Happy holidays, puzzle lovers! To keep you busy, here’s our latest assortment of brain-twisters by Fraser Simpson, creator of The Globe and Mail’s cryptic crossword.

**Word Play**

**Spiral**
You’ll need to think in two directions to solve this puzzle. The Inward clues yield a sequence of words to be entered counterclockwise in the spaces from 1 to 100. The Outward clues yield a different set of words to be entered from 100 to 1. Fill in the answers, one letter per space, according to the numbers beside the clues. Can you get there and back again?

**Inward**
1-4 In ____ parentis
5-11 Submarine weapon
12-17 Peace Nobelist
20-24 Yousafzai
25-32 Make less harsh, as comments (2 wds.)
33-37 More bone-chilling
38-42 Frequently
43-50 Scarface actor (2 wds.)
51-58 Bugle call
59-67 Storm that might affect Atlantic Canada
68-73 Paratrooper’s cry
74-82 Windflower
83-89 Went grey and got wrinkles (2 wds.)
90-93 Obeys a cox
94-100 Bestows

**Outward**
100-96 Guitar attachment
95-98 Phrase incorrectly
88-91 Reduce, as sound volume
83-92 Human _____ Project
77-73 Supermodel Campbell
72-64 “I’d do it again” (2 wds.)
63-60 Chocolate bar with “bubbles”
59-54 Journalist Bly
53-46 Rival of Betty in Riverdale
45-40 Venus, e.g.
39-32 Tip off
31-27 Chief Germanic god for whom a weekday is named
26-22 River frolicker
21-16 Muppet drummer
15-9 With ice cream (3 wds.)
8-1 Diplomatic etiquette

**Ribbon**
The answers to the clues are all four-letter words, listed in no particular order. Fill the ribbon with the words overlapping by two letters, like ACHY and HYMN in the example. We’ve supplied the first and last letters of the ribbon. Can you piece the words together?

**Daisy chain**
Add a letter to the first set of letters below and form a common word by anagramming the six given letters plus the one you added. Enter the word in the squares to the right. For each succeeding row, add the last letter of the previous word you wrote to the new set of letters before anagramming. The last letter of your fifth word should be the letter you added to the first word. Only word play experts will complete this daisy chain of anagrams!

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**LOGIC PLAY**

**Word jigsaw**
Fit the pieces into the frame to form common, uncapitalized words reading across and down crossword-style. There’s no need to rotate the pieces: they’ll fit as shown, with each piece used exactly once.

```
A R
B E
G N
P R
S A
T A
O D
Y E
```

**Block association**
Form seven nine-letter words by combining two of the three-letter blocks shown below with each ending in the grid. All blocks will be used. If you do it correctly, two of the vertical columns will spell a two-word phrase.

```
AME JIM
ARC LAR
BIR LEG
CEN NEW
DHO PAR
END SCA
HIT TAT
```

**Pathfinder**
A path of 36 consecutive numbers, connected horizontally or vertically, and never diagonally, will complete this grid. Some numbers are given to get you started. Can you place a number in each empty cell to create the only correct path?

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<td>73</td>
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**Catching a code**
We’ve taken five common six-letter words, listed in alphabetical order, and disguised them using a random substitution cipher. We’ll tell you that V stands for C, and Z stands for F. Can you determine the words?

```
XLQKJB
ZLHQKD
QJQNEX
KXVJZD
EBHVVN
```

**Slide show**
Slide the 18 letters surrounding the grid into the empty squares so that four words are formed reading across and five words are formed reading down. Letters above and below the grid slide vertically to any position without changing columns, and letters to the left and right slide horizontally to any position without changing rows. Each exterior letter is used only once. Two additional letters are already positioned in the grid. Can you slide all of the others into place?

```
X L Q K J B ________
Z L H Q K D ________
Q J Q N E X ________
K X V J Z D ________
E B H V V N ________
```

**Pangram fill-in**
Use the randomly listed clues to fill in this small crossword puzzle. Each letter of the alphabet will appear exactly once in the completed grid.

```
A B C D E
F G H I J K
L M N O P
Q R S T U
V W X Y Z
```

**CLUES**
- Round Table member
- repair
- make beer
- takes a catnap
- charlatan
- skittish
- plug-in Chevy

**End view**
Place the letters A, B, and C into this grid so that each letter appears exactly once in each row and column, with the other two cells in each row and column left blank. Each letter outside the grid indicates the letter that must appear first in its respective row or column (reading in from the edge of the grid closest to the letter, and skipping any blank cells). Can you get the correct pattern? The solution is unique.

