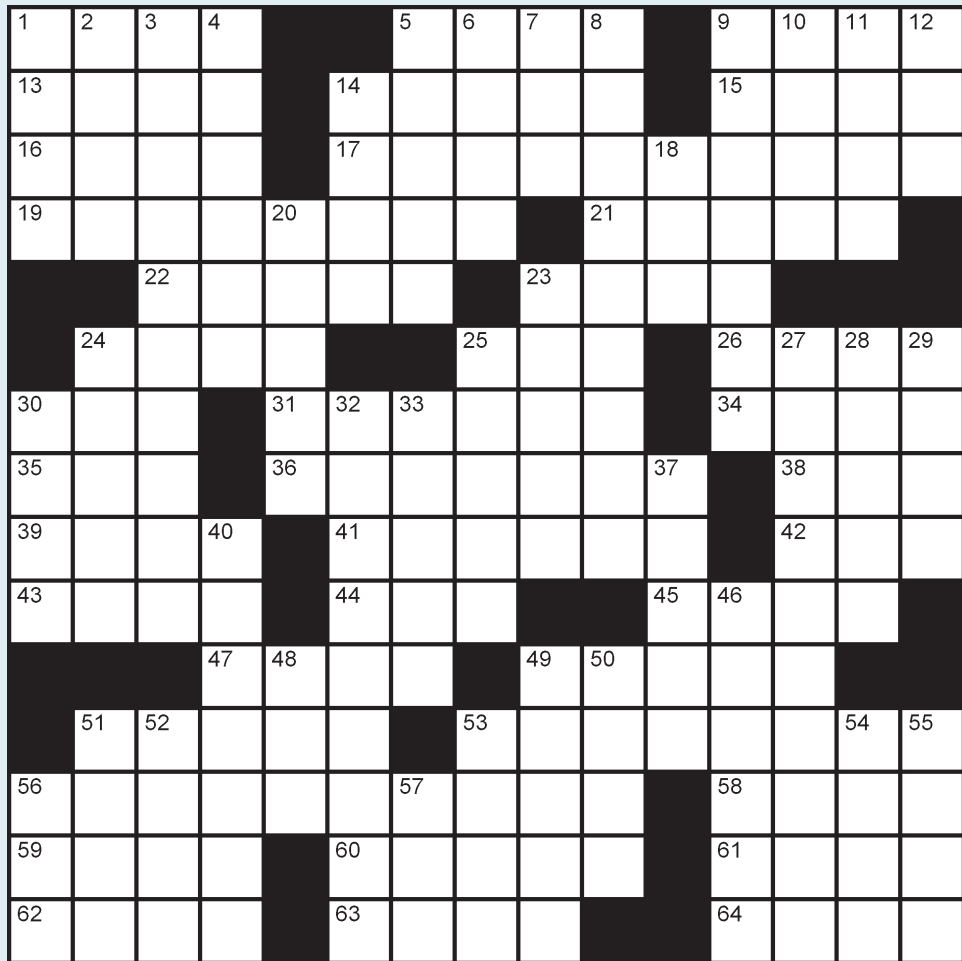


Metal Man by Nova Qi and Matthew Stock

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Filled with foliage, 5 Relaxation destinations, 9 Make angry, 13 Instrument that's 3/4 vowels, 14 ___ of (in the know about), 15 October birthstone, 16 Depend (on), 17 Band with the hits "Photograph" and "Far Away", 19 What a tyrant rules with, 21 Like 13-Across music, 22 Lets off steam?, 23 Solidifies, like custard, 24 Cutesy dino sound, 25 Inits. aptly hidden in "Obama-care", 26 "I know! I know!", 30 Container in which preserves are preserved, 31 Space for growth?, 34 Taboo behavior, 35 Application, 36 TV series starring Rami Malek, and what you could build using 17-, 19-, 53- and 56-Across?, 38 Get the W, 39 Video file format, 41 Italian fashion house, 42 Mother deer, 43 Fiery prefix, 44 Gossip that's "spilled", 45 Physics particle that anagrams to "um, no", 47 Founded, for short, 49 Like an echidna, 51 Haiku master Matsuo, 53 Metaphorical feature of a fast driver, 56 Venomous American snake, 58 It may surround you, 59 What squiggly lines may represent, 60 Mosque leaders, 61 The ___ of March, 62 Result of using the wrong key?, 63 Sound-boosting equipment, 64 Chess "castle", DOWN: 1 Model ___ Harvey, 2 Lyft competitor, 3 Harry Styles' began with his self-titled album, 4 "Oh come on", 5 Holey cheese, 6 Formal agreement, 7 MacGuffin in the first Indiana Jones film, 8 Come to your senses, 9 Singer/actor/activist Paul, 10 Apple tablet, 11 Like some lingerie, 12 Yellowstone grazer, 14 Actor Kapoor, 18 "Don't ___ me forget!", 20 Place to exchange ideas, 23 Underwater diver's gear, 24 Like a gravelly voice, 25 What squiggly lines may represent, 27 Formal greeting, 28 Veggie with layers, 29 Sharpen, 30 Get up?, 32 Informal Italian eatery, 33 Goofed, 37 Shy, 40 Gives up amateur status, 46 Like playing favorites, 48 ___/her/hers, 49 Red parts of a baseball, 50 Knee or elbow protectors, 51 Word before "language" or "shop", 52 Each, 53 ___ of faith, 54 Cookie that can be customized, 55 To-do list item, 56 Portable bed, 57 "Let me think ..."

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022 Aries Solar Check-In



At this point in the Aries solar journey, check in with your goals and purposes. There's passion to be applied. Are you being as assertive as you can be? Note that wrestling with something a little out of reach won't bring it closer. Get up and move to where the thing is. Go all in. Commit completely. Surround it, get on top of it, overcome it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People wonder what you're really thinking, though you're not quite ready yet to let down your guard. Let them stew in the mystery of you for a while. Everyone enjoys the touch of drama you bring now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Remember that sooner or later what you own ends up owning you, as possessions require attention and maintenance. The time to think about this, of course, is before you buy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The call of the wild speaks to something deep in you because it's in your first language. You don't have to relearn it. You only have to let go. You'll be carried back to where you came from.