

Puzzler

CRACKING CROSSWORDS

**Please enjoy these sample pages
from Puzzler Cracking Crosswords.**

**A subscription to
Puzzler Cracking Crosswords
is the best way to ensure
you never miss this
brilliant magazine, delivered
direct to your door!**

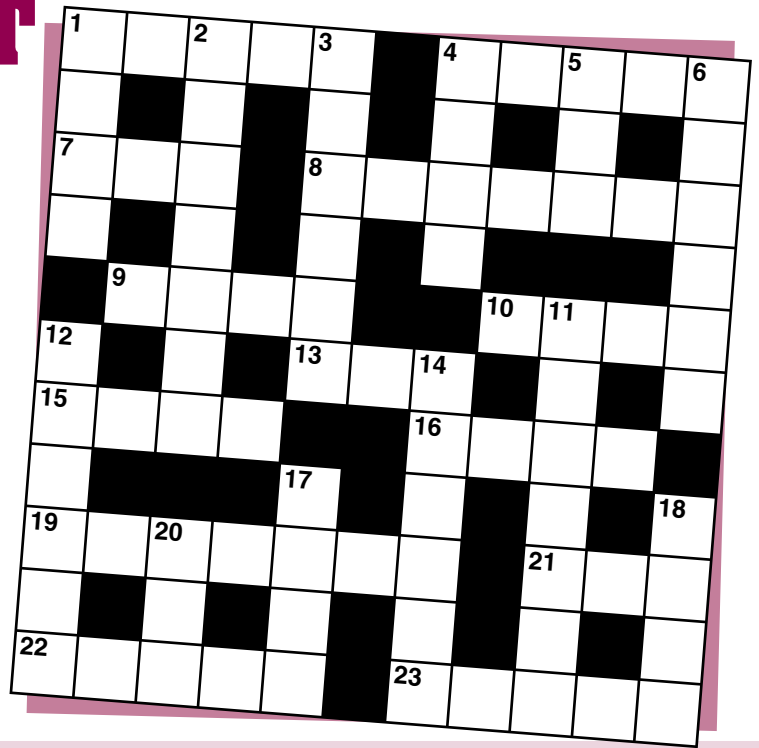
STRAIGHT TO IT

ACROSS

- 1 Garden ornament (5)
- 4 Fills (a suitcase) (5)
- 7 Fizzy drink (3)
- 8 Unprincipled (7)
- 9 Richard ____, *Pretty Woman* actor (4)
- 10 Repetition of sound (4)
- 13 Couple, pair (3)
- 15 Too, as well (4)
- 16 *You're So ____, Carly Simon* hit (4)
- 19 Organiser (7)
- 21 Sports gear (3)
- 22 Sister's daughter (5)
- 23 Archery ring (5)

DOWN

- 1 Rubberneck (4)
- 2 Treat tyrannically (7)
- 3 Banished to another place (6)
- 4 Another name for the cougar (4)
- 5 Crikey! (3)
- 6 Rarely, hardly ever (6)
- 11 Game scored in runs (7)
- 12 Take place, occur (6)
- 14 Cook for too long (6)
- 17 ____, Hathaway, *The Intern* star (4)
- 18 Mix with a spoon (4)
- 20 *Diamonds ____, Forever*, Bond film (3)



