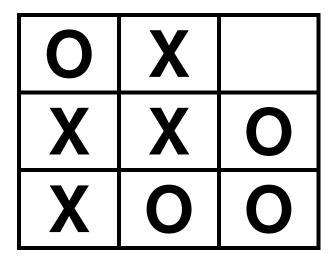
# Game Night!



Nine crosswords by Eric Berlin

## Introduction

First of all, this is a contest, but it's not a race. There are no bonus points for being the first to complete the puzzles. Relax! We're taking things casually this time around.

Here's how this is going to work: The first eight crosswords will each lead you to an answer word of three to six letters. Read the instructions for each puzzle carefully—sometimes the answer you derive from the grid will be a *clue* to the real answer you'll need.

The final puzzle, "Endgame," will tell you how to use your eight answer words to arrive at the winning contest phrase. Send this phrase to me at **ericberlin@gmail.com**. You'll have two weeks to send me your answer—the deadline date is September 13th, midnight Eastern time. The following day, I'll choose one correct entry at random. That person will win the prize alluded to by the phrase itself. (Please note that only "backers" of \$5 or more are eligible to win the contest.) Check my blog, http://www.ericberlin.com, on Monday, September 14th, to find out who won.

Because this is not a speed-solving competition, I urge you serious puzzlers to put your backsolving urges aside and save the final puzzle for last. I think the set is a more enjoyable solve that way. That said, you probably don't need all the answer words to solve that final puzzle, so if one crossword or another is giving you trouble, feel free to skip it.

Have fun! Let's start playing...

# Tic-Tac-Toe

In the completed grid, you'll find nine "tic-tac-toes"—sets of three identical letters in a row, horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. These sets of letters, reading across the top half of the grid and then across the bottom half, will spell out a clue to a three-letter word.

37

61

#### Across

- 1 Sing like Ella
- 5 Biblical kingdom ruled by Esau
- 9 Vegetarian's snack
- 16 Alaskan gold rush city
- 17 Small meadow rodent
- 18 Some fuel gases
- 19 U.S.
- 20 More than bad
- 21 Abates
- 22 dish
- 24 Gets away from
- 26 on the back
- 27 Fox drama debut of 2003
- 29 As to
- 30 Mixed bag
- 31 Mock ending
- 32 Amount owed, slangily
- 34 Supermodel Bündchen
- 36 Incisors' neighbors
- 38 Actress Georgia of "The Drowsy Chaperone"
- 40 The Reds, on the scoreboard
- 41 "Start, already!"
- 42 Quickly read
- 43 Give away temporarily
- 44 Psalm ender
- **46** Spanish omelet ingredient
- 48 Part of MIT
- 51 Sci-fi's Hubbard
- 53 Whips up
- 57 Guitar wood
- 58 Social order
- 59 Ceding, with "over"
- 60 Medicinal syrup
- 62 No longer spry enough
- **64** Subj. of some Syfy shows
- **65** Barcelona bears
- **66** President's title, for short
- 67 Hardly a teetotaler
- 69 Org.
- 70 Hall-of-famers
- 72 Swiss river
- 74 Go off all wrong
- 76 Speed along
- 78 Farm workers, of a sort
- 79 Really enjoyed oneself

80 Razor brand

19

60

79

- 81 Colorado tribe
- 82 Impossible
- Test for some grads
- Neither win, place, nor show

#### Down

- 1 Sound effect accompanying "Just like that!"
- 2 Be realized
- 3 Violet gemstone
- 4 French land
- 5 Night before
- Soap with a "Campaign for Real Beauty"
- 7 Kiddie lit author lan Falconer's pig
- 8 Hodgepodges
- 9 Aspic-like concoction
- 10 AAA recommendations
- 11 Satisfied sounds

- 12 Some French vowel sounds
- Like many bathing suits

80

83

38

- Best Actress nominee for "Enemies, A Love Story"
- 15 Underling, perhaps: Abbr.
- 23 Item in a first-aid kit
- 25 Pour it on?
- 28 Car company named after the founder of Detroit
- 30 Salad dressing base
- 31 Heart reading, for short
- 33 Antares and Betelgeuse, e.g.
- 34 Some Stratego pieces
- 35 Complete
- 37 High-class
- 39 Cowboy of Argentina
- 43 Trucker's haul
- 45 Sexy one

Kiosk owner 47

64

81

84

- chi 49 Bruin teammate of Orr
- Knight's place
- Relating to newborns
- 54 Connects with
- 55 International agreements
- 56 Koop and others: Abbr.
- 58 Job for Hercule Poirot
- 61 Food often preserved in its own fat
- 63 Largish groups
- 66 Thin pancake
- 68 Company with orange and white trucks
- **69** "l'm " (60s hit song)
- 70 Food, slangily 71 Mystery writer
- Paretsky
- \_ (existing) **73** In **75** Name in 1995
- headlines
- 77 One who sings

# **Operation**

You'll need to carefully extract the four items seen below from the completed grid. In each case, the removed item can be replaced with a single letter to make a new word. These four new words are also in the grid. The four letters you add, in the same order as the pictures, will spell out your answer word.

