

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

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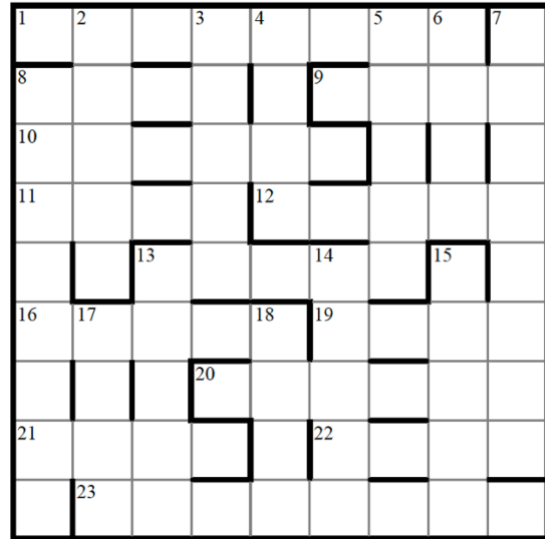
TAKE A NUMBER by LeXman

A handful of the words clued here are entered into the grid normally. For the remaining words, you either TAKE ONE or TAKE TWO:

- TAKE ONE ("Free Sample") – Remove one letter from the word before entering it into the grid.
- TAKE TWO ("Reshoot the Scene") – Double one letter in the word before entering it into the grid.

One clue answer and one transformed grid entry are N13.

If you select all the first letters from the clues of the TAKE ONE words and the second letters from clues of the TAKE TWO words, together in clue order, you will get a hint about how to decipher a message hidden in the remaining clues – the ones for those words that you entered into the grid untransformed. That message will be your final instruction for the puzzle.



Across

1. Oddly, social circle is frightening
8. Apathetic response at last, following lies about So-Cal city
9. Traction equipment's wear
10. Violator of the rules of succession in France, on replacing power among elite
11. Ermine, in the end, suits to a tee
12. Blueprint singed badly
13. Roman politicians seen at assembly
16. Unusual chants take hold
19. Hear about bird
20. Abnormally, no big indication of spring?
21. Drink counter troubles
22. End of bread held between two articles of French culinary equipment
23. Scolds model: slender, full of energy, but with no bottom

Down

2. Kinky: cheats without sex
3. Showed, again, nurse taking time
4. "In here, drinks like cherry or raspberry –"
5. "No, that is Sprite"
6. Spry boy's game gear
7. Upcoming online joke: gene manipulation covering up the end of Professor Plum
8. Municipal service features wax and small amount of hair
13. Piano practice, even among best buddies
14. Comb west end of town with checklist
15. Beasts run away from mates
17. Ecclesiastical doctrine is allowed forward
18. Brick carrier interrupts orthodontist