

PUZZLEBOMB

B A N J O A M B U T T A N A
 E N O U N M U S H R O O M I S
 F I N D E E F T H E B R O O M
 I A L O F A L L V E H E R E O
 D T R U A G A I N U R T O U T
 E R A B Y O U R G R L I L L T
 L U N L S I I N T E L D E K O
 U C S E S P I G G Y A A L A B
 O O U S U A L O P E M H B E E
 F U H I G H N A B A N D U R A
 E N D R U G S T S H I P O B R
 A T A N G E L S S T A N D O M
 R E E S R O H U M I S S T F U
 N R E X B L A N K O O L G E R
 T I L E V A R T M E L B U O D

GET IN THE SEA (7,4)
 From the beginning (3,4,5)
 Invading ones personal space (3,2,2,4,5)
 Oysters wrapped in bacon (6,2,9)
 Ice-cream based dessert (6,5)
 Without a saddle (8)
 Grit one's teeth (4,4)
 Not slouching at all (4,7)
 Cheers! (7,2)
 End relationship (5,2)
 Small round fungus (6,8)
 UK daytime TV gameshow (9)
 Start to play (7,2)
 Go the way you came (6,4)
 Kind of bet in blackjack (6,4)
 Duplicate (6,2)
 Solicit (4,2)
 Something romantics do (4,2,4)
 Response (8)
 Made a mess of things (6,2)
 Put on your gladrags (5,2)
 At the end of one's tether (3,2,2,2,4)
 Psychoactively affected (4,2,5)
 90s tech slogan (5,6)
 Play, not an Oasis song (4,4,2,5)
 Interpret wrongly (13)
 Foiled by failure of planning (7,4,1,6)
 Children's ball game (5,2,3,6)
 Book by Julia Donaldson (4,2,3,5)
 Traffic jam (5-2)
 Achieve nuclear fission (5,3,4)
 Make like Marty McFly (6,4,2,4)
 Retreat (4,4)

Each clue leads to a common phrase or title, and the answers are cryptically represented in the grid in the form of Dingbats (for example, the word ONCE occurring above the words A TIME would represent ONCE UPON A TIME). Find all the phrases in the grid.

