

SQUARE ROUTES

BY WILL SHORTZ

Each clue in this puzzle consists of three words that can each go before or after a fourth word to complete a compound word or a familiar two-word phrase. For example, given the clue words LIST, BOOT, and HOLE, you'd answer BLACK, to make BLACKLIST, BOOTBLACK, and BLACK HOLE.

To solve, first answer as many clues as you can. Then, enter each answer in the grid starting in the numbered square and proceeding in any direction—horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. You can determine an answer's direction by using logic and the crossing letters of other answers.

You know you're finished when every grid square has been filled.

1	2	3		4	5	6		
			7					8
				9				
			10		11			12
					13	14	15	
	16							
						17		18
19			20					21
22				23	24	25	26	

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|------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 Paint | Index | Tip | 14 Landing | Box | Shift |
| 2 Neck | Dove | Snapping | 15 Optic | Impulse | Racking |
| 3 Rose | Variety | Apartment | 16 Spring | Hair | Water |
| 4 Snake | Baby | Trap | 17 Chair | Wrestling | Strong |
| 5 Sun | Tone | Rotary | 18 Junior | Jump | Horse |
| 6 Dead | Zone | Rear | 19 Drinking | Pen | Soda |
| 7 Fever | Log | Cruiser | 20 Clover | Stalk | Loose |
| 8 Spread | Bald | Eye | 21 Blade | Cold | Bag |
| 9 Gravy | Track | Mule | 22 Beauty | Walk | Tight |
| 10 Key | Book | Worthy | 23 Fashion | Home | Glass |
| 11 French | Party | Peck | 24 Drill | Brush | Cross |
| 12 Bug | Rod | White | 25 Stool | Hole | Toed |
| 13 Sea | Headed | Split | 26 Lame | Wave | Child |