

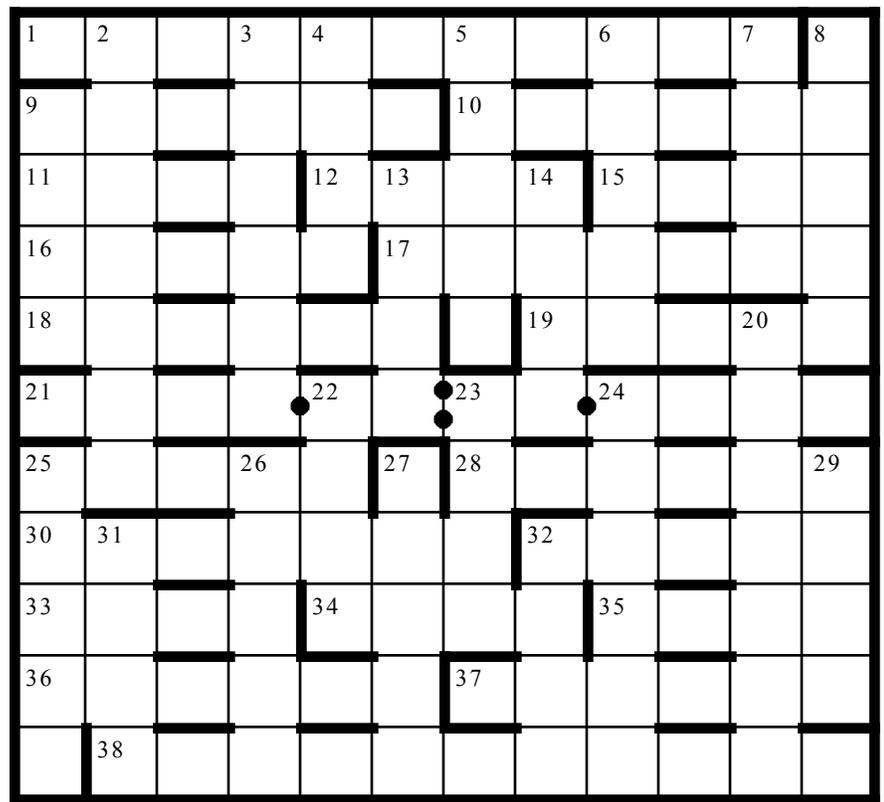
# Full House

by Ucaoimhu

Half of the answers in this puzzle are clued by only twelve of the clues; these clues (each of which is ambiguous, and yields two or three answers) are exactly those that correspond to both an across and a down entry space, and/or to an entry space overlapping the middle row.

That second possibility exists because, due to poor planning, there are *two* competing sets of “guests” (entries) in the middle row; the single dots separate the members of one set, and the double dot separates those of the other set. Thus, many squares in the middle row are assigned different letters by different sets, which are dealt with by using ambiguous clues for the entries intersecting those squares.

In each of the remaining, unambiguous clues, the cryptic part yields one incorrect letter (the answer, however, is to be entered correctly in the grid). If you use the incorrect letters (reverse-alphabetically) to order the correct letters they replace, you will get a description of how to accommodate both sets of guests at holiday meals, using a scheme (inspired by my own arrangements this year) that assigns them to their respective repasts in a manner that is, in a way, etymologically appropriate.



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Many a Greek X-Man, captivated by how big something is, split</li> <li>2. Church right above club, housing hill dweller with endowment primarily for singing</li> <li>3. Starts in India, next to revolutionary order nabbing stripped DNA</li> <li>4. Adage about \$1000 card game</li> <li>5. When there's silver on both sides, one is graying, maybe</li> <li>6. 4–9, Penny is covered with vines</li> <li>7. Penny's beheaded 34's son</li> <li>8. E-mag for blokes and French bird</li> <li>9. The immediate forerunners of us, embracing Henry with gratitude, essentially</li> <li>10. Soldier meets maiden lacking in generosity</li> <li>11. Jack's first two-foot handle</li> <li>12. I don't believe that this country turned feminine (2 wds.)</li> <li>13. Small rings encircling large bunch of notes</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. An insect said, “Run”</li> <li>15. Stravinsky mishandled rigs</li> <li>16. Left singer Lopez sluggish</li> <li>17. Hired to provide gratification around noon (2 wds.)</li> <li>18. St. Mary's's most centered three ladies go rambling</li> <li>19. Fiat in back of Little Richard</li> <li>20. Together, ultimately, cuts [sic] Ted dancing around end of video</li> <li>21. Titan's offspring, or Kubrr's port, contrariwise</li> <li>22. Being superior to crownless Mars, Juno (on one end) has unveiled moves</li> <li>23. Put out, as nut's outside under extremely vaporous third-to-last of planets</li> <li>24. But half of them ought to strike right character of “might”</li> <li>25. Somewhat slowly crawling bits of elastic (spun, not molded)</li> <li>26. What carries blue blood? English</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>or French queen</li> <li>27. Tasks involving one of your little kangaroos</li> <li>28. Obey after “Get naked, Charlie!” is repeated</li> <li>29. Sexy lead in <i>Hamlet</i> is performing in <i>Othello</i></li> <li>30. Start disrobing Benny, concealing zilch (2 wds.)</li> <li>31. Amphibian agents that get counterfeiter's upset</li> <li>32. Carbon on top in Dell box's interior 35</li> <li>33. Hide reformulated soft drink</li> <li>34. Eve's third son's second horse</li> <li>35. Tesla, say, flipped over topless singer from the Police</li> <li>36. Tolkien creature stuffing plaything with fourscore quarters</li> <li>37. Wife abandons important slice of pizza, perhaps</li> <li>38. The hand clenched around fancy, posh Madame Blavatsky, e.g.</li> </ol> |
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