

BLACK vs. WHITE

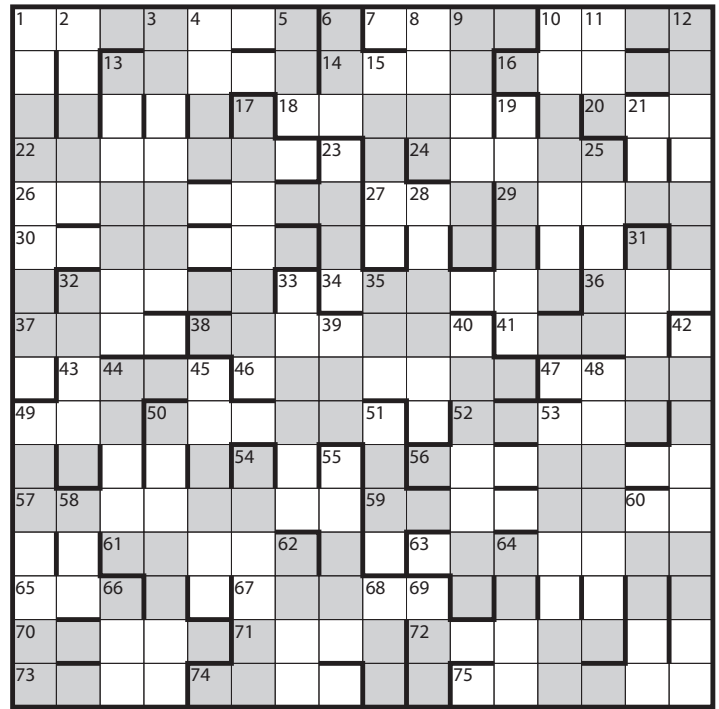
by Mark Halpin, Cold Spring KY

"Checkmate!" declares Monsieur Blanc, making an adroit move and triumphing again over his opponent. In a fit of pique, Herr Schwarz sweeps the pieces from the table and storms away. The solver may recreate the position of the game at the moment of Blanc's victory on the chessboard shown.

Twenty pieces have already been eliminated by the end of the game. Of the remainder, eleven may be positioned in the board squares indicated by the "Pieces" clues. These clues are listed alphabetically by answer, with the clues for the **black** pieces in **boldface**. A board square is indicated by a clue if the letters in that square, plus all letters adjacent horizontally and vertically, can be arranged to form the answer to the clue.

Once those pieces have been situated, the solver must determine the position of Blanc's king by logic. The letters in and adjacent to that square may be arranged into the final solution to the puzzle.

Some grid entries are abnormal. The initial letters of their clues spell out a hint to the chess problem. White is moving up the board, and standard rules of chess apply.



ACROSS

- 1 Proceed confidently after 1 Across
- 7 Obnoxious couple left after recital's finale
- 10 Motley Crue's tone
- 13 Name held by quite a few!
- 14 Tree planted around California jail
- 16 Writing assignment rejected: mostly cliché
- 18 Without ado, cultivate Bordeaux in area far from town
- 20 Hits for Coke and Pepsi, perhaps
- 22 Esoteric lore investing Gold One with divine radiance
- 24 Musical composition is nice acoustically
- 26 Picture is badly besmirched, Henry and May not being visible
- 27 Evildoers from island kidnapping representative
- 29 Flowers discussed before I die
- 30 Fumes from Latin America permeating sombrero, maybe
- 32 City in Australia's upper third region
- 34 Mosaic fragment (Caesar's) to be seen in art retrospective
- 36 Particle in Omni, oddly
- 37 Seamstress taken aback by scissors
- 38 Crowds make note of a manuscript about Jack
- 41 First character in Japanese drama is venerable ship-builder
- 43 Accidentally released label on drug
- 46 Citadel's regimented manner of speaking
- 47 Team turned back around ocean port
- 49 You and I had briefly coupled
- 50 Fires engulfing pair of Irish grave markers
- 52 Old, warped box we're opening at bend in river
- 56 Edgy, scared, U.S. goes to war
- 57 Laments about drunken utterance in Indian group
- 59 Ignore Mo's unruly battle cry
- 61 Wired manors for particular Italians
- 63 Cad, gone awry, is many-sided figure
- 65 Sounds of delight echo in Fantasyland
- 67 Cop almost turned back from precipice
- 70 Non-aggressive antic by pet (2 wds.)
- 71 Attractive flower lit up arrangement
- 72 Miss Frank (not English) left behind a chronicle of a single year
- 73 Movement back and forth!
- 74 Government agent infiltrating western Scranton
- 75 Strained prayers: "Give crops more water!"

DOWN

- 1 Dance area does showcase singers
- 2 Houseguest allowed to move on gracefully
- 3 Vehicle speeding north and south (2 wds.)
- 4 Fascinated by Pied Piper's earliest vanishing
- 5 Point of view is essentially Disneyesque
- 6 Fifteen converse about excellent puzzle
- 8 Rows of unopened amphorae
- 9 Idle union chief to clean tables in Empire State
- 10 Traveling, retire to an African country
- 11 Impound small auto for speakers
- 12 Silly quotes in Enigma
- 13 Lady haunting ruins in dank landscapes
- 15 Scientist that is trailing dog
- 17 Carelessly written "polishSd", not "polished"
- 19 In report, compare alga and fungus
- 21 Unlimited space in lobby
- 23 Glazes that featured citrus flavoring
- 25 Opera composed about one Midwestern city
- 28 Hypnotist captivating games merchant? Just the opposite!
- 31 Not in any way sounding like practical skill
- 32 Something that's baffling for a model
- 33 Various poring over ingot (originally crude metal) (2 wds.)
- 35 Excited leap in ring
- 39 Mysterious ninja disappearing in first part of the year
- 40 Searched for music about college degree
- 42 Nothing is happening for Republican in outhouse - it could cause a rash (2 wds.)
- 44 I had a laugh someplace in the west
- 45 East Indian sailor is tricky rascal
- 48 Recklessly extravagant for princess and lass
- 49 Spear and cut up burrowing critters
- 50 My niche: quaint hearth
- 51 Greek character uttered moan
- 53 Nuts censor albums
- 54 Without deliberating at first, rashly acts and retreats
- 55 Enraged, I split organ
- 58 Division of Gestapo's headquarters is swanky
- 60 Flightless bird eats couple of chestnuts and beans
- 62 Omit part of noise in mouth!

- 64 Examine empty tepee, for example
- 66 Spring almost ejected
- 68 Dress is the merest trifle
- 69 Soaring British fliers a long way off

PIECES

A Fran condoned improving pawn's unfortunate station (2 wds.)

B One using religious jargon to hide in Archbishop's spot

C Hubbub about Prince Henry adopting four knights' code of conduct

D Charlemagne's inaugural speech about running a king's establishment

E Tile near crumbling in rook's castle-like architecture

F En masse, bishops cite a Pope's order

G In novel, Spanish hero married (showing knightly prowess)

H Tailor helps out, sewing primarily for Knights of Malta

I Regarding bishop's system of rituals: UCLA girl's confused about it

J Trouble and turmoil in knights' meeting place (2 wds.)

K Emulated the Queen of Hearts, trashing tennis yard