

PUZZLEBOMB

ARITHM' & CLUES:
by @outoffnorm2.

ARITHM' & CLUES

All five cryptarithmic puzzles use the same nine letters to represent the digits 0-9, and each word is clued. Alistair says: "The idea is to do the hints, then insert the hidden nones to nines that add."

+					Insects					Concealed	
+					Ransack	×				Information	
					Collection						String
-					Cook					Chuck	
-					Source	+				Changed	
					Fasts						Deleted
					Gentler						Inked
+										Past-botherer	

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

1. Domain, TLD, path (7)
2. Bee food that is extracted in parts from spoiled creatine (6)
3. Admit getting stuck into cheese cake (7)
4. Socialist leader hacked off following discussion (7)
5. Chew twigs there, losing energy and mixing with a bunch of losers? (6,8)

PUZZLEBOMB

WORD LOCK

S	U	P	E	R
G	I	A	N	T
GREAT		GENIUS		
GETS		GRIPES		
EATING		GAUNT		
UNRIPE		PRIEST		
AT		REPAST		

WORD LOCK: by @derek_couzens.

The ten lights at the top each have a letter, and pressing each button toggles the lights with the letters in that word (off or on, depending on their current state). Which buttons must you press to light the whole panel? All the lights are off to start with.

TUBEWORD

TUBEWORD: by @stecks and @apaultaylor, with cryptic clues by @apisclues.

This is a crossword wrapped around a long tube. Across clues are standard cryptic clues, and down clues incorporate (in either order) a clue to the visible three-letter word in the grid below, and a longer word which wraps around the tube, starting in the numbered cell and going downward.

ACROSS

- 1 Those on anonymity network have no right - they're mugs, as far as Riemann is concerned
- 4 A pair of clownfish, second leaving their shelter?
- 7 Send back Slurpee after it's been mixed

DOWN

- 1 Black stuff - stuff that gets on your teeth
- 2 The sun briefly answers
- 3 Diocese notices
- 5 Atomic number of hydrogen gas
- 6 Loose cover for Hawaiian oven in New Zealand
- 8 Type of school ambassador
- 9 Hearing kind of dashes

1				2		3
4	5		6			
7		8			9	

PUZZLEBOMB

THE EX-FACTOR: by @christianp.

THE EX-FACTOR

Before we changed one of the digits in this grid, it was impossible to read a multiple of 7, left-to-right or top-to-bottom. Which digit did we change?

1	3	4	5	2	3
3	3	1	2	5	1
1	5	2	6	1	2
3	4	5	2	6	5
1	5	5	2	4	1
2	4	4	6	1	2

WORD LOCK:
by @derek_couzens.

WORD LOCK

The nine lights at the top each have a letter, and pressing each button toggles the lights with the letters in that word (off or on, depending on their current state). Which buttons must you press to light the whole panel? All the lights are off to start with.

APIS CLUES

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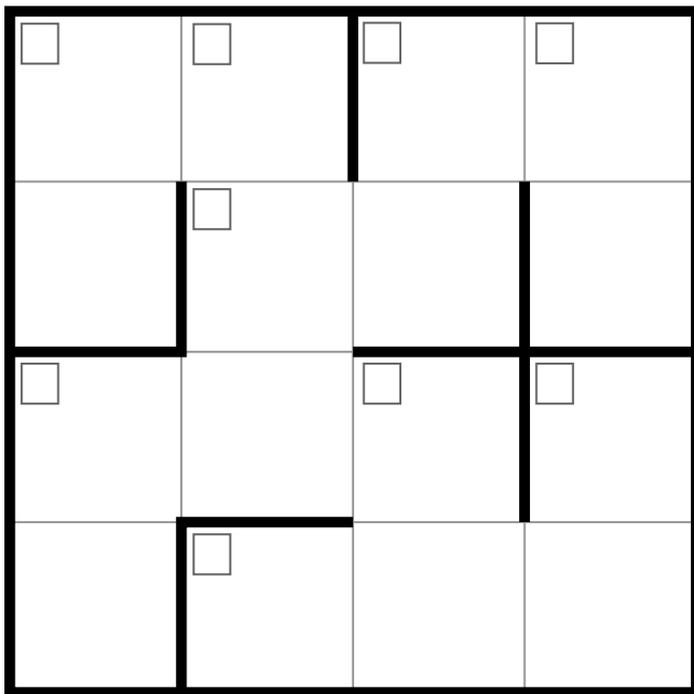
1. Production company's bad actor upset musicians (6)
2. Beat back Johnny, perhaps with piece of sporting equipment (4,4)
3. Three notes put together to make the Star-Spangled Banner, perhaps? (4)
4. Turn blade on her, terrible fate (7)
5. Steps into clubs, perhaps, as required when under very little pressure? (5,4)

PUZZLEBOMB

CROSSWHERE

CROSSWHERE: by @outofthenorm2.