SKELETON

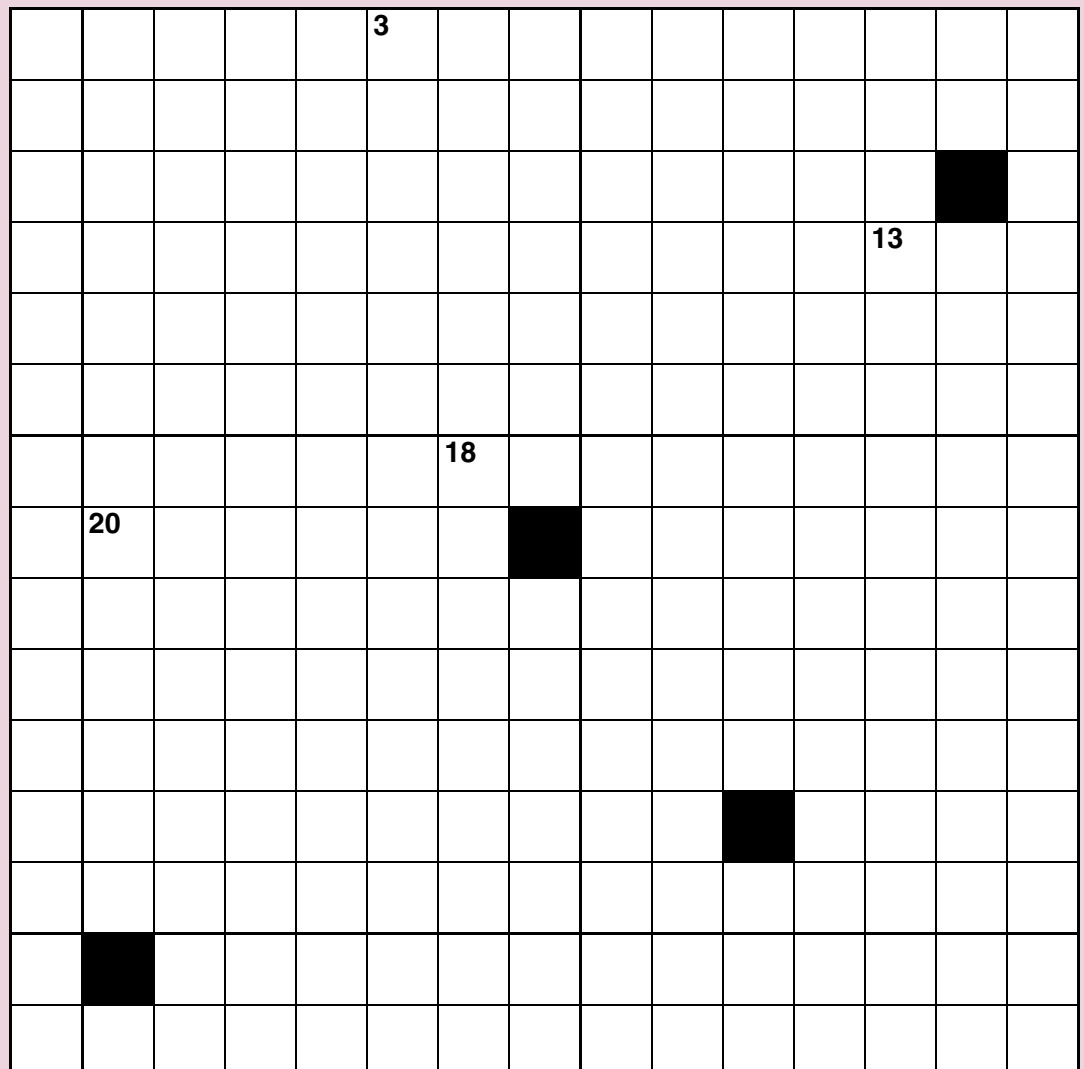
To crack this crossword you need to fill in the black squares as well as the answers. The finished puzzle pattern is fully symmetrical, so you can work out the position of some more black squares straight away to get started!

ACROSS

- 1 Hand-held percussion instruments
- 4 Side by side
- 9 Dwindling
- 10 Armed sea force
- 12 China's continent
- 14 Fortress, castle
- 16 Document case
- 17 Brought up
- 18 Wager
- 20 Settle cosily
- 21 Interim ruler
- 23 Arid
- 26 Disclaimer
- 28 Drastic
- 29 Crafty
- 30 Keeps pestering
- 32 Newcastle's river
- 33 Root out and destroy
- 34 Frankfurt's country
- 35 Water main outlet

DOWN

- 1 Enlarge
- 2 ____, Murray, tennis player
- 3 Nanny (2 words)
- 5 Water heater
- 6 Sicilian volcano
- 7 In the direction of
- 8 Cancel out, nullify
- 11 Firing artillery
- 13 Unusually
- 14 Put in the middle
- 15 Groups of football divisions
- 18 Flower patch
- 19 Give it a go
- 22 Plaiting, coiling
- 24 Dried grape
- 25 Young hare
- 27 Keep
- 28 Sweet-tasting
- 31 Appear
- 32 Rush, zoom



General Knowledge

Take the general knowledge challenge!

ACROSS

- 1 Beetle sacred to the Ancient Egyptian religion (6)
- 5 ___ Doll, 1964 hit for the Four Seasons (3)
- 7 ___ Cantona, French former footballer (4)
- 8 Bill ____, bird-watching ex-Goodie (5)
- 9 Device attached to a computer (10)
- 12 Island where Napoleon was exiled (4)
- 14 ___ Turner, *Poldark* star (5)
- 16 Range of hills south-west of Edinburgh (9)
- 23 People from Dallas or Houston, eg (6)
- 24 ___ of the *Tiger*, 1982 hit for Survivor (3)
- 25 1978 chart-topper by Brotherhood of Man (6)
- 26 1996 kidnap drama starring Mel Gibson (6)
- 30 Singer who had a hit with *Left Outside Alone* (9)
- 34 Group who sang with Van Morrison (4)
- 35 ___ Rattigan, *The Winslow Boy* author (7)
- 37 ___ Stefani, lead singer with No Doubt (4)
- 39 Colleague of Dancer, Dasher and Blitzen (6)
- 41 Experts on the Earth's physical structure (10)
- 46 Indonesian dish made of fermented soya beans (6)
- 48 Assam's country (5)
- 49 First name of comedian Mr Abbot (4)
- 50 2000 Eminem hit on which Dido sang (4)
- 51 ___ for *Elephants*, 2011 film starring Reese Witherspoon and Robert Pattinson (5)
- 52 From Florence or Pisa, eg (6)