WORDING

WORDING:
 by @stecks & @apaultaylor,
 with help from @andrew_taylor

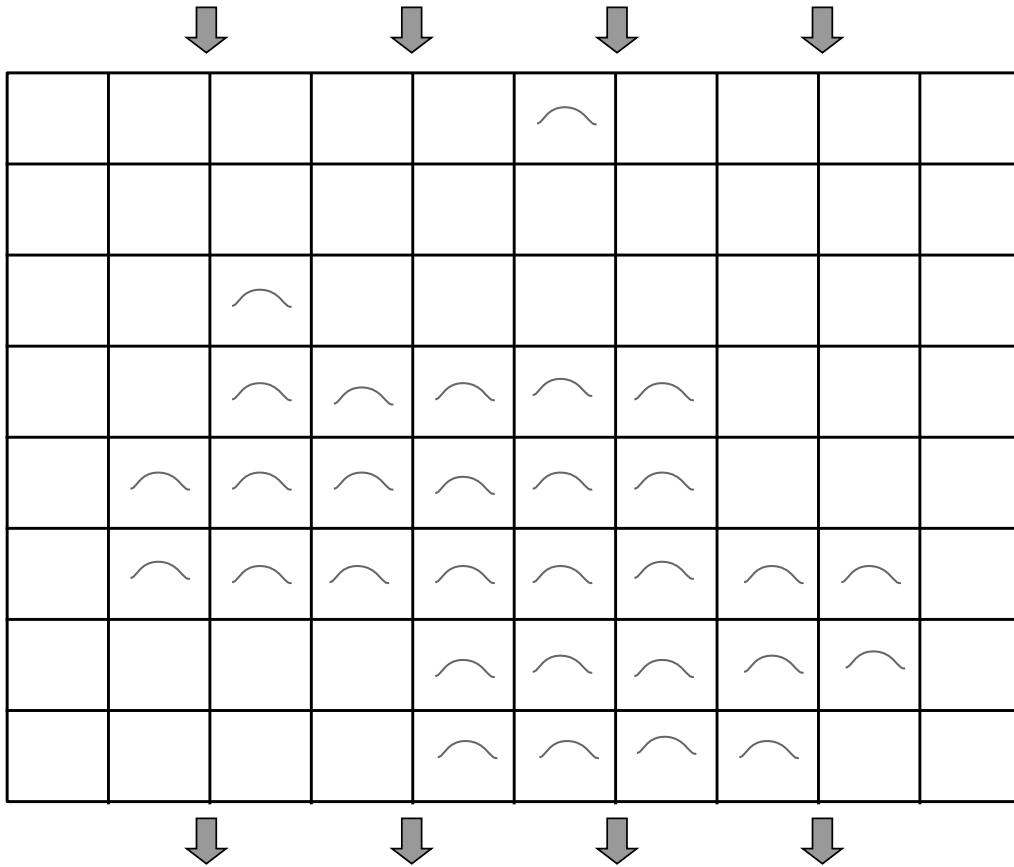
APIS CLUES

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

1. Part of Queen Mary I getting mixed up with ban (5,3)
2. Secretary's French wine (with conformity mark) seen on TV? (5,5)
3. Mississippi Queen, perhaps, as played by Alex Kingston (5,4)
4. From Trek Eight, horrible green creature (6,3,4)
5. Mr Tumnus goes arse over head in nasty jousts, tying up his top-end damned doctor (4,7)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB



**PIPE
DOWN**

PIPE DOWN:
by @stecks &
@apaultaylor, loosely
based on an idea
by @christianp

Water flows into the top of this grid, which contains nine pipes running from top to bottom, always flowing horizontally or downwards. Whenever pipes cross (at right angles), there's a visible bulge in the cover you can see. Every other grid square has one pipe, either running straight, or making a 90 degree turn. Reconstruct the grid.

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. Such a gang would force you to join the media (5)
2. Louis Armstrong swallowing nice little lift (6)
3. Pleasant way of doing things, with cheeky grin and brief nod in greeting (4,7)
4. A third of striped Macleans is not blue (5)
5. Bend - bend in coral, oddly (4)



PUZZLEBOMB

CONCORDANT AVOWAL

CONCORDANT
AVOWAL:
by @stecks &
@apaultaylor

The single-word answers to each set of clues form a 'ladder', in which each rung shares the same vowels or consonants, alternately, as the next word.

played first	_____	nightclothes	_____	confirm	_____
bully	_____	prize	_____	picturesque	_____
around	_____	buzzing	_____	deduction of facts	_____
ethnic	_____	pave	_____	dropper	_____
ado	_____	be situated beyond	_____	hunger	_____
circuits	_____	Canadian police	_____	sprite (old spelling)	_____
vessels	_____	facilities	_____	hairstyle	_____

APIS CLUES

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

1. Film teacake (4)
2. Burn down plant (5)
3. Perhaps Morrison's takes over Northern Irish leaders (4)
4. Perhaps Lancashire natives lose heart and muddle up the last two points (6)
5. Riverside story tells of a store of wealth (4,7)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

$118^2 + m^2 = 138^2 + k^2$
where $100 < m < 200$

$11000a + 100b + 11c$
 $a, b, c < 10$

4-digit palindrome followed by a square that divides it

NUMBER CARP

NUMBER CARP:
by @stecks & @apaultaylor

Multiple of 21569

Multiple of 4339

Multiple of 6323

Product of two primes < 250

Multiple of 30649

Divides $46^3 - 1$

$155^2 + n^2$

Prime multiple of 251

Prime

Multiple of 30979

First 5 digits after decimal point in π with one digit moved

Multiple of 2^x

Multiple of 11

Solve the clues to fill the grid with numbers. All entries are different, run left-to-right or top-to-bottom and none begins with a zero.

To fill the final square, you must notice that the grid can be divided into nine pieces, each containing two three-digit numbers, which have a shared property (one not as common as was previously thought).

APIS CLUES

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

1. Rock Me Amadeus first gets in with regular rebel (6)
2. Bighead beast in crate (3)
3. Four clapped in iron, or one more (4)
4. The art's full of spirit (5)
5. Pull doctor to get anything (7)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42

6, 8, 2, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 2

2001, 2010, 2061, 3001

0, 0, 1, 2, 63, 62, 27, 14, (5)

60, 60, 60, 60, 60, 60, 60, 57, 24

1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 2000, 2001

1985, 1955, 1985, 2015, 1985, 1955, 1885, 1985

1977, 1980, 1983, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2015, 2017, 2019

51, 33, 13, 34, 1, 8, 7, 75, 28, 60, 93, 92, 26, 95, 44, 88, ...

