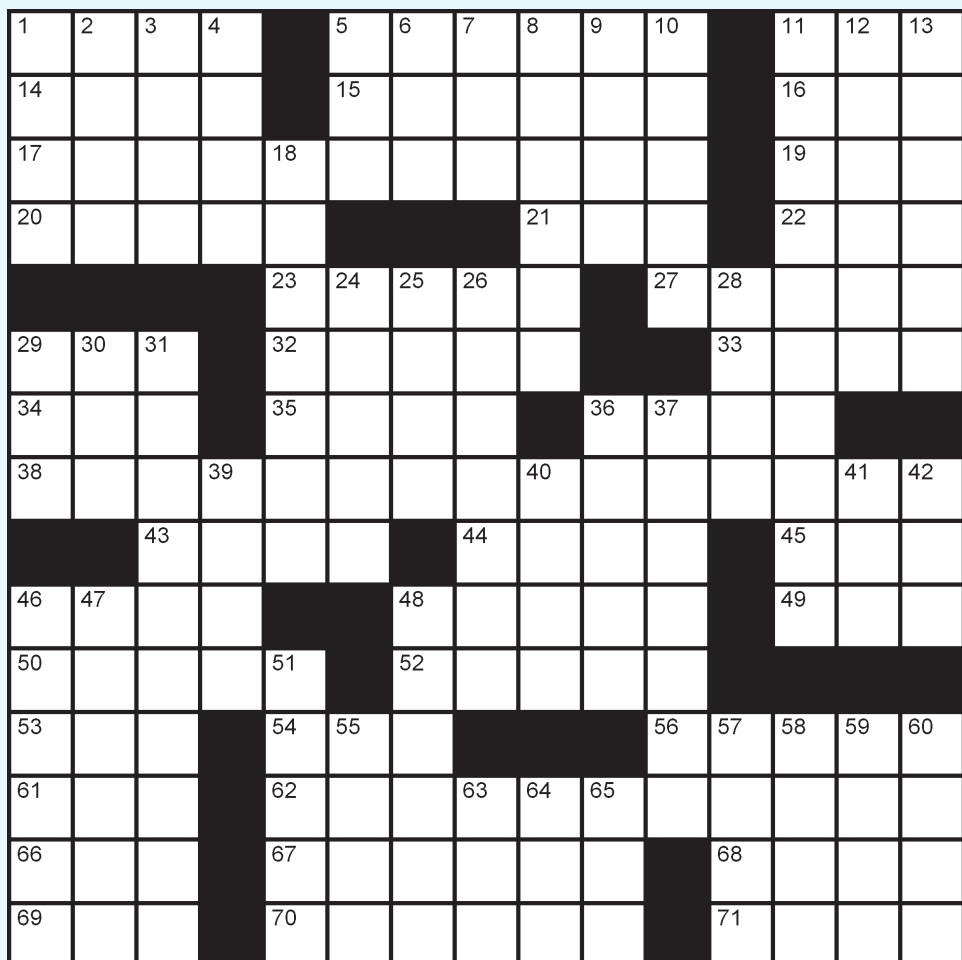


Pick This Puzzle Apart! by Sebastian L. Iger

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Olympic blade
 - 5 Scary animals
 - 11 One may lift 5,000 times its weight
 - 14 Metal whose symbol is Au, and what can be mined in 62-Across
 - 15 Second-cheapest Monopoly avenue
 - 16 Spy org.
 - 17 Squirt juice into one's eye, as a grapefruit
 - 19 Old film channel
 - 20 Olympic item with a blade
 - 21 + or - particle
 - 22 Mike and ___
 - 23 Toy vehicle with an antenna, informally
 - 27 Roof overhangs
 - 29 Jiffy
 - 32 Perfume containers
 - 33 Part of a karate uniform
 - 34 In the style of
 - 35 "___ be over soon"
 - 36 Wall support
 - 38 Tables at a meeting, say?
 - 43 Adversaries
 - 44 A deer might cross one
 - 45 Additionally
 - 46 "Law & Order: SVU" co-star
 - 48 Type of dish in a lab
 - 49 Currency at a pachinko parlor
 - 50 Grinding tooth
 - 52 Extremely pale
 - 53 High school stat
 - 54 Rent-to-___
 - 56 Sparkle
 - 61 Fitting
 - 62 Condiment for an American Chinese chicken dish
 - 66 Moved past Zoom dates
 - 67 Fiddle (with)
 - 68 Rocks that 17-, 38- and 62-Across represent, based on their outer letters
 - 69 Before, to a poet
 - 70 City-state that battled Athens
 - 71 Pepsi Mango, e.g.
- DOWN**
- 1 They may be boosted or bruised
 - 2 Pulled ___ sandwich
 - 3 "Luther" actor Idris
 - 4 Change, as crossword clues
 - 5 U.K. TV network
 - 6 ___ de parfum
 - 7 Completely
 - 8 Flight you can take for free?
 - 9 Jackson 5 member
 - 10 Part of a play
 - 11 Full-time soldier's status
 - 12 Metal whose symbol is Ni, and what can be mined in 38-Across
 - 13 Least feral
 - 18 Word after "secret" or "self"
 - 24 Refers to
 - 25 Baby cow
 - 26 Attracts
 - 28 Be next to
 - 29 ___ Paulo
 - 30 Assistant to Santa
 - 31 Foamy Italian drink
 - 36 Trap
 - 37 Old news?
 - 39 Greek I
 - 40 IRA variety
 - 41 Eggs on a sushi roll
 - 42 Long, long time
 - 46 "Count me in!"
 - 47 Metal whose symbol is Cu, and what can be mined in 17-Across
 - 48 Country with a famous canal
 - 51 Parts of teeth or hairs
 - 55 Cover with foil
 - 57 Thailand neighbor
 - 58 French currency
 - 59 Scored 100% on
 - 60 Southwestern landform
 - 63 "Fresh Air" network
 - 64 Understand
 - 65 End of an ___

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 *Auspicious Air Trine*



People don't usually regret the initiatives they took. It's the initiative they didn't act on that can really burn in retrospect. But what about the initiatives we don't even see? Venus consults with Saturn today, inviting such auspicious inquiry as: What opportunities am I not seeing? Or, better yet, what opportunities am I not creating?