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know what's universally liked? Nothing and no one. It will be enough for today to delight yourself. If your plans please you, they will likely have a positive effect on someone else as well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The wind is only considered "angry" when it's blowing houses over. But when it's blowing a windmill, it's a power source. You'll apply your feelings to the circumstances to which they can be most useful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll get the feeling that someone is watching over you. The one who has your back may be currently invisible or anonymous, but you can count on their protection. Go fearlessly forward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've made something. Whether you love what you made or not, it now has the virtue of existing, which makes it more useful than things that don't exist, because existing things can be observed, built upon and revised.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). While puzzles and mysteries seem fun, troubles and inconveniences don't. Yet both could be seen from the standpoint of gaming. A lot depends on how you name the problem.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The road to becoming is paved in repetition. Be mindful of what you do time and again. For better or worse, what gets replayed will one day be a part of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). As you look back, mixed feelings come up. Regret is an option, but there are prettier ones. The past is a big picture with a million framing options. Why not choose the ones that are more fun to look at?

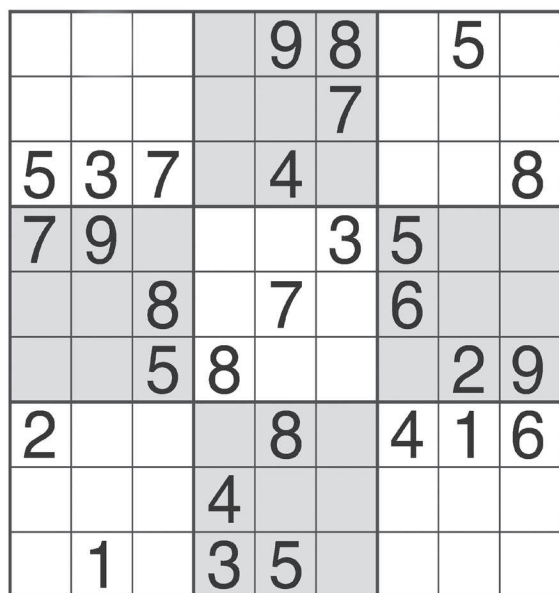
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The move you most need to make next is a challenging one. Instead of shying away from emotional discomfort, move through it. Discomfort will soon give way to something beautiful.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Every seed already knows how to grow itself. The planter's job is to create the proper conditions and get out of the way. Trust in the process of life.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 8). You've been impulsive in the past and now you see the benefit in being strategic. Like a poker player with killer cards, you'll communicate carefully and your restraint will win you a premium prize. You'll often join a fun crowd, though you'll also find magic as you venture to places that are easier to get to when you walk alone. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 18, 4, 23 and 16.