1, 3, 3, 2, 1, 4, 2, 4, 1, 8, 5, 1, 3, 1, 1, 3, 10, 1, 1, 1, 1, 4, 4, 8, 4, 10

28, 28, 28, 24, 10, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 23, 23, 23, 23, 23, 32, 23, 32, 23, 23, 23, 23, 32

SEQUENCE SPOTTER

SEQUENCE SPOTTER: compiled by @stecks and @apaultaylor, with help from some friends

Each sequence must be identified. None of them are mathematical.

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. Composer's musical put before festival of arts and literature, Denmark (6,5)
2. Crude American general (7)
3. Backward monster tucking into duck liver and human heart - effectively, he was a political leader (6,8)
4. Remember to take hat off to Irish nationalist (6,5)
5. Mexican revolutionary spies without number went to ground, eating thin porridge, giving up their last, ruined goal (6,7)

PUZZLEBOMB

		A5		B3		C3		
G	1			3				8 9
H		3			8			
A		9		2				
			7	6			5	
				7		1		
			8			5	3	
						3		2
B	6				1			5
G4	4	8				6		
	F	F2		H1		E		D

This puzzle is actually three puzzles.

First you must solve a Sudoku puzzle using the numbers - filling the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 once each.

Then use the numbers in shaded cells to solve a Shikaku puzzle - partition the grid into square or rectangular boxes, each containing one number which is the area of that box.

Finally you must use the outlines of boxes from the Shikaku puzzle and the outside labels to place a 45° diagonal mirror in one square of each box, so that the lasers emitted by the lettered rectangles into the grid bounce off the number of mirrors given before reaching their targets. Both sides of the mirrors are reflective.

SUSHIKASERS

SUSHIKASERS:
by @stecks
& @gheizwinder

APIS CLUES

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

1. Sell back Volkswagen (4)
2. Creepy thing that scans the web? (6)
3. Hit spot (5)
4. Light meal cut short for football teams? (7)
5. Legal agreement binding to one on instrument (9)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB

24	62	16			87	15
	24	70	28		32	
19	9	42	1	63	12	86
		30			26	50
33	17			33		

MODOKU

Fill the grid with the numbers 1-35, using the clues given, so that each row contains 7 numbers each with a different remainder when you divide by 7, and each column contains 5 numbers each with a different remainder when you divide by 5.

The numbers in each of the dotted regions add up to the indicated total.

MODOKU:
by @stecks

APIS CLUES

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

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

1. He washed his hands, having made a mess of spoilt petunia (7,6)
2. A lucky little card turned over by Count (7)
3. Star chess player, one who was wrongly imprisoned (6,5)
4. Leveler mixed up with a shadowy assassin (3,6,6)
5. Spy emoticon at end of Orwell's first (6,6)

PUZZLEBOMB

MODUOKU

MODUOKU:
by @stecks &
@apaultaylor

	a	b	c	d	e
f	ef	11			
g	AF				20
h		22		AH-2	

	A	B	C	D	E
F	19	ag	26	bh	bf
G		9		21	4
H	20				

Fill each grid with the numbers 1-15, using the clues given, so that each row contains 5 numbers each with a different remainder when you divide by 5, and each column contains 3 numbers each with a different remainder when you divide by 3.

The numbers in each of the dotted regions add up to the indicated total, which may be a reference to one of the other entries.

ACROSS

- 1 Hero's other half not a person making advances? (6)
- 6 Demonstrate how son goes first (4)
- 9 Can gadget wind rope around space? (6)
- 10 Ditched pub, staying in bed (6)
- 11 Obsessively attentive to details of regular rainfall (4)
- 12 Alternative to cremation? Burn it all endlessly! (6)
- 14 Most of long period of time (4)
- 16 Clear out Irish county (5)
- 18 Cooked tapas food (5)
- 20 It's counterproductive on men's bald heads (4)
- 22 Changes parts of church for audience (6)
- 23 Like some magazines uncovered making a profit? The opposite (4)
- 25 Person who's first member of double act with Bob to relinquish top position (6)
- 26 Emails up to the back teeth? (6)
- 27 Go out with May second? (4)
- 28 More than one relative newcomer at first replacing head of sections (6)