#### **Across**

- 1 Prima \_\_\_ (at first glance)
- 6 Attention-getting noise
- 10 "Four Quartets" monogram
- 13 Galileo and others
- 14 Became visible
- 16 Emcee's specialty
- 17 Cut down to size?
- 18 Author Ring
- 20 In court, perhaps
- 21 Wells race
- 22 1/3 of a comedic laugh
- 24 Under the weather
- 25 Mets' div.
- 28 Madison Ave. industry, colloquially
- 30 Have at
- 33 Some August births
- **35** " Believer"
- 36 Does a librarian's job
- 38 Enjoy fully, as a view
- 40 Want ad abbr.
- **41** Pro
- 43 Upbeat attitude
- **44** Blame for a bad streak
- 46 Together
- 48 Appomattox general
- 49 Half of MCIV
- 50 Repeat
- **54** Brand of spyware blocker
- 56 Goes off on a rant
- 59 Vibrate in harmony
- 61 Large Pakistani city
- **62** Rather's predecessor
- 63 Prepared to wear, perhaps
- 64 Tax ID
- **65** Momentarily, in Shakespeare
- 66 "The World Is Not Enough" director Michael

	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	27					28				29
30	31	32					33		34			35		
36						37		38			39			
40				41			42		43					
44			45			46		47						
	48				49						50	51	52	53
54				55				56	57	58				
59							60		61					
62									63					
64				65					66					

- 1 June test, for many
- 2 Hanna-Barbera pooch
- 3 Word before "rule" or "number"
- 4 Aware of
- 5 Latin 101 verb
- 6 Butter amount
- 7 Grew up
- 8 Verve
- 9 Bedroll's place
- 10 Sport riding equipment
- **11** Cap
- **12** Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon
- 13 Whole lot
- 15 Caustic
- 19 Genetic letters
- 23 Big initials in fashion
- 26 Nice reading?
- 27 Zeno of
- 28 Japanese, e.g.
- 29 Kooky
- **30** "Wait \_\_\_!

- 31 Takes on, as blame
- 32 Come to one's senses
- **34** Wild time
- 37 Billy Joel song that begins, "She cuts you once, she cuts you twice"
- 39 "Well done!" in many sports
- 42 Singer DiFranco
- 45 Attach, as a patch
- 47 RSVP part
- 49 Sink part
- 51 Hardly a hottie
- **52** Brought on board
- 53 Columnist's offering
- 54 Storylines
- 55 "Puppy Love" singer
- 57 Director Kazan
- 58 Acronym associated with the economic bailout
- 60 Bard's dusk







### Balderdash

The circled letters in each of the seven entries below will reveal a very strange yet very real word. First, complete the grid using the clues on the next page. Then, get out your dictionary (or pay a visit to Google) and match each word to its correct definition. (All the definitions are taken straight from the game.) The letters of the correct definitions, when read in clue order, will reveal a clue to a three-letter word.

- Surgical instrument stuck in the side of a cow to relieve gas pressure caused by overeating
- b) The science of animal conversation
- c) A tool used for making rope
- d) Sideline noise that disturbs a radio or TV show production
- e) The hair that grows on the back of the neck
- f) The interweaving of tree branches
- g) The odd feeling felt by certain people when handling fuzzy surfaces
- h) A line on a weather map indicating thunderstorms
- i) Curved wooden planks in the frame of a ship
- j) A beard-growing contest
- k) Losing one's eyebrows or eyelashes
- In surfing, a loud,
   obnoxious person
   who has never actually surfed
- m) Unable to pronounce the letter "s"
- n) The science of deducing information from animal tracks
- o) A rough bumpy surface on a pane of glass
- p) The dust created by vehicles on dirt roads
- Medical treatment of using raw meat, such as steak, on a black eye
- A person paid to let people at carnivals throw balls at him