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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**Match play**
The grid contains unburnt matches of different sizes. You may burn any amount of each match, or leave the match unburnt. You “burn” a match by shading segments from the head (rounded end) to the tail, without skipping segments. The numbers outside the grid indicate the number of burnt segments in the corresponding row or column. Can you shade in the burnt segments to “match” the numbers?
Spymaster
Deduce a secret number made of four different digits 1 through 9. The chart shows four guesses at the number, and a score for each guess using marbles. Any digit that appears in the secret number in the same position as in the guess is scored with a black marble. Any digit that appears in the secret number in a different position than in the guess is scored with a white marble. Any digit that is not in the secret number does not get a marble. It’s up to you to determine which digits are indicated by the marbles. Can you figure out the four-digit number?

Bits and bytes
Put a 0 or 1 in each empty cell of this grid so that every row and every column contains four 1’s and four 0’s. No more than two 1’s or two 0’s can be adjacent in any row or column. The solution is unique.

Criss-cross math
Place the digits 1 to 9, once each, into the empty cells so that the three rows across and three columns down form correct arithmetic statements. All calculations involve only positive whole numbers and should be performed from left to right and top to bottom, ignoring mathematical order of operations.

Stay safe
Stick to the bunny hill! In this addition alphametic, each digit has been replaced with the same letter everywhere it appears. None of the three numbers starts with zero. Can you find the unique solution?

Solutions
GIANT CROSSWORD

BY FRASER SIMPSON
#globecrossword

Instructions

The crossword will print out in 12 pages.

Pages 5-10
Clues

Pages 11-16
Crossword grid, in sections; you can piece it together using the diagram at right.
**CLUES ACROSS**

1 – 227

1 Sleigh season (10)
6 “Congratulations!” (5,3)
19 Merrymaking (11)
25 Yuletide dessert (5,3)
29 Readies the oven (8)
35 Team leader in a Yuletide song (7)
37 Language in which “simba” means “lion” (7)
38 Bulgaria’s capital (5)
41 Less common (5)
42 On a barque, perhaps (7)
43 Leg up (5)
44 “Encore presentation” (5)
45 Olympic spear (7)
46 Macan GTS or 918 Spyder (7)
47 Sirius (3,4)
48 Climbs (7)
49 Ramses II, e.g. (7)
50 Lara’s love (7)
51 “Good night, sweet ladies. Good night, good night” speaker (7)
52 Chuck Berry’s music (4,3,4)
53 Told a whopper (4)
54 To-do (4)
55 Dietitian’s forte (9)
56 Site of the 1986 Reagan-Gorbachev summit (9)
57 Aluminum _____ (6)
59 Artistic workers in the video game industry (7,9)
63 Thermal insulation improvers (5,7)
66 Optimistic (6)
69 Of words and their meanings (8)
70 Swiss peaks (4)
72 Knife holder (6)
73 Choux pastry treat (6)
76 About 97°W, for Winnipeg (9)
77 Home of the Burj Khalifa (5)
78 Encompass (7)
81 Everlasting (7)
83 Bowling rentals (5)
84 Height of a doorknob, approximately (5)
85 Might (8)
87 Isolate (9)
90 Amusing (7)
93 Hidden away (7)
97 They are decorated at Christmas (10)
102 Juneau’s state (6)
104 Dogged determination (12)
106 Founding member of the Justice League in DC Comics (7)
107 Mortar and _____ (6)
109 Liberace prop (10)
111 On the chilly side (5)
113 Arctic plain (6)
114 Sherlock’s street (5)
115 First U.S. space station (6)
117 Pop-up appliance (7)
118 Indy 500 family name (5)
119 _____-frutti (5)
120 Popular crossbred dog (11)
122 Main artery (5)
123 Christmas dinner entrée (6)
124 Stress hormone produced by the adrenal glands (8)
126 Philadelphia (4,2,9,4)
134 Constructed (4)
135 “Crying” trees (7,7)
140 Purple birthstone (8)
143 The Dow, e.g. (5)
144 Cattle group (4)
145 Part of a full house (4)
146 Black magic (7)
149 Fencing sword (4)
150 Partial moon’s shape (8)
151 Actor Elba (5)
153 At your _____ (handy) (10)
155 No-show (8)
156 Fundraising option (6)
157 Like playoff games (10)
159 Pooch at an airport (7,3)
162 Linus Pauling advocated megadoses of it (7,1)
163 Oranges and _____ / Say the bells of St. Clement’s (6)
164 Greek vowel (7)
169 Brewery supply (5)
171 Inflatable auto safety feature (6)
172 Frozen rain (5)
174 Calm periods (5)
176 Blue Grotto locale (5)
178 Walden author (7)
179 _____ Laurier University (7)
180 Recklessly (8)
182 Like high-pressure situations (9)
184 Countertop choice (7)
185 Death Comes to Pemberley author (1,1,5)
186 Complete while holding your opponent’s hand (3,7)
188 Crank-operated machine-gun creator (7)
190 Deep regret (7)
192 Consecrate (5)
193 Ho-Ho-Holiday month (8)
195 Cushiony (4)
197 Wrote hastily, with “down” (6)
198 Student of Socrates (5)
200 The Lord of the Rings, e.g. (7)
204 Neil who sang Heart of Gold (5)
206 Seasonal quaff (6)
207 Ides rebuke (2,2)
210 Cruise ship game (12)
211 Lowest bridge bid (3,4)
215 Mixed salad plate arranged in rows (10)
216 London theatre award named for an actor (7)
217 By the ocean (7)
218 Half Dome’s park in California (8)
219 Main dish at a Burns Supper (6)
221 Apathetic (11)
223 iPad or ThinkPad, e.g. (6)
227 The Hunger Games setting (5)
ACROSS

