

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

LeXman's Cryptic Crossword Page

lexmanpuzzles.com

HATCHET JOB by LeXman and friend

I was having trouble getting my latest cryptic to come together, so I called on an old friend to help me flesh it out. In the end, though, I don't think we made such a good team, and the puzzle we cobbled together didn't quite turn out the way we wanted it to.

For example, for 8 of the clues, the answer is too short, and my friend added some "spare parts" to make these words fit in the grid.

In addition, my friend is a big fan of "chop 'n' swap" bases – it's kind of his thing. (In a chop 'n' swap, a letter is removed from the middle of a word and the remaining halves are switched and reattached – for example: "shame," removing the A, becomes "mesh" after the swap.)

For 8 of the clues below, a word much be chop 'n' swapped before you will be able to solve the clue. These chop 'n' swapped words will spoil the clues' surface sense. For another 4 clues, the clued word itself (one of them an 11C proper name) is one letter too long, and the word itself must be chop 'n' swapped before you can fit it into the grid.

No single clue/solution/grid entry combination is affected by more than one of the above transformations.

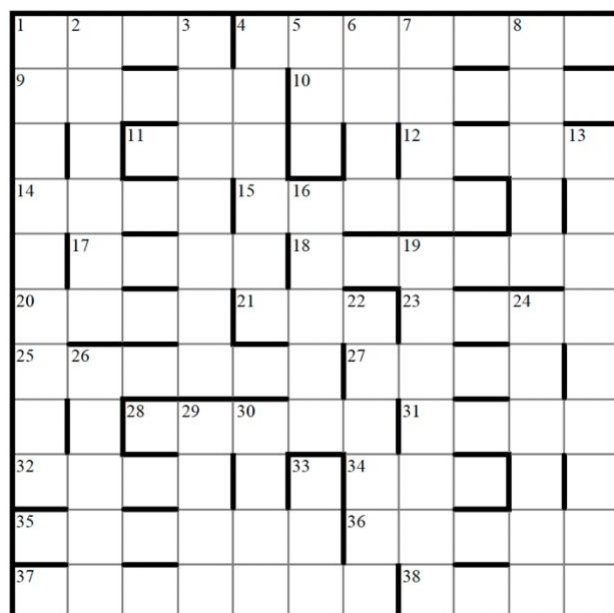
If you number all the clues, in clue order, where a chop 'n' swap occurs (either in the clue itself or in the answer), and then put each respective chopped letter from each in the appropriate numbered blank below, you will learn the name of my co-composer. This name must be included with your completed grid.

As a final touch, my co-composer insisted we add the unclued entries at 4 Down, 21 Across, and 22 Down; he said that without them he couldn't get the puzzle to work.

— 1
— 6
— 7
— 11
— 9
— 4
— 10
— 3
— 8
— 12
— 2
— 5

ACROSS

1. Whistle-blower's effort with publicity
4. Spare part for this puzzle grid's contents?
9. Without borders, no man is an Arab
10. Editor following book's plot
11. Unit (karat, for example)
12. Uses a caress to control livestock
14. End for bishop in headquarters facility
15. Pawns wines
17. Cheerful tune I'll put out on time
18. Returning, a god possesses one-third of Africa
20. Usher people
21. *See instructions*
23. French author of *The Fifth Eagle*
25. State prize for monkey
27. Black resin coating piece of leather



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
LeXman's Cryptic Crossword Page											

lexmanpuzzles.com

- 28. Above average track star's stiff drink
- 31. China engineered a series of events
- 32. Shakespeare's does and bucks hot on the trail of dandelion head
- 34. Second-highest obstacle
- 35. Drink a little bit of eggnog
- 36. Twisted ankle, bearing down with a lot of weight
- 37. Spy with cover blown, sir
- 38. Portion of amontillado served!

DOWN

- 1. Made disoriented from energy drain, at first
- 2. Omens of grim palace, horned beasts
- 3. Illumination from electricity conducted
- 4. *See instructions*
- 5. White bass' decline?
- 6. Told an unbelievable story about a dangerous animal
- 7. Rustic girl topless
- 8. Knew inner circles later
- 13. Sign of interest rates changing
- 16. Willow was more flushed after commencement
- 19. That man, Bill, is chief
- 22. *See instructions*
- 24. Presides over discussion of space oceans
- 26. Hemorrhagic fever upset hemisphere and core of brain
- 29. College to outline science course
- 30. Booth's report on back of envelope
- 33. Jail Thoreau