- 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 23 24 26 25 28 30 32 33 35 36 40 42 43 47 49 50 52 54 55 58 59 60 61 64 67 70 72 73 75 76 78 80 82 83 84 85 88 89 90 91 93 94 95 98 /000 /0T 102 99 103 104 105 106 107 108
  - s) A bottle with a suction cup device that is used for catching insects
  - t) A spear used for eel fishing
  - u) Runty apples left on a tree after a harvest
  - v) Fortune-telling by watching bubbles rise in fountains
  - w) The reproductive arm of an octopus
  - x) A new growth of hair on the head
  - y) The palm of the hand or the sole of the foot
  - z) A variety of Australian palm tree

*Did you know?* Typing "define [word]" into Google will often call up definitions of that word from multiple dictionaries.

## Balderdash

#### **Across**

- 1 Large stain
- 8 "You \_\_\_ one!"
- 13 Move a bit
- 18 Cheyenne allies
- 19 Fast-paced
- 20 Giant baddies
- **21** Lever, e.g.
- 23 More than happiness
- 24 Will's "Hitch" co-star
- 25 Collapses, with "over"
- 26 Locate precisely
- 28 Resident of Belgrade
- 30 Sales
- 31 Church section
- 32 Game that uses 32 cards
- 34 It's 23º 26' 22" north of the Equator
- 38 Wall St. debut
- 39 "Playhouse Disney" character
- 40 Prince Valiant's son
- 41 Anise liqueur
- 43 Trouble and Aggravation
- 46 Letters in old atlases
- 48 Little dog noises
- **51** Oath response
- 52 Law school requirement
- 55 MCII halved
- 56 Venomous reptiles
- 59 It's attached to a bridle
- 60 Its highest point is Jerimoth Hill
- 63 Mine material
- 64 \_\_\_ Men ("Who Let The Dogs Out?" band)
- 66 Shoebox letters
- 67 Oft-heard word in the 2008 presidential campaign
- 68 Holiday drink
- 69 Sign on to
- 72 Autobahn hazard
- 73 Under-the-crust material
- 75 Tawdry
- 77 Sow or cow
- 79 Part of an order
- 80 Cape
- 81 Local newspaper staffer

- 88 Greenhouse supply
- 90 Plot again
- 91 RFK Stadium player
- 92 Certain util.
- 94 Pot place
- 96 Columnist Molly
- 98 Itinerary word
- 99 Garbage or laundry conveyance
- **100** Activity for those who've been debriefed?
- 103 Tiny vents
- 104 Havens
- 105 Drivable, as a winter road
- 106 1940s blast
- 107 Citi Field player, for short
- 108 Many game show prizes

- 1 Some encs.
- 2 Evergreen hedge shrub
- 3 Delilah in DeMille's film
- 4 Across from: Abbr.
- **5** Oration
- 6 "Ta!"
- 7 Cooking class
- 8 Saruman's soldiers
- 9 Short cry
- **10** What a light bulb might symbolize
- 11 Underling
- **12** Absolutely perfect, as a setting
- 13 Popular name with clowns
- 14 Wrinkly fruits
- 15 "Barnacle Bill," for one
- 16 Heavy-handed authority
- 17 Curvy shape
- 22 lams alternative
- 27 Getting ready
- 29 Yawn causer
- **31** "Fortunate Son" band, for short
- **33** "Dracula" director Browning
- 35 Arty wannabe
- 36 Fast-paced comedy
- 37 King, in Portugal

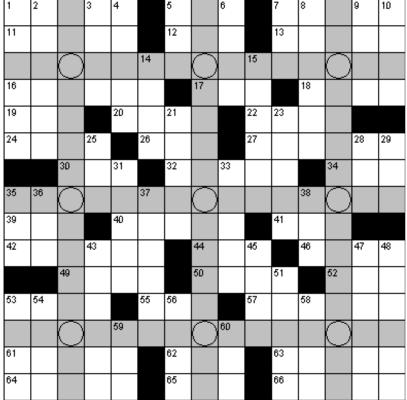
- 42 Protein messenger
- 43 Bee Gees surname
- **44** Hit song from the album "Surfacing"
- **45** Personification of the environment, weather, etc.
- 46 Horseman, sometimes
- 47 Teams
- **49** First name in 50s politics
- 50 Makes a to-do list
- 53 One of the Chipmunks
- 54 Error signal
- 57 High school event
- 58 Dreamcast manufacturer
- 61 Unadulterated
- 62 Object hesitantly
- **65** Also
- 70 Party bowlful
- 71 What some movies offer
- 74 Pay to play?
- 75 Natural resin
- **76** Not intended for the long term
- 78 With it
- 79 Mean
- 82 Hints at
- 83 "Don't worry about me"
- 84 Be resentful of
- 85 Contributed to, as an account
- **86** Stage name of Cassandra Peterson
- **87** "The Story of Us" director
- 89 Casual bags
- 93 Cells
- 95 Give power to
- 96 Part of MIT
- 97 Blow forth
- 99 Financial fellow, briefly
- 101 Wedding
- announcement word **102** Sgt.'s underling

