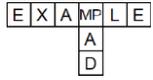




# Combinations #1

BY ANDREW J. RIES

Several squares in this grid contain two letters. In one direction, the letters read as a bigram, as (MP) does in EXA(MP)LE. In the other direction, each letter is used once in tandem with the



entry's other letters to create two words. For example (MP)AD would be MAD and

PAD. The clue for these entries is a combination of clues side-by-side for each of the two words that the entry forms. The above example could be clued as [Steaming cushion] or [Digs hopping, say]. The two words may be clued in any order, and there are no extraneous linking words in the clues, but capitalizations and spacings may be altered and punctuation may be added.

When finished, these two-letter squares, when read from left to right and top to bottom, form an eight-word quote by 23-Down.

## ACROSS

- 1 Adjective for a trendsetter
- 6 Strains from Jamaica
- 9 "Would you look at that?!"
- 12 Soy sauce quality
- 13 Component of RPM
- 14 Openly gay slugger in the Hall of Fame
- 15 First capital of the Kingdom of Italy
- 16 Trouble sign
- 17 Org. originally conceived to combat malaria
- 18 Have a bit of urgency
- 20 Bitter rival
- 21 Poetry collection staples
- 24 Mobile industry, for short
- 26 Damage
- 27 Shot coach, for one
- 28 Dangerous partner
- 31 Ones consulting tax brackets
- 33 Will concern
- 34 She beat Serena to win the 2018 US Open
- 35 Letters on a lunch menu
- 36 Big name on Wall Street, currently
- 37 Gallery group
- 39 Heavyweights' items that are charged

- 40 *Breaking Bad* baddie
- 41 Stockpile beginning to buckle
- 43 Establishment with an age minimum, maybe
- 44 "Got it"
- 45 *The Gold-Bug* author, briefly
- 49 Arm muscle, for short
- 50 Mine material
- 51 Barely adequate surveys
- 52 Arctic bird pose
- 53 String not publicly shared: Abbr.
- 54 Rock pioneer who co-wrote "R-O-C-K"

## DOWN

- 1 Threaded piece of hardware
- 2 Down Under icon
- 3 Combat unit on a farm
- 4 Staff at a forge
- 5 Jukebox musical featuring "Private Dancer"
- 6 Acts maliciously toward
- 7 Essential part
- 8 Torah locale
- 9 Don't be undercover?
- 10 Piano piece

- 11 It omits the rest, for short
- 19 Ticket segments
- 20 "Held down" place
- 21 Foreboding gulf of the Arabian Sea
- 22 Uber CEO Khosrowshahi
- 23 Inventor of a certain combination puzzle
- 25 One Direction playlist
- 27 Ship stir
- 29 Berkshire institution
- 30 Sodas in green cans, familiarly
- 32 Moody school clique
- 33 Disney character in a blue dress
- 35 In the middle of
- 38 Tech support seekers
- 39 Ivy League city
- 40 Wise guys
- 42 Informal meeting
- 43 Class-based group, for short
- 44 Greek island castaway's call
- 46 Good bud
- 47 United together
- 48 Site for buying vintage goods