Universal SUDOKU

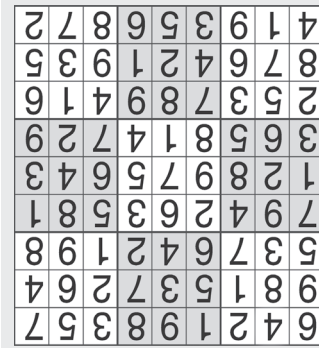
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

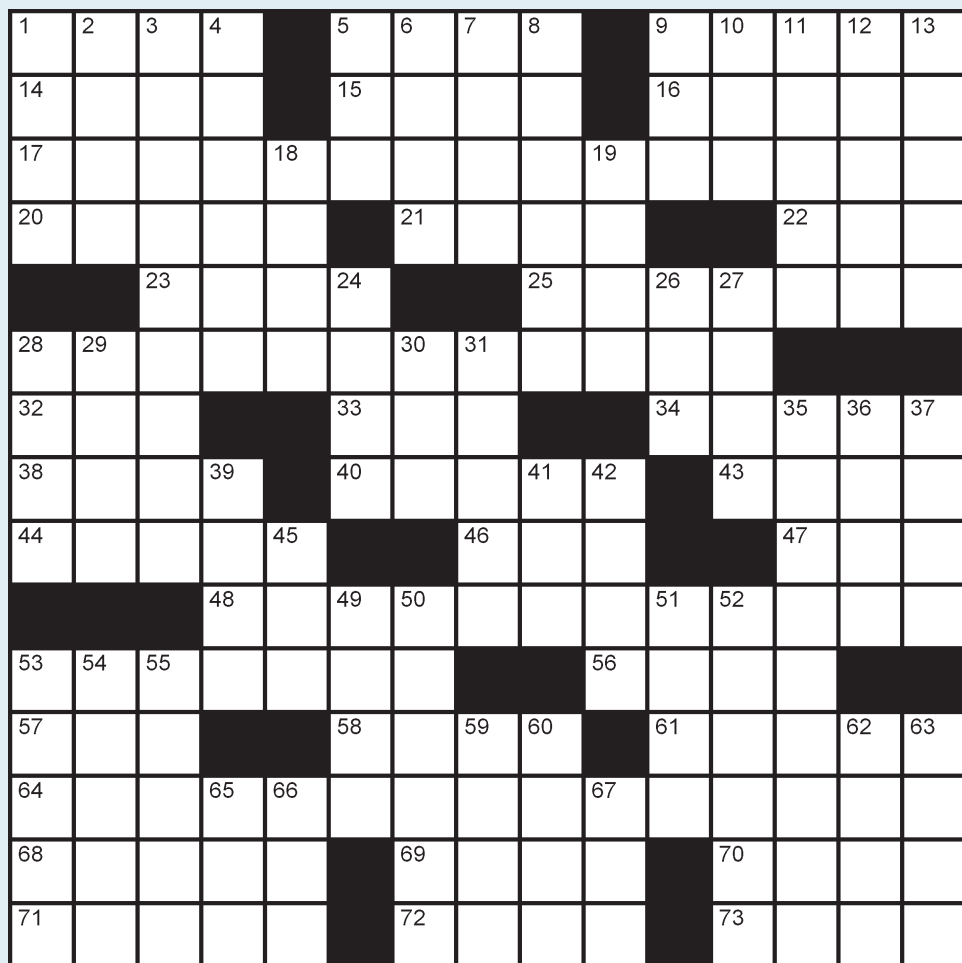


SOLUTIONS



Providers by Olivia Aldridge and Ross Trudeau

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Clears (of), 5 Track event, 9 Fourth month, 14 It's a sign!, 15 Apiece, 16 Reeves of "John Wick", 17 *Person who might teach consonant-vowel combinations, 20 According to, 21 See 23-Across, 22 Go out with, 23 With 21-Across, climb without a rope, 25 Pieces of lower-leg jewelry, 28 *Person who guides expectant and new mothers, 32 Nail polish brand, 33 Paving goop, 34 Report on, 38 Amanda Gorman, e.g., 40 Kisses on the streets of London?, 43 Word sung twice after "Que", 44 Eventually become, 46 Iron in a vein?, 47 Digital mapping tech, 48 *Person working with relief pitchers, 53 Country where Nadia Comaneci was born, 56 "So, next ...", 57 Bonobo, e.g., 58 Ballet skirt, 61 Former NPR host Cornish, 64 FedEx, for one ... and what the starred clues' answers all offer, in a way, 68 Pleasant smell, 69 Barely makes (out), 70 TV anchor's audition tape, 71 Kept going (and going), 72 "Judge not, ___ ye be judged", 73 Flight board stats, DOWN: 1 Stoic "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" detective, 2 Mischievous ones, 3 Like Oreos at a state fair, 4 Snide looks, 5 "Didn't love it", 6 Has some nom noms, 7 Reverberation, 8 It can be laid down but not picked up, 9 Letters before a pseudonym, 10 Liveliness, 11 Salary increase, 12 Alaska, on some U.S. maps, 13 Instruments with bent necks, 18 People of Canada, 19 Rice-A-___, 24 Some first responders, 26 Chain that sells buckets, 27 Some sun signs, 28 "Uh-uh", 29 Atop, 30 McKellen of "Cats", 31 Sag, 35 Eating regimen that forgoes animal products, 36 "The Little Mermaid" prince, 37 Overly hasty, 39 Low-end brass instrument?, 41 Test for aspiring pros, 42 Dispatched, 45 "Denial ain't just a river in Egypt," e.g., 49 Lo-cal, 50 Wreath plant, 51 Burn on the outside, 52 Body of work, 53 Two-way device?, 54 Browser that's also a performance, 55 Fruit salad fruit, often, 59 Kiddo, 60 Baking soda has many, 62 Packed a cold pack on, 63 Sources of electricity in a current?, 65 "To me ...," in a tweet, 66 Touring band's vehicle, 67 Superlative suffix

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022 Raw Days of Venus in Pisces



These first few days of Venus in Pisces have a way of opening our hearts, making us receptive to the feelings of others and increasing our vulnerability in the process. Don't be afraid to feel and to love. Showing emotion isn't a sign of weakness; rather, it's an indicator of your humanity.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You know how to spot a bad situation and avoid it. Some situations are, however, unavoidable. The best you can do is to keep moving forward with as much grace as possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you like people, you'll go out of your way to see them smile, alleviate their stress or make them feel comfortable. Doing this for someone you don't know or dislike... that's nobility.