# **Pictionary**

The twelve drawings on the next page represent words or phrases, which can be placed in the shaded rows and columns of the grid below. Each row and column will contain two entries; you'll have to figure out where they all go using the other entries as a guide. When you're done, the circled letters will spell out a clue to a three-letter word.

#### **Across**

- 1 Filled up
- **5** QB's try
- 7 Pretentious
- 11 Ticked
- 12 Part of una semana
- **13** Ending meaning "vista"
- 16 Wrestling maneuver
- 17 Want ad letters
- 18 Large reference sources, for short
- 19 Org. in Detroit headlines
- 20 Org. at Ames Research Center
- 22 Hershey brand
- 24 Buttoned-up
- 26 Orch, section
- 27 Safari chiefs
- 30 Zero
- 32 "\_\_\_ and the Cruisers" (1983 movie)
- **34** 911 respondent
- **39** Boozer's sound, maybe
- **40** Peninsula divided by the 38th parallel
- 41 Polite letter starter
- 42 At an angle
- **44** Kandinsky contemporary
- **46** Overseas reps: Abbr.
- 49 Road division
- 50 Some advanced degs.
- 52 Prefix with -man
- 53 Nickname for an 80s movie icon
- **55** Complete collection
- 57 Letter that resembles an upside-down V
- **61** Emphasized type, for short



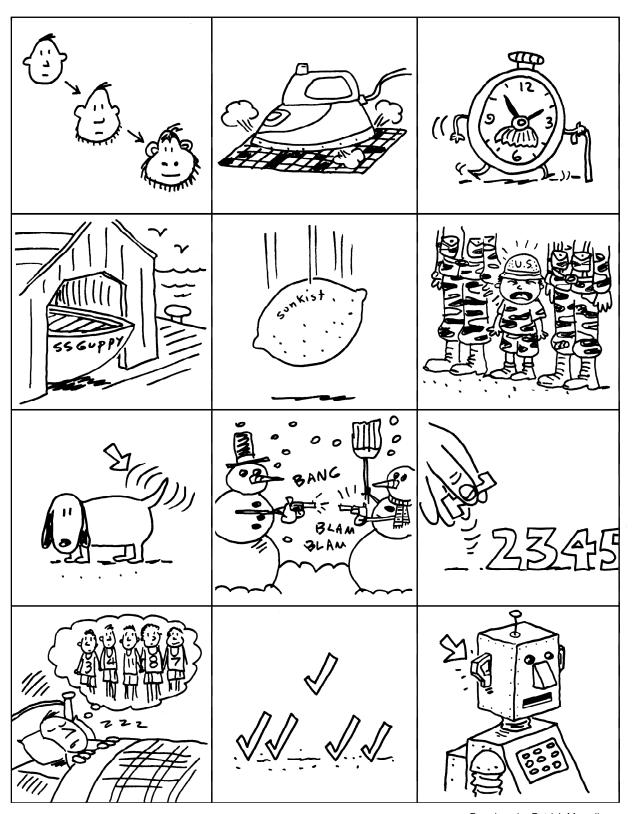
- 62 Answer to the riddle
  "You lose it
  whenever you stand"
- 63 Woody's co-star, often
- 64 Word in a S.C. Johnson product name
- 65 Morns
- 66 In place

- 1 Join
- 2 Money owed, old-style
- 3 JFK announcements
- 4 Athlete Sanders
- 5 Brouhaha
- 6 Mexican snack

- **7** Enzyme suffix
- 8 Pepsi alternative
- **9** Certain side dish, in slang
- 10 Informal agreements
- 14 Genetic molecules
- 15 "The Love Bug"
- 21 Control
- 23 Country singer Buck
- 25 Alma mater for many an engr.
- 28 Musician's equipment
- 29 Marie, for one: Abbr.
- 31 Equate (to)
- **33** Gimli, in "The Lord of the Rings"
- 35 Words of surprise
- 36 Miniature, in miniature