230 “A Canadian is someone who knows how to make love in a _____.” (Pierre Berton) (5)
231 Weapons that require stones (10)
236 Causing disgust (7-7)
244 Hilo hello (5)
245 Pot used to make zabaglione (6,6)
247 Waldorf salad ingredient (6)
249 Province that borders five U.S. states (7)
250 Holiday get-together (5)
251 Holiday get-together (5)
252像 the word (5)
253 Billboard chart item (6)
254 Important library book info (3,4)
256 Important library book info (3,4)
258 Important library book info (3,4)
260 Important library book info (3,4)
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424 - 594

424 Well-armed sea creature? (7)
428 Toque wearers (5)
429 Position strategically, as troops (6)
430 Jekyll's alter ego (4)
431 Took umbrage at (8)
433 Employing (5)
435 Shakespearean Moor (7)
437 Gigantic statues (7)
438 Fire-stealing Titan (10)
439 Fingerless gloves (7)
441 Strand (7)
443 Lacking (9)
447 Pavarotti standard (1,4,3)
449 Major soccer blunder (3,4)
450 Cardigan, e.g. (7)
451 Mournful song (5)
452 Microsoft spreadsheet program (5)
454 Kilt fold (5)
455 Place of worship (6)
457 “Eight _____ a-milking...” (5)
459 Went by, as time (7)
463 Word before licence or justice (6)
464 Liberates (4,4)
466 Icicle-shaped cave formation (10)
467 Being victorious (10)
470 Big name in oats (6)
471 Pepperidge Farm crackers (8)
472 Standard par for an 18-hole golf course (7-3)
475 “Six _____ a-laying...” (5)
476 Bright red bird (8)
477 “Hey, sailor!” (4)
478 Old West badge wearer (7)
480 Rural stopovers (4)
481 Boldly resist (4)
482 Welsh pooch (5)
483 Flat-bottomed sled (8)
487 Thought possibly guilty (5,9)
493 Horse’s foot (4)
495 Marketing effort on Facebook or Insta (6,5,8)
502 Gordie Howe’s nickname (2,6)
504 Barber of Seville (6)
505 Throw with effort (5)
506 Song known in German as Stille Nacht (6,5)
507 Bento box fare (5)
508 Bundled, as hay (5)
509 Hot chili pepper paste of Tunisia (7)
510 _____ calendar (daily source of chocolate) (6)
511 Fine dinnerware (5)
512 World Heritage Site org. (6)
513 Animal with a stripe (5)
515 His company was rebranded as Meta in October (10)
517 Debacle (6)
518 Marley’s partner (7)
519 Mariana Trench locale (7,5)
520 Nosedive (6)
522 Combat aircraft (7,3)
527 Hot pepper (7)
531 They visit 518-Across (7)
532 Top part of a fraction (9)
534 W, on the periodic table (8)
537 Spectrum producer (5)
538 Ancient artifact (5)
539 Digging tools (7)
542 Iqaluit’s time zone (7)
543 British truck (5)
544 Utopians (9)
546 Toy that “walks” down stairs (6)
547 Didn’t fail (6)
549 Scissorhands portrayer (4)
550 Hiker’s snack (5,3)
552 Had discussions (6)
554 He created a monster (12)
558 Clementines, small gifts, or maybe coal (8,8)
560 Grad (6)
562 Bell-ringer of fiction (9)
564 One appearing 10 minutes into Act I, perhaps (9)
566 Be generous (4)
567 “Wherefore art _____ Romeo?” (4)
569 Moby Dick’s pursuer (7,4)
572 Confess (5,2)
575 Its four letters are said to represent “a great miracle happened there” (7)
576 Letter-guessing game (7)
578 Our anthem (1,6)
580 Betrothed (7)
581 Driving hazard (7)
582 Artist van Gogh (7)
583 Bluegrass instrument (5)
584 Trifled (with) (5)
585 Rhine siren (7)
586 Best Picture of 1976 (5)
587 His mom’s name is Donda (5)
588 He looked back and saw Eurydice vanish (7)
589 Novel’s secondary thread (7)
590 Company’s ability to meet its obligations (8)
591 Throw overboard (8)
592 It might feature tiramisu (7,4)
593 Adorn, as a Christmas tree (8)
594 Christmas-song trio (6,4)
1 – 199