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't imagine your way into new circumstances, but you also can't make it happen without imagination. Dream, act, dream more, and then act more. The cycle feeds on itself. Before you know it, you're somewhere else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're caring and have warmth for all around you. When you get tired, it's easy to forget your No.1 purpose, which is to love and be loved, but some sweetness you've planted will grow to remind you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With communication as your abiding forte, you're in tune with how much detail people want from a story or explanation – far less than most people think. Your day will clip along, peppered with efficient interactions.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Every world has unique etiquette and a requisite learning curve. Rules get breached. Take this as your cue to offer or seek the understanding to smooth it over.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are currently linked to your work in such a way that you couldn't untie it from who you are, if, indeed, you even wanted to. The way you present yourself is part of the package.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The question of whether or not you should address something is the first consideration. Many problems can be solved by neither recognizing their problematic status nor claiming them as your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Should you show up in person? These days, matters of attendance are

complicated. If you don't want to go, then you have the perfect excuse not to. Figure out another way to show your support though. Opportunities hang in the balance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Lofty goals are good for morale. High stakes and a deadline help, too. People get along better when they are building something that requires cooperation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sometimes, people are oblivious because they lack the courage it takes to notice what needs fixing and do something about it. You're brave in this regard. Once you see what's right, you have to act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Before virtual reality and meditation apps existed, Carl Jung had the counterintuitive statement, "Who looks outside dreams; who looks inside awakes." You'll have a moment of living the statement.