- 37 Not ostentatious
- 38 Madre's sister
- 43 Late 50s scandal
- **45** \_\_\_\_ Alto
- 47 Finish
- 48 Made bubbly, in a way
- 51 Makes smooth
- 53 Storklike bird
- 54 bene
- 56 "Enchanted" girl of children's lit
- 58 Early 16th-century year
- 59 Seabee's org.
- 60 Base cops, briefly

# **Pictionary**



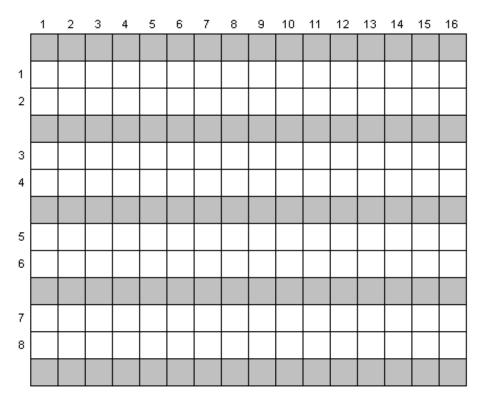
Drawings by Patrick Merrell

# **Dungeons** and **Dragons**

This grid is filled with monsters and other fantastic creatures! Clue answers are separated by bars, which you will have to add. (The grid is not symmetrical.) The five shaded rows each contain three creatures out of Dungeons and Dragons, and each set of creatures has a single letter in common. These letters, reading down, will spell out this puzzle's answer word.

#### **Rows**

- 1 Family nickname •
  "Extra \_\_\_\_" (food classification) "Hubba hubba!"
- 2 "The Sopranos" actress de Matteo • Showed up • Aria from Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera" • Emeril's trademark interjection
- 3 Hydrocarbon suffixes Forehead covering hairstyle On a lease
- 4 Onetime television network • Doctor's order • Big
- 5 "Family Ties" mom Investigates, say Catherine \_\_\_ (Henry VIII's last wife)
- 6 Makes less bright Some chains: Abbr. • Journalist Stewart or Joseph • Classic Jaguar
- 7 One-dimensional Fragrant resins used in perfumes Resident of the moon of Endor
- 8 Spanish pronoun •
  Hold in check •
  Heartburn Store in a cellar, perhaps



#### **Columns**

- 1 Electronic doodad Sticks one's nose in
- 2 First of HOMES Prefix with "pad" Candle blower's thought
- 3 Final "A Chorus Line" number Like a bassoon's music Ray in the ocean
- 4 Solo men Label for a coward Audition for a role
- **5** One of the first inductees into baseball's Hall of Fame Religious sch. Vegas game
- 6 Apt call letters of a New York sports radio station Right away Flung
- 7 Beverly Cleary title character Vaio maker Central prefix
- 8 Lay \_\_\_ (do poorly) Jabbers Unit of force
- 9 Bakery tools On \_\_\_\_ (moving fast) Concern for a computer buyer
- **10** Item in a boot Actor John Davies Key
- 11 polloi Refs, slangily Tibia's site
- 12 Knee slapper Sporty car roof feature Benchmark: Abbr.
- 13 Former student, briefly Linda in the "Monicagate" scandal Back
- 14 "Watership Down" animal Pre-takeoff route
- 15 Unadorned "Listen!" Draped clothing
- 16 Thanksgiving serving Archbishop Edward of New York Gave off foul odors

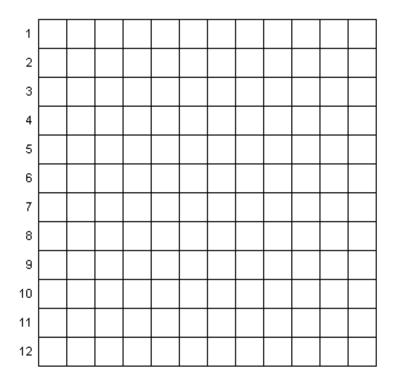
# Mouse Trap

That last mousetrap, with the bowling ball and the diver, sure didn't work—there's always one mouse who gets away with the cheese—so I'm assembling a new one with the pieces shown on the next page. Answers to the Row clues should be placed one after another in the given row. The answers to the Pieces clues each begin in its appropriate numbered square. These pieces can then be placed in the grid, without flipping or rotating them, and will fill the square exactly.

You'll notice I'm baiting the completed mousetrap with no less than five kinds of cheese. Just place these like all the other pieces. But, hey! One letter from each cheese is missing! That darn mouse has already been here!