DOWN

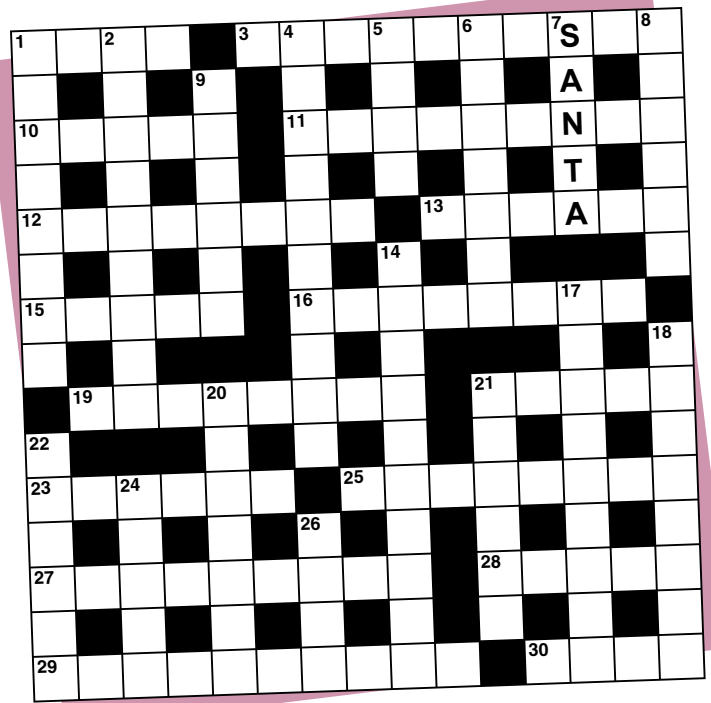
- 2 Surname of the couple who discovered radium (5)
- 3 Nina ____, perfume company (5)
- 4 Founder of the Salvation Army (5)
- 5 ___ Cup, prestigious golf tournament (5)
- 6 Pictured 1984 film about small monsters (8)
- 10 Bone from which Eve was supposedly created (3)
- 11 ___ Wallach, actor in *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (3)
- 13 College near Aldwych (inits)(3)
- 14 ___ Lovelace, Byron's daughter (3)
- 15 Engineering town between West Bromwich and Halesowen (6)



- 16 One of the twelve Apostles (5)
- 17 US president brought down by Watergate (5)
- 18 Musical direction meaning 'slowly' (5)
- 19 John ____, ex-Beatle who married Yoko Ono (6)
- 20 Member of an ancient people of Scotland (4)
- 21 ___ Bolan, singer with T Rex (4)
- 22 Famous Spanish artist (4)
- 27 Timber tree of the olive family (3)
- 28 ___ Amstell, comedian (5)
- 29 Annual car exhibition (5,4)
- 31 1974 Charles Aznavour hit (3)
- 32 Dwight D Eisenhower's nickname (3)
- 33 US pharmacist (8)
- 36 Book by Bernard MacLaverly made into a film starring Helen Mirren (3)
- 38 ___ Bentley, *The Hunger Games* actor (3)
- 40 Steve ____, former Olympic middle-distance champion (5)
- 42 *Law & ___*, crime drama series (5)
- 43 Creative form associated with Bridget Riley (2,3)
- 44 Cader ____, mountain in Snowdonia (5)
- 45 ___ Peake-Jones, Raquel in *Only Fools and Horses* (5)
- 47 Greek god with a goat's legs and feet (3)