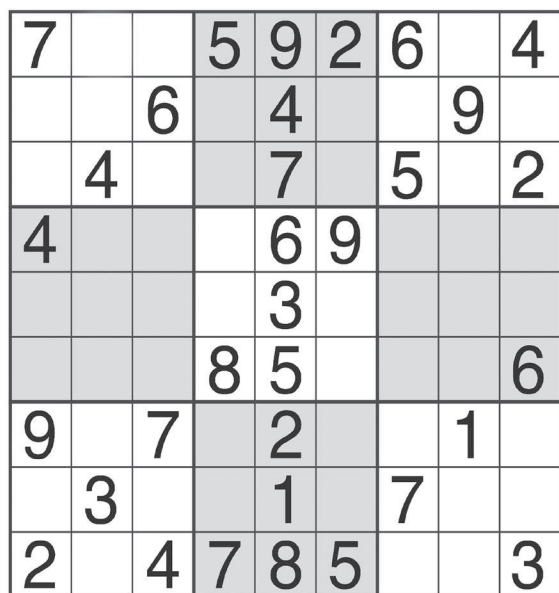
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You generally have a stock of polite options on the ready for the usual situations. It's when someone insists on your real opinion, as they will today, that you could be thrown for a loop. Levity and brevity are the magic pairing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Since you always feel more comfortable when you know the names and main details of the people you deal with, it's worth briefing yourself before the interaction. The time you take to bone up on social niceties will be well-spent.

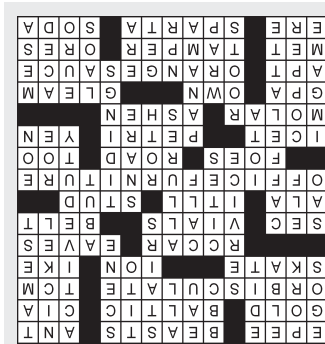
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 19). You don't realize what a weight you carried until the beautiful lightening that occurs when you let it go. You'll float! Your liberation comes in two significant points of the year. One burden drops as you're working on relationships. This allows love to flow more freely. Another lift happens when a security need becomes irrelevant. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 15, 2 and 40.

Universal SUDOKU

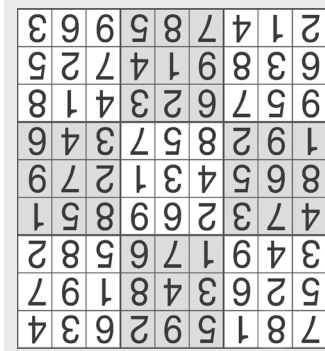
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