#### **Rows**

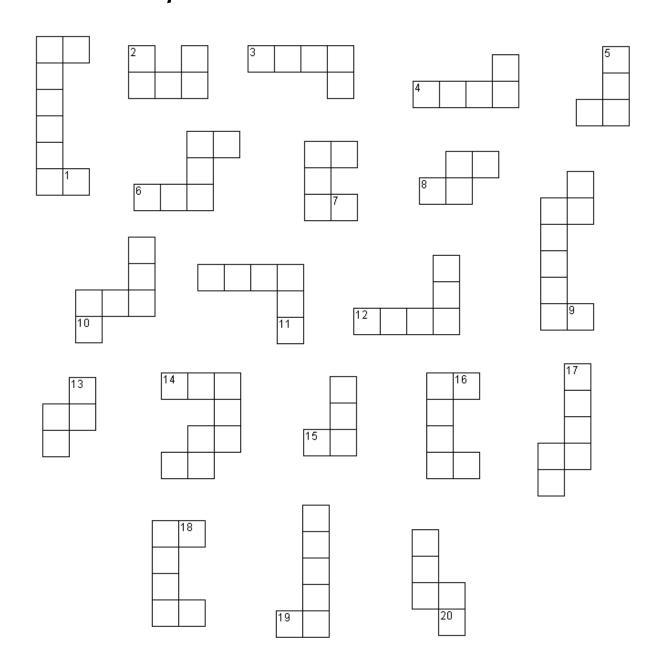
- 1 Like the five ball Auto introduced in 1927
- 2 City that once had Clint Eastwood as its mayor Flow back
- 3 Use, as a machine Happiness and sadness
- 4 New settlement away from the main territory Enjoy a book again
- 5 Certain massage "Land" in France
- 6 Pitchfork part
  Poison that is said to taste like almonds
- 7 Slow down, as growth Housecleaner, at times
- 8 Anatomical opening Propelled a boat
- 9 Imaginary circle connecting the Earth's poles Actor Diggs of "Chicago"
- 10 Soon, poetically Soup base
- 11 Will's preppy cousin on "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"Princess's headwear
- **12** Most likely to ask questions More than enough



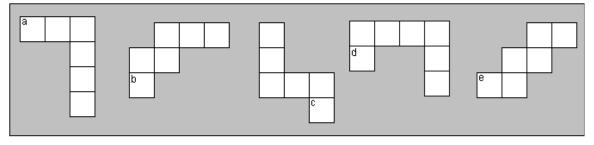
#### **Pieces**

- 1 Again
- 2 Made grain-sized
- 3 Icon on many a Christmas ornament
- 4 Florida home of Busch Gardens
- 5 Dossier
- 6 He's only kidding
- 7 Less often found
- 8 Actress Hayworth
- 9 "I can't do this!"
- 10 Audiophile's purchase
- 11 Glued shut
- 12 "Right away!"
- 13 Janet's "Rocky Horror" fiancé
- 14 Determine the problem
- 15 Time in office
- 16 Overly ornate
- 17 Formal order
- **18** Where new work sometimes arrives (hyph.)
- **19** Told without authorization
- 20 Lover of Shakespeare?

# Mouse Trap



## The Cheeses:



# Charades

Besides being a popular game, "Charades" are a popular form of wordplay, in which two or more words are put together to form a longer word or phrase. (Like MUST + ACHE = MUSTACHE.) The unclued words below, shown in the grid in grey, can be paired up to form six charades, which are themselves clued by this puzzle's long theme entries. Each charade, however, is missing its starting letter—you'll have to provide this. These letters, reading down in the same order as the definitions in the grid, will spell out your answer to this puzzle.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18
19						20						21					22			
19						20						21					22			
23					24						25						26			
	27							28								29				
			30				31			32				33	34			35		
			00				01			02				00	04			00		
36	37	38			39				40				41				42			
43			44	45			46					47								
48					49	50			51	52	53		54					55	56	57
58								59				60						61		
36								59				60						01		
			62							63					64	65	66			
67	68	69				70			71		72		73	74		75				
76					77			78		79		80			81					
										. •					•					
82					83	84	85				86							87	88	89
90			91	92					93				94							
			95					96			97	98				99				
100	101	102							103	104				105	106			107		
	101	102							103	104				105	100			107		
108				109				110				111				112	113			
114			115				116				117			118				119	120	
121					122	123							124							125
													,							
126					127					128						129				
130					131					132						133				