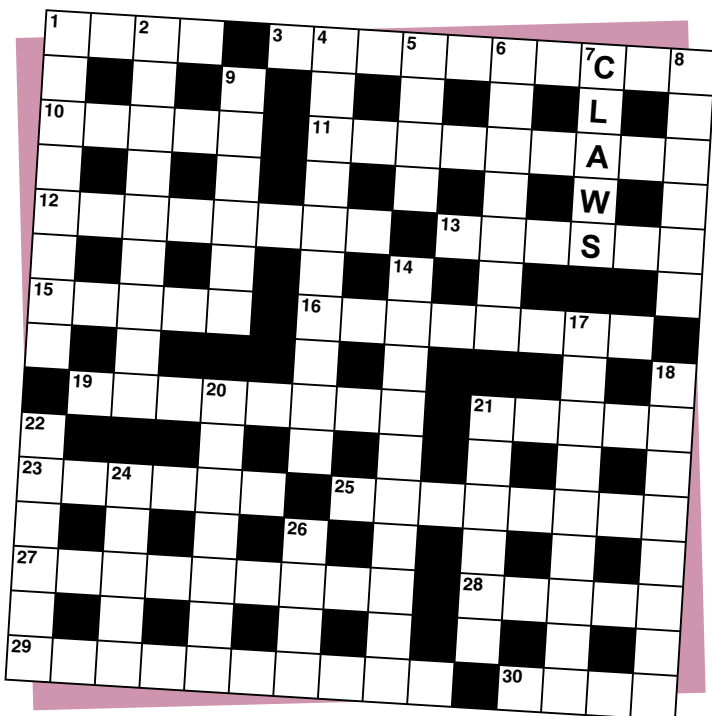
ACROSS

- 1 Group working together ● Casserole (4)
- 3 In a way that puts others first (10) ● Band together, combine efforts (4,6)
- 10 Hospital employee ● Colour of army uniforms (5)
- 11 Get a move on (4,5) ● Brotherly (9)
- 12 Dependence, trust ● Business relations (8)
- 13 Pencil-mark remover ● Popular greenhouse plant (6)
- 15 Droll ● The pre-20 years (5)
- 16 Held in regard ● Go through or across (8)
- 19 Life possession on a property (8) ● Ordinary vehicle modified for racing (5,3)
- 21 Swarm ● By yourself (5)
- 23 Imp ● Come, show up (6)
- 25 *Brokeback* ____, 2005 film ● Flower also known as 'old man's beard' (8)
- 27 Mythical ● Heavy weapons (9)
- 28 Innocent of the world ● Wedding official (5)
- 29 Material used for polishing and smoothing (5,5) ● Garment often overprinted with slogans (10)
- 30 Fruit skin ● Parched and dry like a desert (4)



DOUBLE TROUBLE DOUBLE TROUBLE

The clues for these two crosswords have been muddled up! Can you work out which answer goes in which grid and crack them both?



DOWN

- 1 Spanish girl (8) ● Dismantle, remove (4,4)
- 2 Act of joining a club (9) ● Fine white material used for statues (9)
- 4 Duty, responsibility ● Productivity, competence (10)
- 5 Shaving froth ● 12:00hrs (4)
- 6 Celebrate (a feast day) ● Building that is offensive to view (7)
- 7 ~~Scratches, mauls~~ ● Father Christmas (5)
- 8 Colour of a New York taxi ● Magnificent, wonderful (6)
- 9 __ Cricketer, *Pinocchio* character ● Dishes of skewered meat (6)
- 14 Poker buff, eg (4,6) ● Categorise too simplistically (10)
- 17 Bringing to mind ● Frame for carrying the wounded (9)
- 18 Have your heart in the right place (4,4) ● Relaxed, unhurried (8)
- 20 Courteously ● No longer alive or in existence (7)
- 21 Chickpea paste ● Cover over a shop's front (6)
- 22 Old Testament songs ● Get by, cope (6)
- 24 Scamp ● Do up your laces again (5)
- 26 Absolutely huge ● Sliding frame in a window (4)