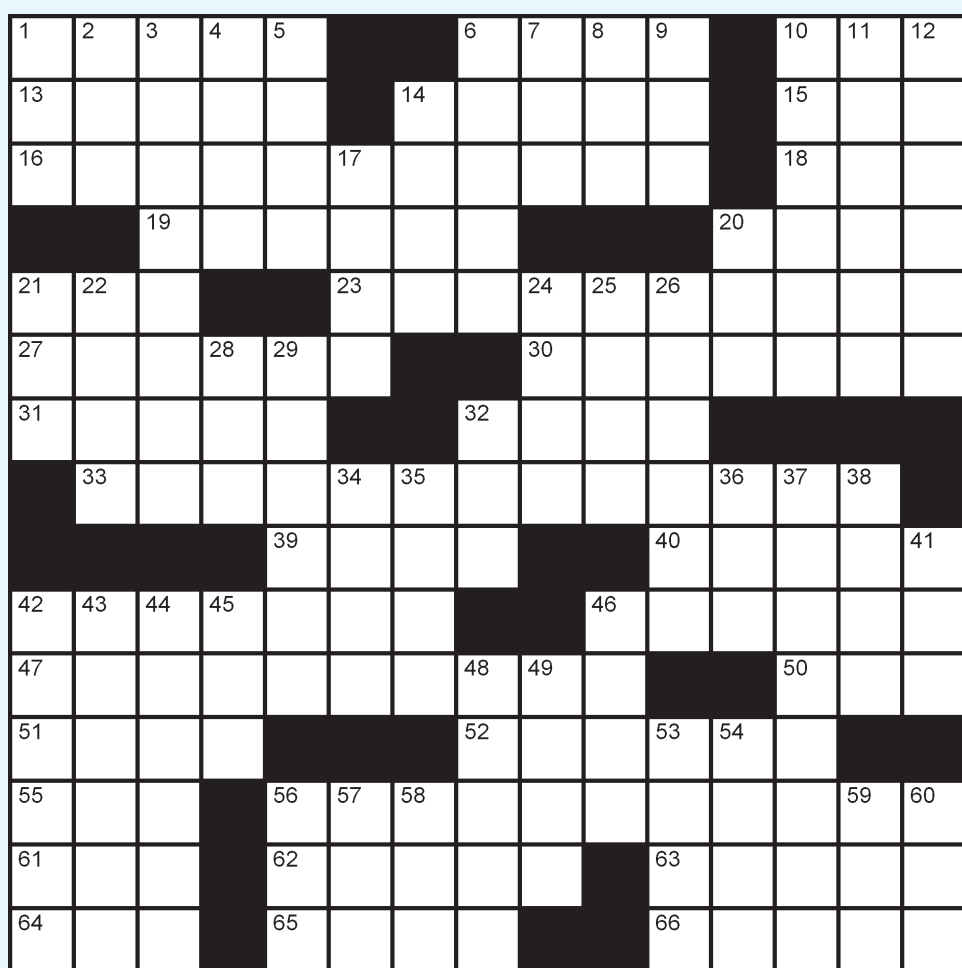


SOLUTIONS



Produce Containers by Jennifer Marra & Brian Gubin

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Hot chocolate drink?
 - 6 Breakfast dish with chopped meat
 - 10 Furious
 - 13 Softball misplay
 - 14 Manuscript sheet
 - 15 Letters in some church names
 - 16 *Alternative to a stud (notice letters 4 to 7 in this answer)
 - 18 Big Apple initials
 - 19 ___ with a kiss
 - 20 Lead-in to "girl!"
 - 21 Watercolors and such
 - 23 *German women's tennis great (5 to 7)
 - 27 Bob or bun
 - 30 New ___, Louisiana
 - 31 Sleep concern
 - 32 Human rights lawyer Clooney
 - 33 **"Creature" that makes many children laugh (5 to 9)
 - 39 Capital west of Stockholm
 - 40 Where Christmas lights are hung
 - 42 Some instrumental music compositions
 - 46 Letter flourishes
 - 47 *Occasional residence (4 to 7)
 - 50 Former WNBA coach Dunn
 - 51 Beers brewed using warm fermentation
 - 52 Delay
 - 55 Purge (of)
 - 56 Like many strudels, or the starred answers?
 - 61 *German explosive
 - 62 Shouldered
 - 63 Actor Keach
 - 64 In the past
 - 65 Wait in neutral
 - 66 Lake vessel
 - 3 Crunchy Italian appetizer
 - 4 Desire
 - 5 Word after "Bay" or "gray"
 - 6 Massive crowd
 - 7 Comedian Wong
 - 8 Avarice, for one
 - 9 Monopolize
 - 10 Chanted phrase
 - 11 "The Joy Luck Club" author
 - 12 They won't keep you up at night
 - 14 Worry
 - 17 Plus
 - 20 Number that only goes up
 - 21 "Eureka!"
 - 22 Engrossed
 - 24 "I wanna be there!" mentality, briefly
 - 25 Name hidden in "out of range"
 - 26 "Maybe later"
 - 28 Camcorder button
 - 29 "Fifty Shades of Grey" star Johnson
 - 32 Latin for "I love"
 - 34 Aspiring atty.'s exam
 - 35 "What ___ is new?"
 - 36 Roadwork goop
 - 37 Scheme that makes a villain say "Mwahaha!"
 - 38 APR-reducing loan
 - 41 ID often assigned around birth
 - 42 Leonidas I led its army
 - 43 Lubricating
 - 44 Must
 - 45 Billboards, essentially
 - 46 "Treat Yo' ___" ("Parks and Recreation" catchphrase)
 - 48 Cologne's waterway
 - 49 Mechanical learning
 - 53 ___ jockey
 - 54 Beauty supply chain
 - 56 Org. concerned with cybercrime
 - 57 Reel's partner
 - 58 Surfing destination?
 - 59 Earth-friendly prefix
 - 60 Turn blue, in a way
- DOWN**
- 1 "I'm indifferent"
 - 2 Top Olympic prize, in Spain

