How to Solve a Case

Welcome to Maple Grove, a quiet village where a surprising number of people have tea at the same time as a crime. Each case in this book has a short story, a list of clues and three grids. Your job is to work out who did it.

Every suspect was alone in a different place, holding a different object. The story tells you where the crime happened and what was used. The killer is the person who was in that place with that object.

How to use the grids: when a clue tells you something is true, put a check mark in that square. When a clue says something is not true, put an X. Each row and each column can have only one check mark, so once you find one, put an X in the rest of its row and column. Then use what you know to link the grids: if Mr. Birch had the Tea Kettle, and the Tea Kettle was in the Greenhouse, then Mr. Birch was in the Greenhouse.

Every case has exactly one answer, and every one can be solved by logic alone. The full solution is on the last page.

The Church Bazaar Mystery

Case 1 · Easy

The Maple Grove Church Bazaar had run every spring for forty years, and every spring it was run by Mr. Horace Pennywhistle. This year, in the quiet before the doors opened, Mr. Pennywhistle was found lifeless, and the cash box was missing.

Inspector Wren found only three people who had been away from the hall at the time: Mr. Ivey, the church organist, Mrs. Nash, who sells the jam, and Miss Hollis, the youngest helper. Each was alone, in a different place, with a different object close at hand.

Read the clues, fill in the grid and name the killer.

The suspects: Mr. Ivey, Mrs. Nash and Miss Hollis.

The crime was committed in the Cellar, with the Letter Opener.

The Clues

1. Neither Mrs. Nash nor Miss Hollis was in the Cellar.
2. Miss Hollis was not in the Bakery.
3. Mr. Ivey had the Letter Opener.
4. Neither Mr. Ivey nor Mrs. Nash had the Sewing Scissors.

The killer is: _____

Your Detective Grid

	Weapons			Places		
	Letter Opener	**Sewing Scissors**	**Heavy Vase**	**Bakery**	**Cellar**	**Post Office**
Mr. Ivey						
Mrs. Nash						
Miss Hollis						
Letter Opener						
Sewing Scissors						
Heavy Vase						

Mark a check for yes and an X for no. Only one check in each row and column of a block.

1. The Church Bazaar Mystery: the killer is Mr. Ivey (Letter Opener, Cellar).
   Mr. Ivey: Letter Opener, Cellar
   Mrs. Nash: Heavy Vase, Bakery
   Miss Hollis: Sewing Scissors, Post Office

Enjoyed these?

Cozy Murder Mystery Logic Puzzles

Whodunit cases to solve with clues and a detective grid, set in a quiet village.

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