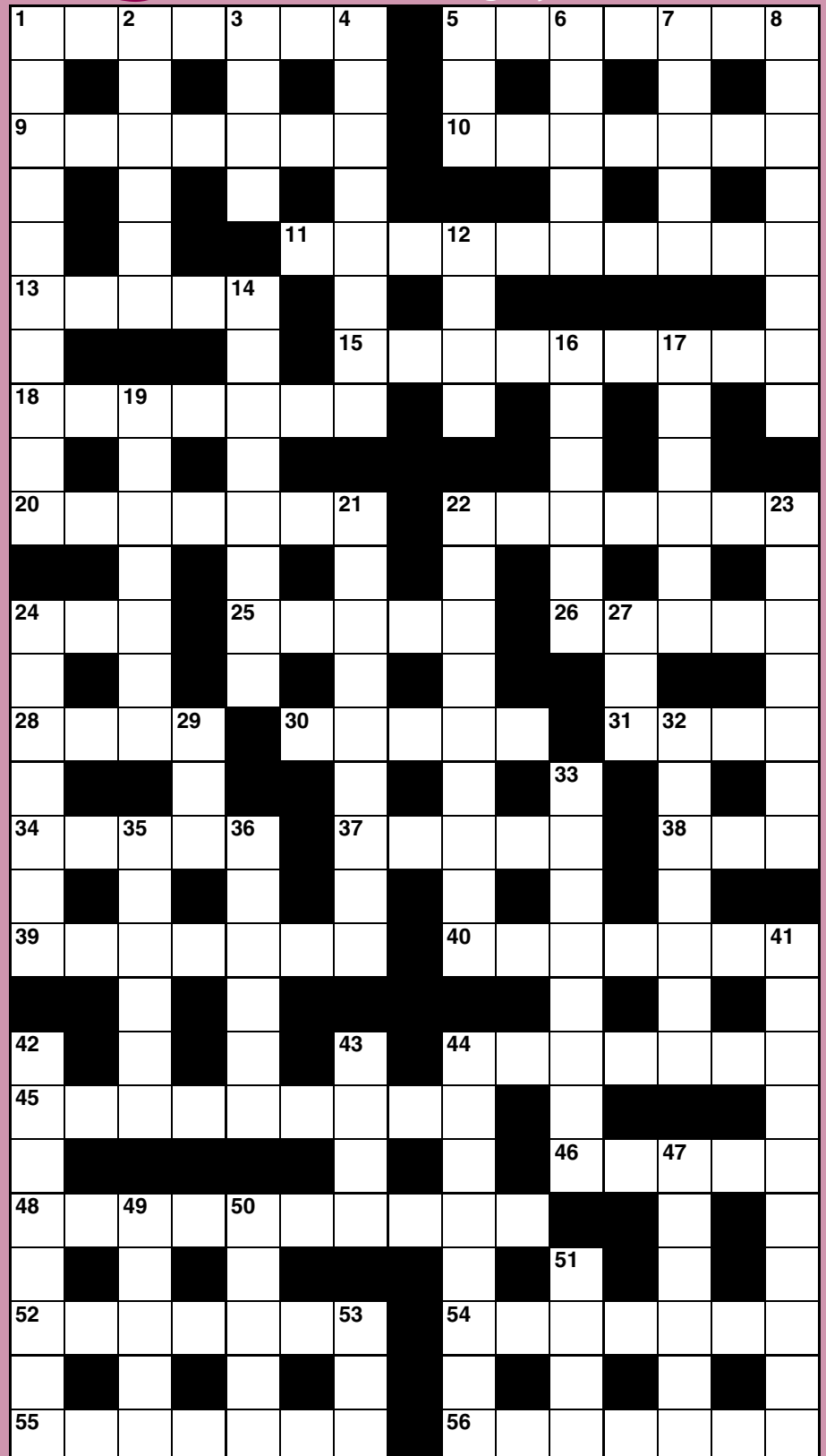
ACROSS

- 1 Second lease on life (7)
- 5 Nickname for a helicopter (7)
- 9 Sofa pillow (7)
- 10 Beer-drinking vessel (7)
- 11 Over-particular (10)
- 13 Bishop's high hat (5)
- 15 Modern way of facial hair removal (9)
- 18 In a loud way (7)
- 20 Subside (4,3)
- 22 Medieval farm labourer (7)
- 24 Chalice (3)
- 25 Vacant (property) (5)
- 26 Act of stealing (5)
- 28 Go by bicycle (4)
- 30 Calm (5)
- 31 Fish 'lung' (4)
- 34 Tinge (5)
- 37 Ground meat (5)
- 38 Earnings (3)
- 39 Go in again (2-5)
- 40 Instalment (7)
- 44 Celtic's soccer rivals (7)
- 45 Four-letter word (9)
- 46 Jeans fabric (5)
- 48 Finder (10)
- 52 Spiced (7)
- 54 Animosity (3-4)
- 55 Ocular examination (3,4)
- 56 Folk tales, fables (7)

DOWN

- 1 Start again (10)
- 2 Hamper (6)
- 3 Horse-guiding strap (4)
- 4 Fiancée's pre-wedding night out (3,5)

- 5 Bed with bars around (3)
- 6 ___ up, confessed (5)
- 7 Elton John's instrument (5)
- 8 Give a fresh look to (8)
- 12 Layer of grass (4)
- 14 Closing section of a book (8)
- 16 Well acquainted (with) (2,4)
- 17 New group of pupils (6)
- 19 Weak, tasteless (7)
- 21 Employee who works a forty-hour week (4-5)
- 22 Childish sulkiness (9)
- 23 Completely, entirely (7)
- 24 Museum official (7)
- 27 Male pig (3)
- 29 And so forth (abbrev)(3)
- 32 Make better (7)
- 33 Left your job (8)
- 35 Difference in years (3,3)
- 36 Whole, complete (6)
- 41 Medicinal crystals (5,5)
- 42 Problem, or pain in the skull (8)
- 43 Queue (4)
- 44 Acting as a cure (8)
- 47 Thought, idea (6)
- 49 Wild shopping trip (5)
- 50 Black or green fruit (5)
- 51 Banner, pennant (4)
- 53 Speck (3)