1 Michael Morpurgo novel whose title animal is Joey (3,5)
2 Its postal code is H0H 0H0 (5,4)
3 Swashbuckler Flynn (5)
4 ____ devil (Australian beast) (9)
5 Restaurant host (6,1)
7 Crocheted blanket (6)
8 Receded, as the tide (5)
9 Couple (7)
10 Important facts (5,10)
11 Nile critters (10)
12 Biblical paradise (4)
13 Hunt for bargains (4,6)
14 Largest continent (4)
15 Classic drumming pattern of RLRRLRLL (10)
16 When You ____ Upon a Star (4)
17 Quick lunch, maybe (5,5)
18 Inquiring (6)
19 506-Across and 243-Down, e.g. (6)
20 Generosity (8)
21 Financial institution (4)
22 End the business meeting (7)
23 Buying stocks, e.g. (9)
24 Hosiery (6)
25 Impression, Sunrise painter (5)
26 Mouth wipers (7)
27 Pincered insects (7)
28 Playing for a live audience (2,7)
30 Overnight flight (6)
31 Wolverine portrayer (4,7)
32 When Juliet drinks the poison (3,2)
33 Soccer forward (7)
34 Brass component (4)
36 Like Bo Beep’s sheep (4)
39 Andalusian dance with castanets (8)
40 Gorgeous celeb (10)
58 Black-clad warrior (5)
60 Pet ____ (grievance) (5)
61 Fix, as software (5)
62 The Joy Luck Club author (3,3)
64 African mongooses (8)
65 Bowl in which to clean up before dinner (4,5)
67 Occurring after birth (9)
68 ____ and kin (4)
71 “...a ____ and checking it twice...” (4)
74 Receives willingly, as an apology (7)
75 Annie showstopper (8)
78 Of low character (7)
79 The Stone Carvers author Jane (8)
80 1971 Seuss tale about Truffula trees (3,5)
82 Acid-base indicator (6,5)
84 Eminent orchestra conductor (7)
86 It may be deleted by a censor (9)
88 Job of “Q” in James Bond films (13)
89 Have staying power (6)
90 Colouring sticks (7)
91 ____ program (attempt to retain customers) (7)
92 Back to the Future hero (5,5)
94 Cuddly bear (5)
95 Neck warmer (5)
96 Glowing fireplace coal (5)
98 Haiku, e.g. (5)
99 Jan. 1 commitments (for a while, anyway) (11)
100 Payments to an author (9)
101 Personify (6)
103 Magic-lamp rubber (7)
105 SNL segment (4)
106 Nirvana’s first one was Bleach (5)
108 Comedy genre (7)
110 Wiggle room (6)
112 Soft French cheese (4)
116 America’s Cup entrants (6)
121 Obedient (7)
125 Ring-shaped pasta whose name means “little cakes” (10)
127 Hedren of The Birds (5)
128 Spaghetti sauce ingredient (7)
129 Untamed rodeo horse (7,6)
130 Gloomy day feature (8,5)
131 “Get off the stage!” yeller (7)
132 Sign after Leo (5)
133 Style of Alphonse Mucha’s theatrical posters (3,7)
136 COP26 host city (7)
137 Was emphatic (8)
138 Not strict (7)
139 After things have calmed down (4,3,4,7)
140 Italian wine area (4)
141 Water pitcher (4)
142 ____ of Africa (Ethiopia’s locale) (4)
147 Legendary city of gold (2,6)
148 Nasal wall that may be “deviated” (6)
152 Prairie wolf (6)
154 Change schools (8)
158 Exploding star (9)
160 Least in number (6)
161 Annoying sort (6)
165 Capital of Somalia (9)
166 1608 settlement establisher at present-day Quebec City (9)
167 Rust is a result of it (9)
168 Trumpeter Alpert (4)
170 Green-skinned pear (5)
173 Parallel Lives biographer (8)
174 Danish building project (4,3)
175 Cold symptom (7)
176 Lacey’s TV partner (6)
177 Dunk (7)
181 “As if!” (5,2)
183 Snowbird’s destination (7)
185 Late 1960s music genre (11)
186 Birth country of Pope Francis (9)
187 Native New Zealander (5)
189 Hitchhiker’s digit (5)
191 Deep Purple hit (5,2,3,5)
194 Phony (5)
196 Dental thread (5)
199 Baggage porter (6)
201 – 432