To complete this number-crossword, you first need to find the appropriate position for each entry: they are in the traditional crossword locations, but not numbered in the usual order. For each entry, the number of the clue is the same as the solution digit in that cell. Multiples are always non-trivial.



Across

- 1. Divides another answer.
- 4. (See 2d.)
- 5. Multiple of 5d.
- 6. (See 2d.)
- 8. Sum of the digits is 1d.

Down

- 1. Prime.
- 2. Highest common factor of 4a & 6a.
- 3. (See 7d and 9d.)
- 4. Prime.
- 5. (See 5a.)
- 7. Sum of 3d and 4d.
- 9. Square of 3d.

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

- 1. Spot rooster eating lizard's head (5)
- 2. Trick takes the snitch out of picture (8)
- 3. He's naked, holding something long and slithery (5)
- 4. Mess up the fish (6)
- 5. You into Colin Firth, perhaps? It's Platonic (4)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

GEOMETRO

GEOMETRO: by
@stecks and
@apaultaylor.

You must first solve the anagrams, then use each line to get one line (in one case, a line is not really a line - but there is a connection.) Each group then points to a point. The first letters will spell out a word.

BLOND IGNORED; BARK, YELP, MEW
NETTLES & A CHAPEL; RARE TERN STEW
DATING POND; CRUX FOR DISCO

RIP FUNKY BRAS; KNOT HOGTIES NUNS
EEL MIND; TONER DEBTS

RAW ACNE DATA; JULIENNE'S COLD TWIN
STREWN ITEMS; WATCH IT, I'M MR UK FOREIGN SECRETARY

CHRONIC GRASS; SEQUESTER ECLAIR
SHH, SHE'S BURPED; PLOVER LOTTERIES (not in 2015)

FROST DART; TOTING LETHAL GIN
GET, EAT SALAD; LOTUS RACER

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

1. Rebel leader about to retreat for Buxton, perhaps (5)
2. Unfaithful sportsman to tap queen (5)
3. Calm games expert (5)
4. Singer distributing heavenly food around party (7)
5. Inundate a politician with points at the start (5)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

#CHERYLSSWEETS

#CHERYLSSWEETS: by @christianp.

Hannah brings a bag of sweets to Cheryl's birthday party.

Cheryl: "Interesting! The probability of drawing two red sweets in a row is the reciprocal of the number of the bus Hannah arrived on! Do you know what it is?"

Albert and Bernard: "No, we don't. :("

Cheryl: "Let r be the number of red sweets in the bag, and n the total number of sweets in the bag. There are either 4, 10, 11 or 15 red sweets in the bag, and one of the following equations holds:"

$$n^2 - n - 3080 = 0$$

$$n^2 - n - 1260 = 0$$

$$n^2 - n - 7140 = 0$$

$$n^2 - n - 2070 = 0$$

$$n^2 - n - 9900 = 0$$

$$n^2 - n - 2970 = 0$$

Cheryl tells Albert the number of red sweets in the bag, and Bernard which equation is correct. She then asks them both, "what is the probability of drawing two red sweets out of the bag, one after the other?"

Albert: I don't know, but I know Bernard doesn't know either.

Bernard: I didn't know, but now I do.

Albert: Then I also know.

How many sweets are in the bag, and how many of them are red?

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

1. Brief nap after Italian food - that's glamour (7)
2. Mock GNVQ, perhaps - it's being declared unsuitable (16)
3. Basketball player perhaps has skill, but it's a worthless little thing (10)
4. Beginning to show alopecia? It's not to be emphasised (14)
5. Pulp record could be number one again? (10)

PUZZLEBOMB: assembled by @stecks.

PUZZLEBOMB

SPLIT IT

SPLIT IT: by @stecks, inspired by bit.ly/cpsequence

The grid can be subdivided into a set of six different arithmetic sequences (consisting of regularly spaced numbers), each of which starts in one cell then moves horizontally or vertically to the next number. Each sequence contains at least three numbers, and the sequences all share one property. What is it?

1	3	5	7	7
5	6	4	2	6
4	7	6	4	5
3	4	5	3	2
2	1	4	3	1

Each of the clues leads to a (strange) sentence consisting of three groups of words, each made using the same set of letters (within each answer). Unravel the clues to work out the sentences.