SKELETON

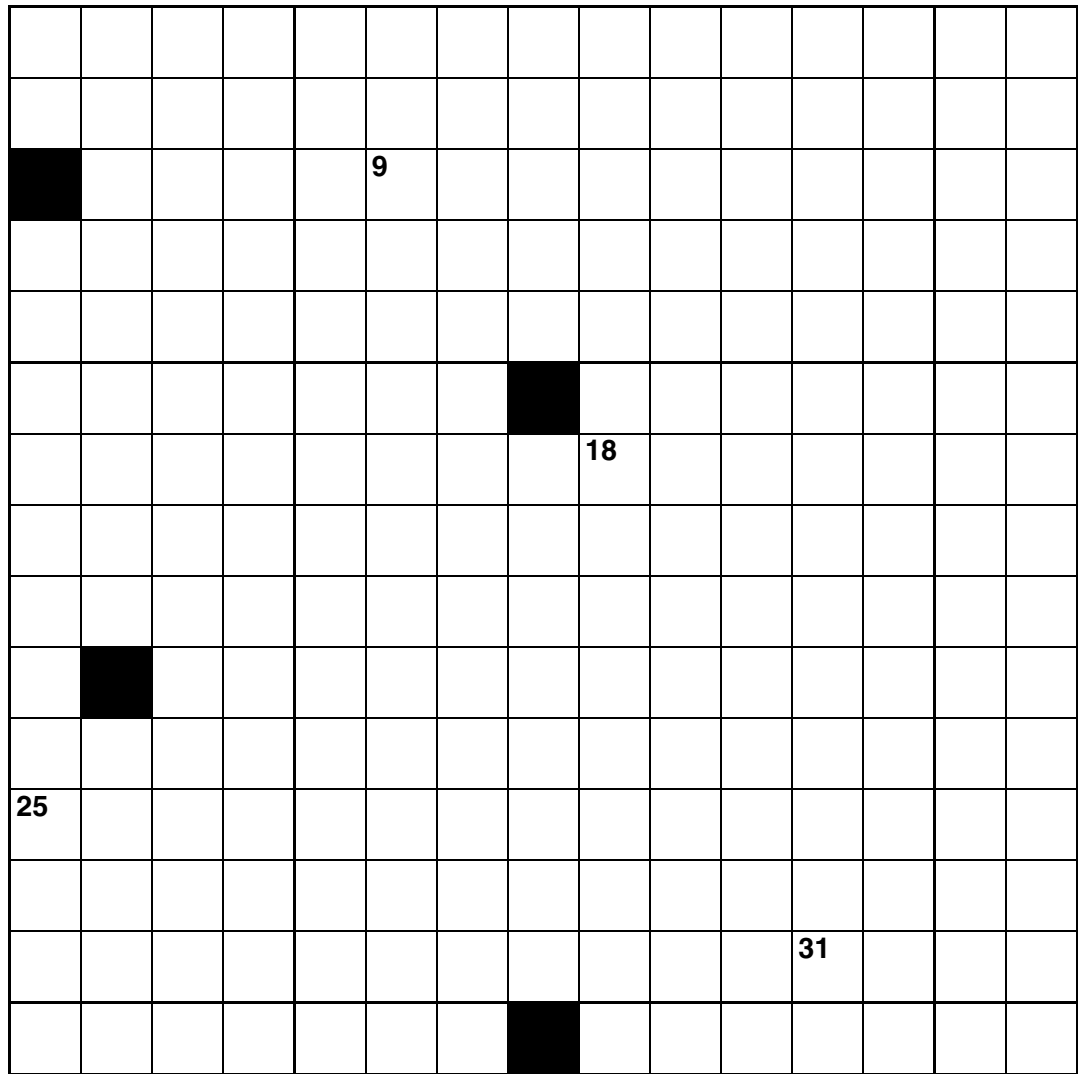
To crack this crossword you need to fill in the black squares as well as the answers. The finished puzzle pattern is fully symmetrical, so you can work out the position of some more black squares straight away to get started!