201 Scamps (7)
202 _____ Field (Packers' stadium) (7)
203 Somebody That I Used to Know singer (5)
205 Barbecue (5)
208 Actor (8)
209 Farm structure (4)
212 Cruise ship (5)
213 “Ciao for now!” (3-3)
214 Witty banter (8)
215 Deadly sin involving food (8)
218 Eighth of a mile (7)
220 Reindeer's rack (7)
221 Insect stage (5)
222 Proteus and Valentine comedy, with “The” (3,9,2,6)
223 Speaker's place (6)
225 Orange-yellow flower (8)
226 Early Peruvian (5)
227 Yell, “Taxi!” (4,1,3)
228 Belongings (6)
229 Henry VIII's house (5)
231 Joshua tree desert (6)
232 Bar Mitzvah (6)
233 Beaming (8,4,3,2,3)
234 Yell, “Taxi!” (4,4,3)
235 Belongings (6)
237 Beefaroni (5)
238 Barbara Eden, in 2021 (12)
239 Orange-yellow flower (8)
241 Eight-time Wimbledon champ (5,7)
242 Let It Go singer Menzel (5)
243 Song that mentions the Feast of Stephen (4,4,9)
244 Twitter message (5)
245 “How now, _____?” (kids' rhyme) (5,3)
246 Candidate (6)
247 Segment of a morning radio show (7,6)
248 Begins anew (6,4,7)
249 Pays a visit (5,2)
250 Waiting line (5)
252 Gourmands may have big ones (9)
254 Farewell performance (4,4)
255 120/80, maybe (5,8)
256 Ticked off (7)
257 Song line (5)
259 Peas (5)
260 Bar B-Q (5)
261 Kissing line (5)
262 Gourmands may have big ones (9)
263 120/80, maybe (5,8)
264 Ticked off (7)
265 Song line (5)
266 2009 Peace Nobelist (5)
267 Miss Doolittle of Pygmalion (5)
268 Like gifts under the tree (7)
269 City birds (7)
270 Mime Marcel (7)
271 Rules of language (7)
272 Salad veggie (6)
273 Black Sea port (6)
274 Number-picking game (5)
275 Title character of a Cheers spin-off (7,5)
276 Fit for a queen (5)
277 Irish saint (7)
278 Throat-soothing lozenge (5,4)
279 Rat Pack leader (5,7)
280 Pennant maker (5)
281 Opposite of horizontal (8)
282 Prize highly (5)
283 Pioneering video game company (5)
284 Suitcase (7)
285 Sitcom instalment (7)
286 Quarter Pounder purveyor (9)
287 Sub’s viewing instrument (9)
288 Boss (8)
289 Left hungry (5)
290 Billy Budd composer Benjamin (7)
291 Rush hour driver (8)
292 Left hungry (5)
293 Bitterly cold (7)
294 Egg-shaped (5)
295 Cocoon Oscar winner Don (6)
296 Calgary rodeo (8)
297 Christmas plant (10)
298 Latin word for a warm welcome (5)
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434 Earl _____ tea (4)
435 Furry swimmers (6)
436 Christie sleuth (7,6)