My pig-house made from soft wood -
Enterprise chief engineer's hosiery is
avoiding him in large quantities
(4,4,3 - 6,5,5,6)

Relaxed Swede can't understand why
cars can't perceive axis (4,4,4,4,3,1)

Transport announcers encountered
mean dancer's to-do list
(5,7,3,4,5,6,2-4)

ADO RUN AROUND

ADO RUN AROUND: by @stecks, help from @apaultaylor

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

1. Soil Association start to get into their silly ideas, initially having kept out (5)
2. Last daub on toilet door: 1 out of 4. Write with a computer and it could be A+ (5,4)
3. When stone tools were first used, Penny smashed a cello about with pointless flint core (11)
4. Place where one goes after the end? (4)
5. Drunk either side of lunch, sangria is paradise (7-2)

PUZZLEBOMB

4									
	2	3							
							1		3
								4	
							4		2
	2			4					
					2		1		
	1			3		2			

This is a 4x4 sudoku of 4x4 sudokus; four distinct sudokus are arranged in the grid, using the standard sudoku rules. No two of the smaller sudoku have the same digit in the same cell.

META DOKU

METADOKU:
by @stecks
and @paultaylor,
based on an idea
by @standupmaths

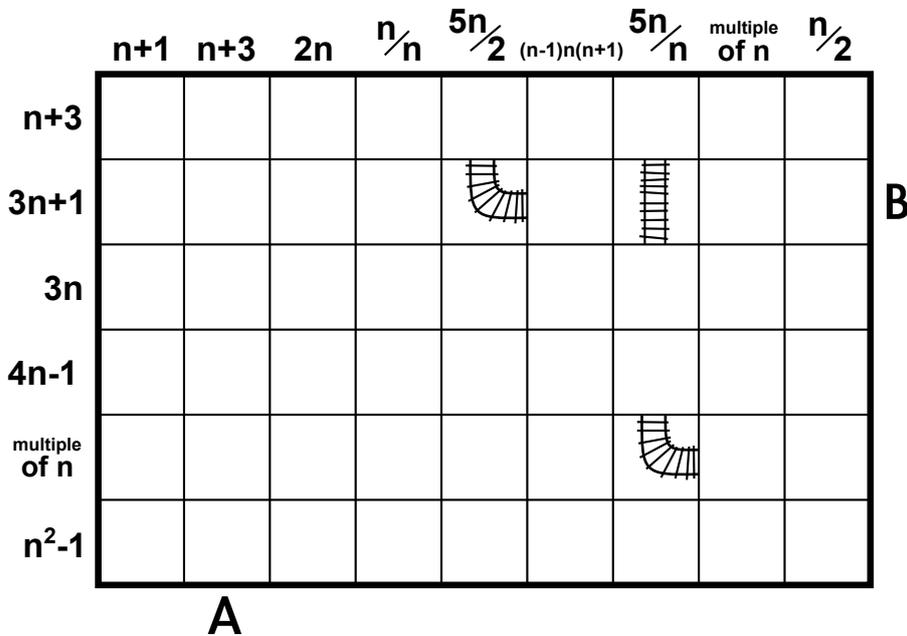
APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

1. One who works with dough taking direction from another? (5)
2. Giant pig twisting round to eat tail (also twisted) (7)
3. Competent to take part in a blessing (4)
4. With a small change, 3 retweet a prince (6)
5. Hey - Richard's a fellow of most excellent fancy (6)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB



The train track runs in one continuous line from A to B and never crosses itself. The numbers at the start of each row and column indicate how many of the squares in that column contain track. Complete the train track.

ACROSS STICKS: by @christianp

ACROSS STICKS

Split this list of words into three lists of equal length, obeying the rule that the first letter of each word needs to be present in the words before and after, and the initials of each list spell a word.

- YELL DAMN SATE
 EMULSIFICATION
 OUTMATCH NEEDFUL
 TAILS BESMIRCH
 LAVATORY CLUE UNCLE
 HOMBRE REHAB
 MATCHBOX VALE FERN
 AFTERLIVES IBEX

BRAIN TRACKS

BRAIN TRACKS:
 by @stecks
 and @apaultaylor

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

1. Girl in drinking establishment twice has arrogance cut short (7)
2. Two leopards eating a Roman Emperor (7)
3. Good king's lances broken in regular weaponry exercises (9)
4. Saint Bernard's head on one side (8)
5. Lucky to lose extremities - that's gospel (4)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

fortune-teller's device
made of 60 Carbon atoms
no-nonsense tactics
arcade game
type of pen
tall glass
covered in tiny mirrors
demolition tool
make a splash?
sport for the blind

observe
enjoy yourself
type of sub
foul in soccer
90s mouse alternative

Solve the clues, to find one more clue running top to bottom.