DOWN

- 1 Float by policeman (5)
- 2 A pig and eel differently living close to the ground (7)
- 3 New injury in left side when they attack silently? (6)
- 4 One who gives entrance new interior (5)
- 5 Drive off majority of contents of red wine sauce? (6)
- 6 Growling noise when Carroll's foot squashes tail of his strange animal (5)
- 7 That man has Nando's starter and chicken (3)
- 8 Idiot with friend (5)
- 13 Role ham ruined was part in Jumper? (7)
- 15 Fish caught by Myanmar liner (6)
- 17 Like a vessel returning from Arctic, it roamed (6)
- 18 Secretary, next to what leader did, seemed insignificant (5)
- 19 Savings account's funds briefly raised (5)
- 20 Go around with fancy cleric in part (5)
- 21 More than one flyer offers a bit of raucousness inside (5)
- 24 Card game, or a collection of several? (3)

Clue answers clash in four cells. Answers of a type must be left intact, in accordance with a rule governing the altered entries.

XWD

XWD: by @apaultaylor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			9				
10					11		
				12			13
14				15	16		17
18			19		20		21
22							
23		24		25			
	26						
27				28			

PUZZLEBOMB

Find the words in the grid, but be careful - not all of the words from the list will be visible at a time, and after you find each word, delete or shade the letters you've used. Subsequent words may span the resulting gap.

T	R	A	S	T	C	O	K	F	S	A	R
E	N	D	C	R	O	R	U	R	E	S	E
S	T	R	I	A	N	D	G	L	R	I	U
L	I	S	E	I	T	E	R	O	I	O	W
C	O	N	S	E	C	U	T	I	E	V	E
C	H	A	T	N	I	R	N	W	S	M	N

- | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| AIM | COURSE | ORDER | SERIES | TRACK |
| CHAIN | FLOW | ROW | SET | TRAIN |
| CONSECUTIVE | LIST | RUN | STRING | |

ORDSEARCH

ORDSEARCH
by @stecks

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. Claim US rebuilt Phantom, perhaps (7)
2. Stars in festival of unknowns (6)
3. Length of time after some function? (4)
4. Tacky superhero appears in Syria (6)
5. Failed badly to avoid a subject (5)

PUZZLEBOMB

The grid is guarded by robots, who change the direction they're facing every second. Can you find a way through the grid without being spotted? You must move one space per second, horizontally or vertically.


There are two types of robots. They move from their starting positions as you step onto the grid. You can't stand where a robot is.