# Charades

**75** Participated in

crew

#### Across **76** Yoga energy 12 Wind in a pit Rock" (Paul center 13 Steve's 1 Is in charge Simon song) 6 Country singer 78 Goat's bleat "Parenthood" role 71 Coddle Travis 80 Some fishermen **14** Rep. counterpart 73 Sprint at top speed 11 Feet, slangily 82 See instructions 15 Take-out order? 74 Quaint word on a 15 Oscar nominee for 83 Charade #4 16 Take-out item? sian "Finding 90 Captain Picard's 17 One-time coffee Revolutionary of old Neverland" 79 Pub serving destination, substitute 19 Freeze over 18 Tough problems 81 German one sometimes 24 PhD candidate's 20 Ancient Aegean 93 "Absolutely!" **84** Massive, very hot 94 Kept from obligation: Abbr. land celestial orb 21 Award for small 95 Vital vessels 25 Handle 85 Bluish-green hue 29 "Attack!" theaters 97 Gary Gygax's 86 Basic Spanish verb 22 Switch ending company, once **31** Company at the 87 One of Jon's pets 23 Charade #1 99 Out in the sun center of the 88 Hip end **26** See instructions longer, perhaps Martha Stewart 89 One-third of a war 27 Login need 100 Charade #5 stock trading movie 28 Three-faced 107 See instructions scandal 91 "Go, team!" goddess of 33 Meet after some 108 Canoe need 92 City on the Oregon witchcraft 109 Stock unit, briefly time **29** "Beau 110 CD follower 34 See instructions 96 Take out of the race **30** Mix again 98 Bulk up **111** 50 meters, in **36** Occurrences. 32 Med. option many pools slangily 100 Self-contained unit 33 Actress Charlotte 114 Hang loosely 37 Legal org. that 101 Peter of "Peter, **116** Best Supporting takes many cases Paul, and Mary" **35** Afr. neighbor 36 See instructions Actor of 1994 102 Mesmerized state pro bono 118 Toyota model 38 Biblical kingdom **103** Rice-a-**39** Charade #2 43 " of Varnish" 121 See instructions **104** Hyphen's longer east of the Dead (C.P. Snow's final 122 Charade #6 Sea cousin **40** Run 105 Auction house novel) 126 Focal points 46 Animator's 127 Bayou danger 41 Work the stove transaction creation **128** Lift on the sly 42 See instructions 106 North Carolina 47 Supreme Court **129** "I'm here!" 44 Not home, say college 130 Woolly females 112 Journalist Joseph retiree of 2009 45 One making **48** A lot of food **131** Ho Chi confetti, probably or Stewart 132 Flexible joint 49 "Just so you know" **51** Compass pt. 113 New Guinea **54** 39.37 inches, 133 See instructions 50 Four Corners state 115 Trident-shaped approximately 52 Winter vehicle letters Down 58 Charade #3 116 Hubbard prefix 61 See instructions 1 See instructions Accusatory words 117 Opposed to 2 Very light brown 55 Ski resort's need 62 Author and 119 Mil. program Wine sediments 56 Buffalo's lake journalist Fallaci **120** Museo contents Thoughtful one 63 Parlor inits. **122** End of the 19th 57 McNally 5 Church top 64 Variety 59 Destiny century Connected with 6 **67** "Bird on Dogpatch resident 123 Jeremy's Hermione's friend 7 70 Part of a bouquet Bagel-shaped "Entourage" role Trisected 66 Bacon unit **124** See instructions garni 9 See instructions **72** Edit menu option 67 German **125** Prof's helpers

**10** Exercise with slow,

11 Strange and Who,

for two

balletic movements

interjections

68 Smidgen

# Clue

Welcome to the home of our dear, departed Mr. Boddy! His murder was solved long ago—now it's time for the reading of the will. To discover what Boddy left for you, you'll need to once again explore his mansion.

The clues below are grouped according to room. In each room, clues are shown in order according to where their answers begin—first all the Acrosses, then the Downs. Each answer begins in its given room, though it may end in a different room. You'll have to use logic and good crossword thinking to figure out how all the answers fit together. The "walls" seen in the grid are only for your reference—answers will be separated by bars which you must add. (The finished puzzle will have standard crossword symmetry.) When the grid is complete, the circled letters, from left to right, will reveal what Mr. Boddy has left you. One word has been placed to get you started.

#### Study

- Clue weapon
- Jungle snake
- City with the CN Tower
- Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., etc.
- \_\_\_ about (approximately)
- Golfer's goal
- · Business school subj.

