

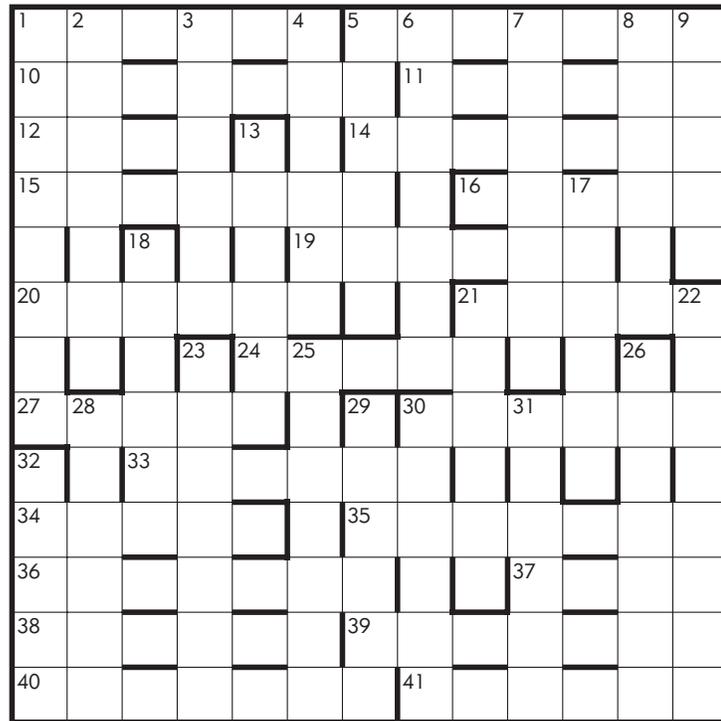
THE PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

Together

In eight diagram squares, the intersecting Across and Down entries have no letter in common. In fact, each entry has two or three different letters to contribute to that square, but together those Across and Down letters can be arranged to spell a word. Solvers are invited to symbolize the word in each of those eight thematic squares. Five answers are capitalized.

Note: The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. An introduction to clue-solving may be found online at www.theatlantic.com/issues/puzzclue.htm.



ACROSS

1. Armed forces, with end of conflict, track westward (6)
5. Barbara picking up skill with bills (3,4)
10. Check bad guy's contract again (7)
11. Work further on a script of *Stalk with Sex Appeal* (6)
12. A couple of glasses are shining brightly (6)
14. Sports network incorporating time for lingo (9)
15. Easy job in filling safe (8)
16. Time for someone in an office boy's heart (5)
19. Need fork going after stewed prune (6)
20. Secret partnership that's satisfying in geezers (7)
21. Internally jumble the anagram of a Dantean river (7)
24. Greeting operator after swearword (5)
27. Describe, in retrospect, *Ran* and *Speed* (7)
30. Booty acquiring sparse wrapping (8)
33. Harvest deity posed by vase (6)
34. Egg deposited in comparatively little soil (5)
35. Member of the brass given round crown (7)
36. Cass Elliot for one enrolled in tailor's old school (4,5)
37. Audible aid to a mover or painter (4)
38. Plot on alien world (6)
39. Patriot of New England entertaining one deep thought (7)
40. Smut the guy had alleviated (7)
41. Local star identifies figures in math class (6)
6. Military stockpile senator buried in Asian sea (7)
7. Restrained, Kennedy suppresses gas (8)
8. Just passing out, Brad Pitt perfected a small role (3,4)
9. Backless furniture that's small, large, and also in between (5)
13. Hurt pet cradled by this girl (6)
17. My stout—almost fabulous (6)
18. Rough-sounding road (6)
21. Brings down noisy cows? (6)
22. Sleepwear almost fastens (8)
23. Game bird, hit, taken by farmer (8)
25. Big bird no longer around rival (7)
26. Spineless sort of English monarch in 1702 hat (7)
28. Olympian with a head halo (6)
29. Place to raise some fruit or vegetable (7)
30. Vibratory noises made by poles on rocks (6)
31. Change the structure of Demerol in a funny way (7)
32. Bangs one hundred times around a track (5)

DOWN

1. Convertible car hasn't a place for junk (5,3)
2. Soldier standing amid idlers gets signed up? (9)
3. Busy time of year, after the first conceit (2,3,2)
4. Transitional times of day turned us around (6)
5. Article in *Money* was slightly moving (8)