzles in the

this book. He tells me at least once a month (I bought him the book in July) how much he loves the puzzles in this book!

This is for the masochistic crossword fan, who enjoys pondering fruitlessly for hours and feels utter elation when a seemingly impossible puzzle has been conquered. They are, indeed, ferocious, and I love it.

I've enjoyed crossword puzzles for years, but until I bought this book I hadn't done many New York Times crossword puzzles, so I wasn't quite sure what to expect. Having now attempted about a third of the puzzles, my verdict is that these are very challenging and very fun. Especially at the discounted price that is currently offering, I think a fan of hard crosswords would be foolish not to buy this book. The key thing to know is that these crossword puzzles aren't hard because they contain obscure jargon that even well-educated people are unlikely to know. They're hard because they have ambiguous clues that sometimes come close to being "daffynitions". They're hard because the answers tend to have lots of letters. They're hard because you're not told when the answer is a phrase instead of a single word. For these reasons, when I'm defeated by one of these puzzles, I feel like I've lost fair and square. It's too bad that these puzzles are printed small, on somewhat porous paper, and with an inconvenient binding. I make up for the binding by ripping the pages out and working them on a clipboard. The paper isn't so bad that I can't use a good felt-tip pen like Staedtler triplus fineliners, but I have to be a little gentle. As for the print size, I'm tempted to scan them and work the enlargements, but so far that seems like it would be more trouble than it's worth. Even with these issues, there is no question that this is a 5-star item.

I bought this for my husband but ended up with it. It's incredibly hard which I usually like but some of the answers are really stretching it. I hate to "cheat" but have had to.

I bought this for my husband who has graduated to very hard crosswords over the years. He finds this selection of crosswords very challenging, and very enjoyable to work on. They are hard, but not impossible. I would highly recommend it for a more difficult crossword experience.

Mom-in-law loves it. She's doing them in pencil first.

Many of the crossword puzzle books I buy have fairly easy Sunday crosswords, which while they

take little time to solve, also take little thought. These puzzles have some pretty twisted clues and you have to think hard about what the author meant. Makes for a long time solving them, but then, that's why I like it.

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