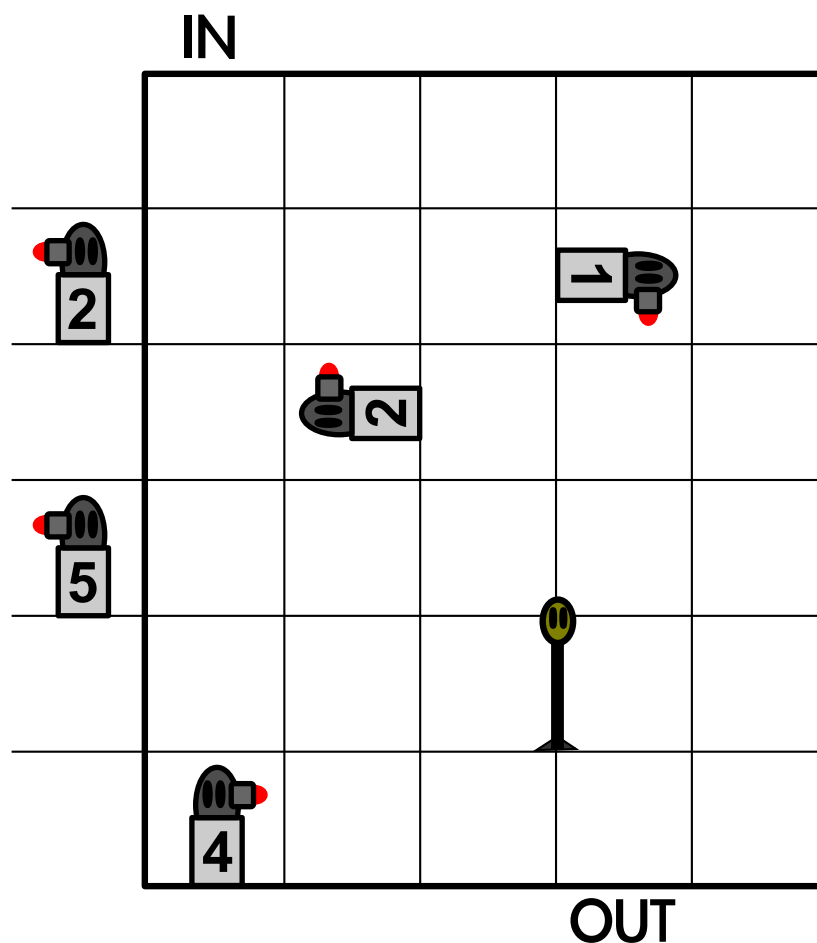
SENTRYBOT

 Can see n spaces ahead

Flips direction each second 

WALLBOT

Does nothing; You can't go through it 



BASILISK

BASILISK
by @stecks,
inspired by
@danthat's
The Swindle

APIS CLUES

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

1. Second present chess player is an extremely fair person (4,5)
2. Poet wrecked eco-glider (9)
3. Steward's son is distant, on a satellite (7)
4. A warm knit modelled by author (4,5)
5. East End gangster's filthy hideout (5,3)

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.



PUZZLEBOMB

QUIZBOW

QUIZBOW:
by @stecks

Aptitude for gardening (5,5)

Cowardly person (6-5)

Have a night out (5,3,4,3)

Invalid comparison (6,3,7)

Of highest quality (4,6)

Offer an extravagant

welcome (4,3,3,3,6)

Overly optimistic view (4-6,10)

Path to adventure (6,5,4)

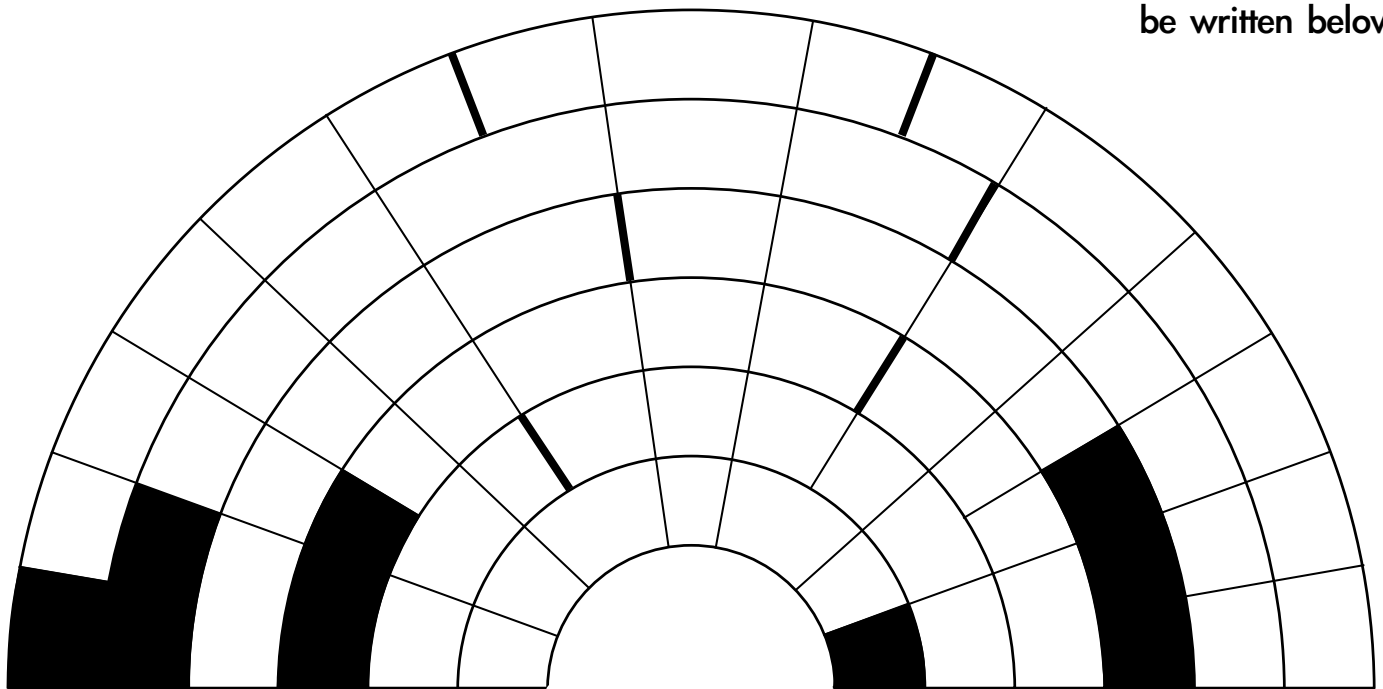
Shepherd's delight (3,3,2,5)

Undeveloped area around city (5,4)

Unexpectedly (3,2,3,4)

Weaponised herbicide (5,6)

Fill in the indicated word from each clue answer in the correct arc. An artist will then be visible, and the title of their song, describing what the answers share, should be written below.