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Once you see things you can't un-see them. That's why it's good to be careful about where you go and what you click on. Imagine what's behind the doors before you open them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Ideally you eat to live, not live to eat. Your appetite is strong now for more than just food. Make it easy on yourself. Surround yourself with people who have a healthy consumption style. You can catch good habits by osmosis.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Before deciding, consider the perspective of time. If something won't bother you a month from now, don't let it bother you now. If it won't please you a month from now, don't do it, commit to it or purchase it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What is best for everyone? Considering the many opinions expressed, picking the right one seems complex... until you realize most people are speaking out of self-interest. Who really has the group's best interests at heart?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Education can be extremely expensive or completely free. A library or the internet provide access to the greatest minds in history. Taking advantage of this today is extremely advantageous.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone needs to be listened to, seen and loved. That said, you're not the only one in the world with ears, eyes and a heart. Give to the degree that feels good to you and know that it's enough.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The emotional currents are varied and strong today. Luckily, they only come one at a time. Stay open and let the emotions flow through you. You won't stay stuck in one for long.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Neatness is not the same as style, but when things are neat, clean and organized it is easier to see your way to choices that will elevate the style.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). To believe everything serves a purpose will relax you. Whether this is true matters very little. From the relaxed place you will recognize your next good move and keep going forward.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Ease is attractive. Strain is unattractive. This rule will be exemplified throughout your day. You'll create ease and people will want to be a part of what you're doing.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 9). You'll like how the world molds to your vision. Somehow you find a way to dominate the factors that once seemed so out of your control and elevate your entire scene. You're expected to play a role; you'll do it in a way that pleases and fulfills you. Though you're unconcerned with approval, life goes easier for you because of the applause. Aquarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 22, 19, 4 and 18.

Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



SOLUTIONS