ACROSS

- 2 Liver secretion
- 4 Deer's foot
- 7 Use your teeth
- 8 Obligation
- 9 Long neckwear item
- 10 Of a town
- 12 Deep-pile fabric
- 14 Arctic wind
- 17 Restricted
- 18 Nervous strain
- 19 Treats
- 21 Overcharged
- 23 Wildly ecstatic
- 25 Walked
- 27 Gluey mud
- 29 Gradient, incline
- 30 Spouts (of water)
- 31 Sewer rodents
- 32 Looked over
- 33 Inclined access

DOWN

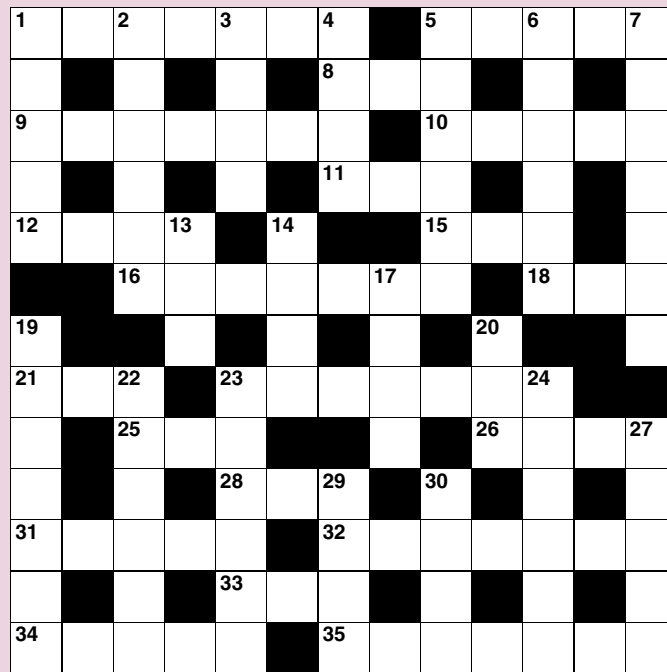
- 1 Small car
- 2 Make a start
- 3 Thrilled
- 4 Gather in crops
- 5 Nonsense, silly behaviour
- 6 Soapy bubbles
- 10 Stylish
- 11 Was made up of
- 12 Bountiful
- 13 Klaxon
- 15 Cured meat
- 16 Hoist
- 19 Enthral
- 20 Trained
- 21 Swimming shoe!
- 22 Aristocratic title
- 23 Closely packed
- 24 Drink noisily
- 26 Assert
- 28 Glove used in baseball



PIGGY in the MIDDLE

ACROSS

- 1 Dry ___ Chestnut (7)
- 5 For ___ Blind (5)
- 8 Inside ___ Spoken (3)
- 9 Emergency ___ Strip (7)
- 10 Political ___ Tour (5)
- 11 Tree ___ Energy (3)
- 12 Ejector ___ Belt (4)
- 15 White ___ Detector (3)
- 16 Marriage ___ Fee (7)
- 18 Brazil ___ Cutlet (3)
- 21 Soft ___ Deer (3)
- 23 Film ___ Park (7)
- 25 Jet ___ Lodge (3)
- 26 Crazy ___ Club (4)
- 28 North ___ Horse (3)
- 31 Prickly ___ Soap (5)
- 32 Christmas ___ Jack (7)
- 33 Daily ___ Sparingly (3)
- 34 All ___ Upon (5)
- 35 Lavender ___ Candles (7)



Can you work out which word can link each pair of words? For example, Piggy _ Holiday would give you the answer BANK, as in piggy bank and bank holiday!

DOWN

- 1 Ground ___ Over (5)
- 2 Hardy ___ Rainfall (6)
- 3 Coach ___ Switch (4)
- 4 Sleeping ___ Body (4)
- 5 Barn ___ Diet (6)
- 6 First ___ Plus (6)
- 7 Virtual ___ Check (7)
- 13 Baking ___ Soldier (3)
- 14 Root ___ Garden (4)
- 17 Pound ___ Operated (4)
- 19 Ear ___ Major (7)
- 20 Boot ___ Spinner (3)
- 22 Industrial ___ Agency (6)
- 23 Toilet ___ Paper (6)
- 24 Sky ___ Fuel (6)
- 27 Back ___ Up (5)
- 29 Tennis ___ High (4)
- 30 Take ___ Worn (4)