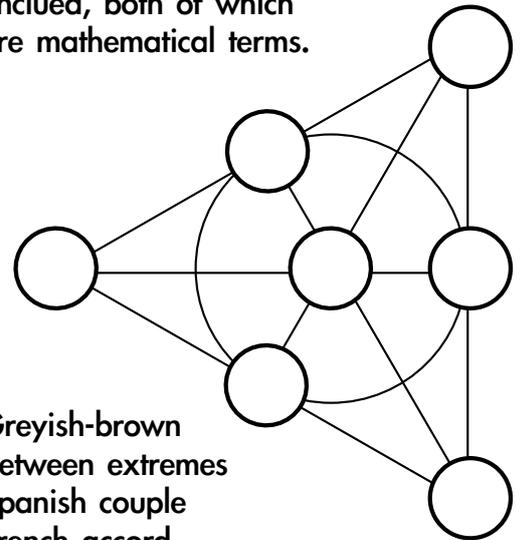
QUIZBALL

QUIZBALL:
by @stecks

PLANE WORD: by @stecks & @christianp

PLANE WORD

Solve the clues, and place one letter into each space so that one word can be made using letters from each line. Two words have been left unclued, both of which are mathematical terms.



- Greyish-brown
- Between extremes
- Spanish couple
- French accord
- Dreaded abbreviation

APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

1. Ice cream, perhaps, after second cake (5)
2. Dishonourable bunny? (7)
3. Wine present in ad-hoc Kahlúa (4)
4. Beg for forest loving to get started (6)
5. One with no toes, perhaps, spun record; blob got into it, dancing (6)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB



AMOYCLBHYSRI	GMDHLROGOGYINIDHRNNE	MSLTENWN	TEIHMRFRCRMS
BTLPNR	GNTPPRCLP	MSSNGVWLS	TEUESPEH
BUSLSRUS	GRMANAA	NBAURERYDTTB	THSNWMN
BXOHORJ	HJJQRJ	NCDNGMTHDS	TLVSOADIM
CCAPEZREKIRRS	HMLN	NGLNTPFTHTR	TNPAIGAD
CNYAE	IDLUBOLJKWV	NHBULQJ	VXEVLWXWLRQFLSKHU
CTGREITIQI	INCPMEISE	NMBRNS	WOCTRDHOO
DFONIOARDDNK	ITSKCSHNDITYORTAMHOSWE	OITEONFEHEE	WIEHPEDWTHD
DZDBLQDPDQJHU	KDOOHOMXMDK	ONGIRRDEER	WKHJULQFK
ECERNNPEARLPHSI	LAEDLTESNY	PGIBAKT	WTHRKNKS
EDXEOHV	LENTIS	PPRHIS	
EEDSTVRRISCEWR	LINTESGNITH	QDLOFOLSSHUV	Category Names:
FDHVDUVKLIW	LNHIELVRRMIEPO	RMVATRAEETR	(6); (10,2,4,4);
FDQZHILALW	LVNLYCNSNNTS	RSTTRKY	(7,6); (11);
FDUROV	MCRERETTSUHSLAICS	RTFCLSNW	(8,7); (4,3,5);
FRUEELNFS	MLLDWN	SMTHNSTPD	(6,4); (10,3,4)
GHFRUDWLRQV	MLLFKNTYR	SMTILTEOE	
GLHKDUG	MRBWRWKHZRUOG	TCMPNMDNGHTCLR	

Each of the strings of letters above has been encoded using one of four methods. They can be split into 8 themed categories, each containing two answers encoded using each method. The encoding methods, and the names of the categories, are both themselves categories. Decode and separate the strings into eight groups.

QUIZMAS

QUIZMAS: by
@stecks and
@apaultaylor

ALI'S CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

1. After second promotion, freeview channel books notable arrival (6)
2. Reffing in a red fez, football initially absent, marshalled elemental opposites (4,3,8)
3. Fashionable turkey accompaniment - lose the stuffing, put duck egg inside (6)
4. Carol and Stew alternately gobbling jellies (6,5)
5. Leader of Klaxons (band) takes gamble on the French/German/American Santa (4,7)

ALI'S CLUES: devised by @gheizwinder.