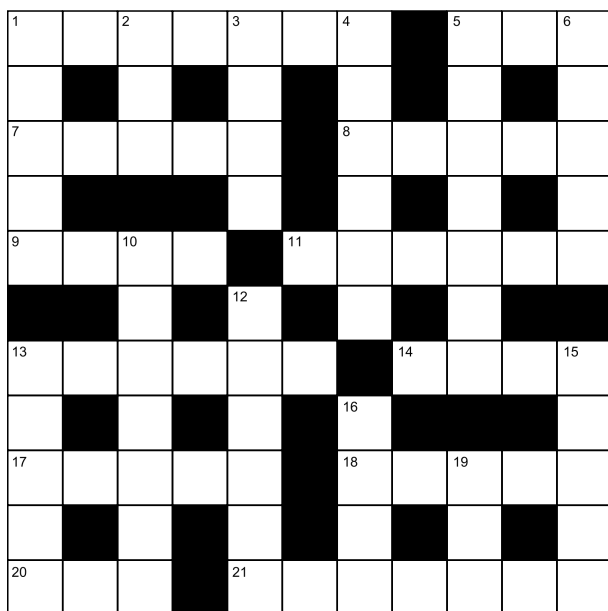
ANSWER:

PUZZLEBOMB

CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD:
by @stecks &
@apaultaylor

Each clue contains three definitions to words which nest inside each other - one letter can be added or removed to get from the middle word, which is the grid entry, to the shorter and longer words.



Across

- 1. More inadequate pants that are hot to trot (7)
- 5. Get rid of fly resting in that place (3)
- 7. Look - Saint one's throwing (5)
- 8. Measly cutting line isn't able to (5)
- 9. Frost and dirt along edge (4)
- 11. One disobeying instruction to put off dictionary? (6)
- 13. Melville hero - it's a type of tank (6)
- 14. Hit comedy film's irritating child (4)
- 17. Unknown name for where baby is - that's negative (5)
- 18. Walk to the helicopter, quickly! (5)
- 20. Before/about a lake (3)
- 21. Lived with wooden rods, got more intense (7)

Down

- 1. One petitioning for excellent meal (5)
- 2. Handle back of boat for short length (3)
- 3. Observe fixedly the large area and weight of the bowl (4)
- 4. Uninvited party attendee that demolishes bit of bacon (6)
- 5. Hotter, rougher bowler (7)
- 6. Shred of potato in gallery (5)
- 10. Write off woodwork, joining recess with rigor (7)
- 12. Was born, deposited and defeated in computer game (6)
- 13. Throw to the sky - past the edge of the roof (5)
- 15. Look at the sign, walk on and pass between (5)
- 16. Moist substance consumed: meat spread (4)
- 19. He used Ziggy - every drop (3)

H I A M B I S A N N X
 N Q L M U K Y L G Z T
 U L H J H X V F L M D
 U S O T B Z S O I Q E
 X F Z I J M F C F V W
 F S M K W A F A A L P
 M R M S C M W X A M E
 W D V A J V B D L M Z
 F B C V I B U C D Z P
 P Q V F W G H A O G I
 A P I Z S E F C M Z E

CRYPTMAS

CRYPTMAS: by
@christianp

The wordsearch grid contains some Christmas words. Clues run either left-to-right or top-to-bottom. BUT: they've been encrypted! For each clue N+1, the grid is Caesar encrypted using the first letter of clue N as the key. Encrypting using A doesn't change anything, B shifts on by 1, C by 2 and so on. For example, the first row of the grid when decrypted with the key EXAMPLE would all be shifted by 4 letters, since they're all encoded with E:

L M E Q F M W E R R B

The first clue is "CHRISTMAS". Find the next clue, and the next, and so on until you find CHRISTMAS in the grid. As a bonus, each clue has a RED HERRING somewhere else in the grid.