#### Library

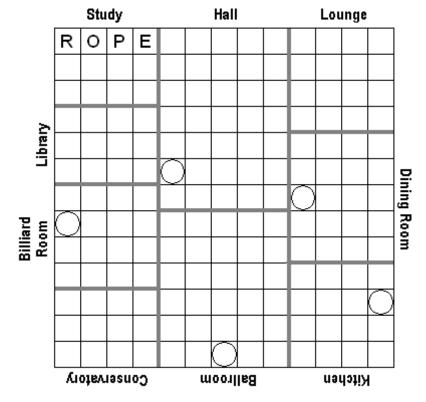
- · Put on paper
- Entirely in favor of
- Weapon stat
- Misfortunes
- Hibernation place
- Unregistered weapons?

#### **Billiard Room**

- · X, in a signoff
- · More than cold
- Bamboo and barley, for two
- Aesop animal
- Horrified
- · Lifelong job
- Come back strong
- Trade fair, for short

#### Conservatory

- Cosmonaut Leonov
- Passed out
- Amateur



#### Ballroom

- Like Scrooge
- Baby's sound
- Kirk's enemy
- Move away fast
- Big mouth, slangily
- Some bikini bottoms
- Flats and pumps
- Spark a fire
- People online
- Lhasa

#### Kitchen

- Tidy
- Place for stubble
- Gymnast Korbut
- Single

#### **Dining Room**

- Palm fruit
- Give commands
- " do"
- · Famous ship of myth
- Driver's license prerequisite

#### Lounge

- Gush forth
- Shaker contents
- Indian honorifics
- 13th-century sculptor Nicola
- Bad bacteria
- · Monster.com listing

#### Hall

- Give instruction
- Longtime role in daytime television
- Hoosegow
- · Castaway's place
- Garden bloom
- · Circular tube shape
- Worker's request
- Sidekick of 50s television
- Whole
- Big events
- Some medicines
- "I'm about to start!"
- Hat parts
- · Large cuts of beef
- · A pair beats it

# Endgame

Time for the last game! You now have eight words, one for each of the previous puzzles. All the words can be found in the crossword below—but each word has had three more letters added to it, not necessarily consecutively. Find the correct entries and extract the three additional letters, keeping them in order. These eight three-letter groups can be rearranged to spell out a phrase well known to gamers everywhere. It will also describe what you'll do if you're the winner of my contest.

#### Across

- 1 Post office stamp
- 6 Fight
- 10 Lyle Lovett's record
- 13 Gets used (to)
- 15 Secret weapon, so to speak
- 17 Aspired
- **18** Inopportune
- 19 Fire starter
- 20 "Be my guest"
- 21 Stone of note
- 23 Peyton's bro
- 24 Huge number
- 25 Theatrical divisions
- **26** Over
- 29 Sorority letter
- 30 Abbr. in a real-estate
- 31 Hoop sites
- 34 Sooner city
- 36 Member of the fam
- 38 Margaret Mitchell character
- 40 Brown on the grill
- 41 Lasting power
- 43 Brief sound of amusement
- **44** Rod of authority
- 47 First name in cartoon skunks
- 48 U.S. Army medal
- 51 Portuguese "she"
- **52** China's spot
- **54** Brown and Rose
- 57 Grant, with "upon"
- **58** Kit's counterpart
- 59 Prep school course, maybe
- 60 Uncannily depicts the spirit of
- 61 Big moments
- **62** Key, e.g.
- 63 Some lawvers: Abbr.
- 64 Grain disease

1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9		10	11	12
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54			55				56		57					
58									59					
60									61					
62				63						64				

- 1 Divert one's attention
- 2 One of thirteen different kings in Ancient Greece
- 3 Stadium entrance blocker
- 4 Eats at
- 5 Support, as an embankment
- Send elsewhere
- Floating spores
- 8 Mutated gene
- **9** Prepaid fees
- **10** 1984 Pulitzer winner for Drama
- 11 Statement of belief
- 12 Extend
- 14 Some queens?
- 16 Post-cold war inits.

- 22 Grocery store amenities
- Skewed
- 28 Code sound
- 30 City east of Zaragoza
- 32 Nuking, perhaps
- 33 Uses, as a scale
- 35 Nordic airline
- **37** Problem
- 39 Dance craze of the
- 42 Gal in many a WWII locker
- 45 Skipped a sound
- **46** Entree after some tapas, perhaps
- **47** Nag
- 48 M CXCIX
- 49 Heads of Iran, once
- 50 Group of conspirators

- 53 Plunder, old-style 55 Burgundy (Will
  - Ferrell character)
- Regularly scheduled meeting: Abbr.