Continuous

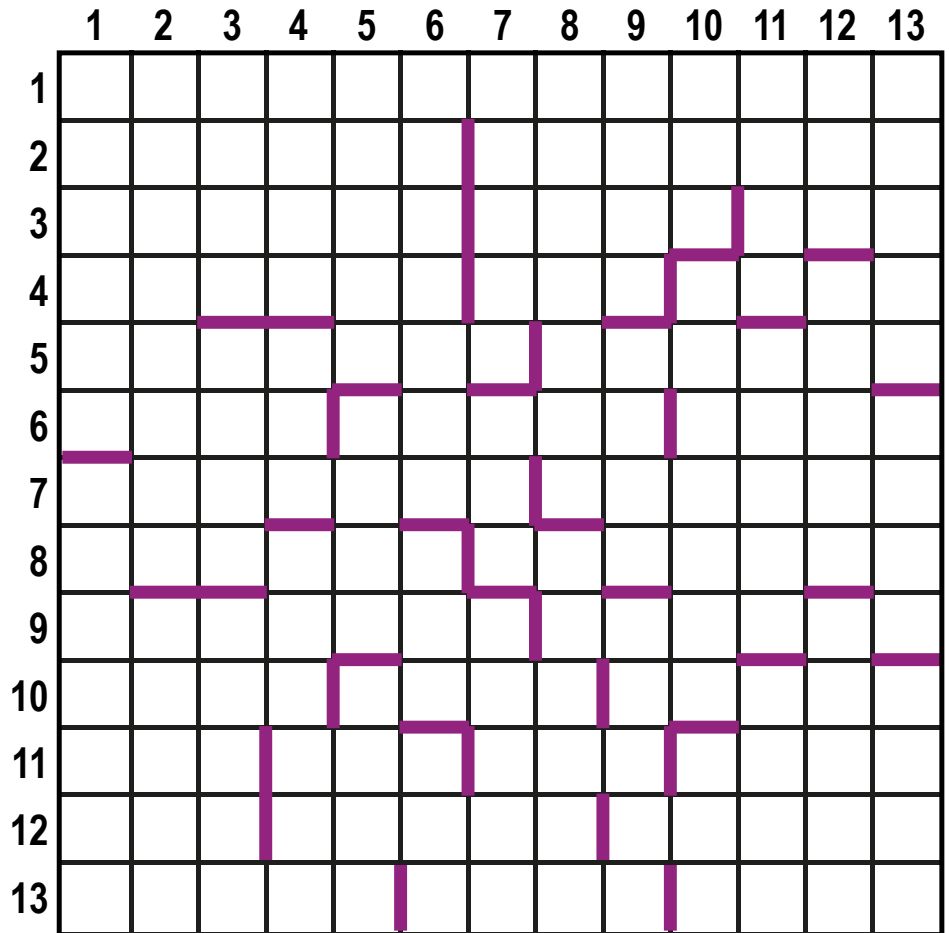
In this crossword there are no black squares, only bars marking the ends of words. So, once complete, you'll have a grid full of letters – if you can crack it! :)

ACROSS

- 1 It overlooks Cape Town (5,8)
- 2 Reach a destination; haughtily
- 3 Part of a flower; tight; British tree
- 4 Rent-payer; tavern; photograph
- 5 Unpredictable; paying with coins (2,4)
- 6 Clock face; fashion; dull pain
- 7 Light rifle; substance
- 8 Square root of 121; fingerless gloves
- 9 Kept out of the way; toboggan
- 10 Unspecified amount; apple skin; pointer
- 11 Frozen water; court; drink like a dog; certain
- 12 Annoy persistently; pixie-like; burn slightly
- 13 Blinding light; lose colour; require

DOWN

- 1 Sampled the flavour; stopping
- 2 Like a major road; expressing opinions clearly
- 3 Husks of cereal grain; unusual; last Greek letter
- 4 Capital of Peru; white vestment; TV watcher
- 5 Occasion; contended; long rod
- 6 Refer to briefly; born as; cancelled
- 7 Pub's drinks dispenser; jewel; ___ Smith, cook
- 8 Radioactive metallic element; offshore territory
- 9 Part of speech; tidy; temporary mental failure
- 10 Sound of disapproval; disperse; transgress
- 11 Main port in Yemen; performed on stage; mysterious symbol
- 12 Poorly; pale; Cheddar's steep-sided valley
- 13 A spirit of nature; Highland Gaelic; unwanted garden plant



Unscramble all of the anagrams to crack this crossword!

ACROSS

- 7 ASCEND IT
- 8 LYRE
- 9 GRATER
- 10 TUBED
- 11 KEEP
- 12 THRASHES
- 14 MADE SURE
- 18 ANNA
- 20 MANGO
- 22 URSINE
- 23 NEWS
- 24 MILDNESS

DOWN

- 1 TAILED
- 2 STARTLES
- 3 CHANTS
- 4 DEALER
- 5 BURG
- 6 PASTEL
- 13 ON THE SLY
- 15 RED SEA
- 16 EMIGRE
- 17 SIGNED
- 19 OSCARS
- 21 SNOW

