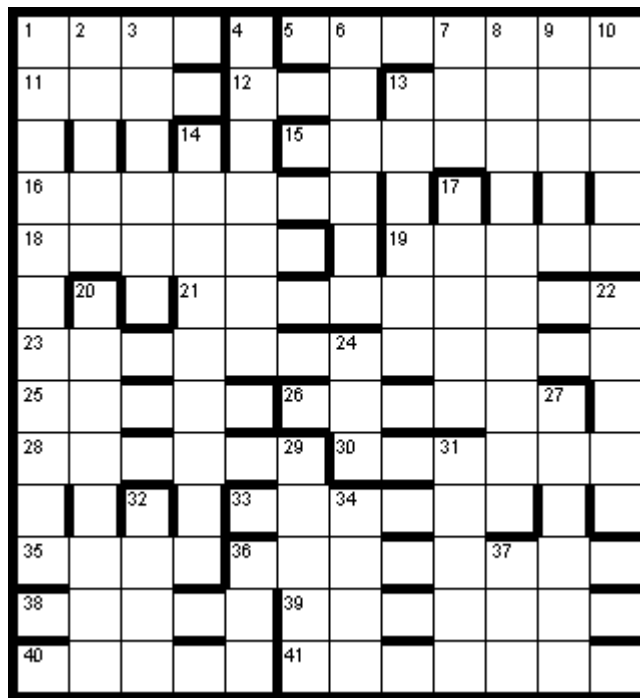


Thirteen answers become new words (or in one case, a name) before entry, as indicated by 23 Across.



Across

- 1 Dentist follows introduction to outlandish Vegas numbers (4)
- 5 Harshly criticized female cut trees (7)
- 11 Some have a little meat (4)
- 12 Poem is due to be recited (3)
- 13 Synthetic sapphire sphere starts to become oblong, unbalancing lab equipment (5)
- 15 Currently embraced by Sunday mass, one seasonal transient? (7)
- 16 Polishing mostly-red cherry (7)
- 18 Runs into hardwood seat (6)
- 19 Bush essentially sprouts and takes too much forest (5)
- 21 See, I chop ribs badly (9)
- 23 *See instructions*
- 25 Finally cleared shower pipe (5)
- 26 Open container carried out (6)
- 28 Unfortunately stifle that identical one (6)
- 30 Miners write about it, warm at last (6)
- 33 Quietly move binding holding broken pot (6)
- 35 Insect is green with brown back (4)
- 36 Pilots claiming victory with five small cheap old cars, once (8)
- 38 Greeting welcoming our beautiful young woman (5)
- 39 Blame Ms. Dotty's preserves (7)
- 40 Encourage, for example, good running (3,2)
- 41 Spotted Western apartment, and begged (7)

Down

- 1 Asking too much of Clinton, packing protection after the start (11)
- 2 Bone fragment of dwarf emu recovered (5)
- 3 Excessively cater to supporter now staggering inside (4,2)
- 4 Rider crosses back over republic I'd occupied (7)
- 6 Leonard beginning to go most of the distance (6)
- 7 Plant is very wide (3)
- 8 Erroneously presume tip when some food is served (10)
- 9 Antelope finish eating half of lawn (5)
- 10 Oddly, doesn't test for minor depressions (5)
- 13 Check out Mr. Reiner backing fight (6)
- 14 Feature of lock, not tie strap, is hardest to figure out (9)
- 17 Quietly involved in weight-loss program, hiking without enthusiasm (5)
- 20 Pro untangled knot by gold depository (4,4)
- 22 Talk with a country in Asia (5)
- 24 Dad's returning with juice (3)
- 27 Reamed out, alas (4,2)
- 29 Departed hastily, keeping interest reported to the IRS, perhaps (5)
- 31 Cover with Arizona stone (5)
- 32 False enemy, from the sound of it (4)
- 34 Ms. Zadora gets married in cotton (4)
- 36 \$5 paddle (3)
- 37 Retreat from melee, ultimately, black and blue (3)