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021 *Early Gift of the Gemini Sun*



Social conventions as they are, many will ask questions they don't necessarily want to know the answers to. The sun crosses into Gemini with a burning curiosity. This makes obvious the hollowness of rootless query and makes those whirling minds, rich in appetite, stand out from the rest. Curiosity is an energetic vacuum that pulls life inside.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Here comes the reshuffling of your deck of priorities, a process outside of your control, followed by the giddy anticipation as the cards are being dealt. What will you get? It matters but not as much as how you play what you get.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Allowing yourself to get distracted will drain your precious energy unless those distractions are so quality they inspire you. You'll know immediately. Unless you get hit by a "wow" factor, keep moving along.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may not feel qualified to assume the position you are being asked to fill, but they think you have what it takes, and they're right. You'll gain skills along the way. Just say yes.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). With people around to show you how a thing is done, the plus is that you can skip over a lot of potentially embarrassing trial and error. The minus is that you won't know what you might have invented through failing on your own.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). How deftly you'll navigate the paradox represented in this day: Now is the only moment. And yet, nothing good happens without some degree of delayed gratification.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're carrying more than you know. It's like your mind has pockets you haven't checked in a while. Go through, gather up the useless and dated ideas, and then release them to the trash.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A person need not infringe, intrude or invade your space in any way in order to

strike a chord at the very heart of you. The strings ring out with sympathetic resonance when you witness the emotional tone you know so very well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). With multitudes clamoring for attention, the one who doesn't seem to want any becomes accidentally alluring. They will wonder about your private life and inner world that is so compelling that publicity is unwelcome.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Paying attention to a problem doesn't necessarily lead to its solution. Instead, stay focused on what you want. As you keep moving toward that pretty picture, life starts to assemble it before your eyes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have a reputation for being extremely capable – the kind of person who appears in a crisis and fixes everything with brisk elan. That said, don't make it a habit to fix for the same person repeatedly; teach instead.

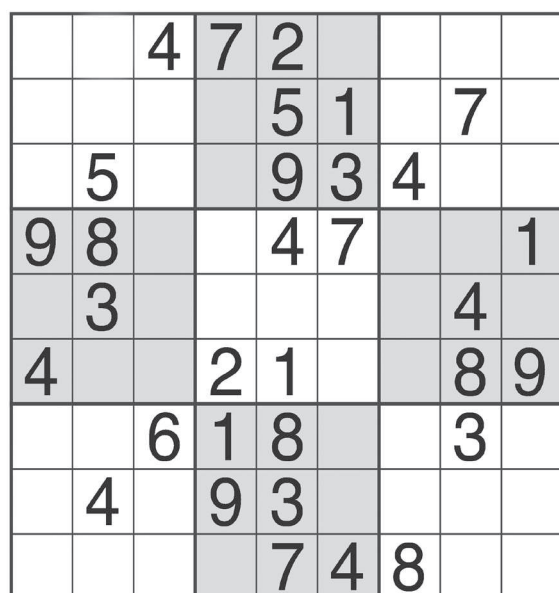
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The skill of compartmentalization is a complement to so many areas of life. Just be sure, every once in a while, to remind yourself what's folded and tucked away. Today's success depends on such a check-in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your past experience matters less than the way people are experiencing you now. You will open doors with your social skills and confident demeanor.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 20). This year's mood in one word: inspired. There's a fire in you, lit by ideas and people taking life in a dazzling direction. You give that same fire to others, just by being in pursuit of your passion. Your welcoming ways will start a new wave of social fun. A group forms and this could even develop into a team or movement. Cancer and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 3, 10 and 7.

Universal SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



SOLUTIONS