439 Expected before now (7)
440 Comes out of one’s shell (7)
442 Part of a BLT (6)
445 Artist whose carvings are temporary (3,8)
446 Made hard to read (7)
448 Highway exit (3-4)
453 By the ocean (7)
456 Studs might go into them (7,4)
458 Things caught on kids’ tongues (10)
459 “Cogito, _____ sum” (4)
460 Bug-eyed (4)
461 Give your autograph (4)
462 Muralist Rivera (5)
463 Biden, e.g. (9)
465 Texted image (5)
468 Film partly set at the Bates Motel (6)
469 Victoria’s Butchart _____ (7)
470 TV programs with trivia (4,5)
473 The Jack Pine artist Tom (7)
474 Like green bananas (6)
478 Savoury pastries of India (7)
479 Stops moving (7)
482 Ben-Hur vehicles (8)
484 Number system in which 10001 is 17 (6)
485 Venetian boats (8)
486 Seaweed (5)
487 Naive (15)
488 It films through the windshield (7)
489 Buttress (9)
490 Remove a seat belt (8)
491 Cop’s cruiser (6,3)
492 Pearl Harbor’s island (4)
494 Adagio for Strings composer Samuel (6)
495 “We pause for _____ identification” (7)
496 Roast host (5)
497 Coloured part of the eye (4)
498 The Nutcracker heroine (5)
499 The _____ King (character in The Nutcracker) (5)
500 Had a home-cooked meal (3,2)
501 Library book carts (8)
503 Famed escape artist (7)
514 Edmund Gwenn role in Miracle on 34th Street (4,7)
516 Orange-fleshed muskmelon (10)
518 Like a Turkish bath (6)
521 Faucet problem (4)
523 Wrestling hold (4-6)
524 Italian coins (5)
525 “Merry Christmas” in French (6,4)
526 Burglar (5)
527 Jovial mood (10)
528 Egg part (4)
529 Twangy, as a voice (5)
530 Magnesium-based bath additive (5,5)
533 Holiday kissing cue (9)
535 “I’m okay with what I did” (2,7)
536 Time machine used by 92-Down (8)
540 Tonsillectomy, e.g. (9)
541 Remarkable sight (9)
542 Gift _____ (holiday office event) (8)
545 Stop and go, e.g. (8)
546 Follow-up films (7)
548 Motown (7)
549 Creator of 518-Across (7)
551 Guest (7)
553 Mouth the words (3,4)
555 Relating to interstellar clouds (7)
556 Scandinavian (6)
557 Pressed clothes (6)
558 Newspaper logic puzzle with numbers (6)
559 Bean-shaped organ (6)
561 Ornaments worn near the foot (6)
563 Christmas tree topper (5)
565 Expert (5)
568 Hair untangler (4)
570 European viper (5)
571 Add to the payroll (4)
573 Gift of the Magi (5)
574 Border on (4)
576 Famous diamond (4)
577 Goalie wear (4)
579 Wheel shaft (4)
Giant crossword solutions