

If you see a clue that ...	Such as ...	It might indicate ...
suggests <i>mixing, strangeness, change, moving, performing or poor condition</i>	about <sup>1</sup> , in a muddle, aimless, eccentric, fractured, wild, drunk, repair, change, mixed, bad, new, upset, affected, punk, breaking down, composed of, in a salad? (tossed), with license, in rough, prostitute, fluid, here and there, somehow, ground, model <sup>2</sup> , fancy, after a struggle, resorts, police(d), mythic, conversion, convertible, work(ed/ing)	an <i>Anagram</i>
suggests <i>reversing course</i>	about <sup>1</sup> , going the wrong way, back <sup>3</sup> , in retirement, counter v.: return, recede, flip, turn, pivot, wheel <sup>4</sup> , crawfish, swivel (Across) left, in the mirror, westward (Down) up, rising, to the North, bottoms-up, upside-down, overturned, over	a <i>Reversal</i>
suggests <i>hearing or pronouncing</i>	reportedly, in recital, to the audience, orally, by the sound, in mouth, for the auditor, reporter's, speaker's, professor's, retailer's v.: hear, say <sup>5</sup> , utter, voice, quote, dictate, attend, broadcast <sup>6</sup>	a <i>Homophone</i> or <i>Oronym</i>
suggests <i>removal, lack or incompleteness<sup>7</sup></i>	except for head/heart/tail, -less, mostly, shy syns. { head <sup>8,9</sup> = introduction to, top, prow, first, greatest, start, leader, piece <sup>10</sup> / capital / chief / bit (of) <sup>10</sup> , (de)face <sup>11</sup> , originally <sup>12</sup> , largely centre <sup>13</sup> = heart <sup>13</sup> , stripped, inside of, empty tail = end, finish <sup>14</sup> , at the back head & tail = edges, borders, peel(ed), coat, extreme(ly) <sup>15</sup> , outside of practically, unfinished, curtail, unclosed, is reduced, between terminals, nearly, leaves, almost, endlessly specific { without (e.g. 'without fail' means delete F), letter(s) { leaves, edited out, missing	a <i>Deletion</i>
suggests <i>containment<sup>16</sup>, concealment, selection from<sup>17</sup> or contribution to</i>	in <sup>18</sup> , within, without, goes around, somewhat, outside(?) v.: host <sup>19</sup> , grip, hold, fill, wrap, wear, surround, clutch, interrupt, contain, arrest, describe, tenants, swallow, parting, pocket in <sup>18</sup> , feature, element, some <sup>20</sup> , a little / part (of), among, going through, sitting in, for a stretch, from v.: host <sup>19</sup> , hide, hold, line, incorporate, catch, bury, house, show, display, provide, take, stock, cross <sup>21</sup> , contribute, bridge, check, maintain, helps... make	a <i>Container</i>  a <i>Hidden Answer</i>
is short		a <i>Second Definition</i>
uses one of ... or is none of the above	after, before, with, gains, beside, by, to	a <i>Charade</i>
ends with !		an <i>&amp; Lit.</i>

<sup>1</sup>'About' can = ON, RE, &c. (see p. 2) as well as indicating an anagram, a reversal, a container or hidden answer; 'Out' can = ALIBI.

<sup>2</sup>Model can = T, EPITOME or a specific person.

<sup>3</sup>'Back' can indicate reversal, deletion, part of a charade, and also = STERN OF REAR.

<sup>4</sup>'Wheel' can = O (see **Bits and Pieces**, on p. 3).

<sup>5</sup>But 'say' can also = FOR EXAMPLE.

<sup>6</sup>'Broadcast' can indicate an anagram, a homophone, or = ON AIR or perhaps SOWN.

<sup>7</sup>Distinguishing incompleteness from selection — which may signal a container or hidden answer — can be tricky.

<sup>8</sup>'Ultimately', 'initially', 'from the beginning', 'after the debut', &c. can suggest acronym, initialism, or teletext (see n. 17).

<sup>9</sup>'Pair of' can mean first two letters (also 'pair' can = PR); 'Couple' can = WED.

<sup>10</sup>But 'piece' can = GUN, 'piece of cereal' = OAT, 'bit of hype' = AD, and 'part of an ear' = COB. See also n. 17.

<sup>11</sup>But 'on the face' can be part of a charade, e.g. *Roguish friend with nasty scar on the face* (8) ⇒ RASC+ALLY (FS in G&M\*, 14 Mar 2009, #24A).

<sup>12</sup>'Originally' could suggest either the start (first letter), change (an anagram) or NÉE.

<sup>13</sup>But 'centre of church' = NAVE; 'Heart' can = HUB.

<sup>14</sup>'Final check' can = checkmate, e.g. *A final check by extremely unpopular hobbyist* (7) ⇒ A+MATE+UR (FS in G&M, 09 Aug. 2008, clue 15A).

<sup>15</sup>See **Some Common Synonyms** (on p. 3) for other meanings of 'extreme' and its variants.

<sup>16</sup>But 'possessed' can = RAVING.

<sup>17</sup>Some hiddens (e.g. 'starts from') are teletexts, e.g. *Fat characters ending "As You Like It"* (4) ⇒ SUET (FS in G&M, 22 Oct 2007, clue 25D).

<sup>18</sup>'In' can = POPULAR, ELECTED, &c. (see **Some Common Synonyms**, on p. 3).

<sup>19</sup>But 'host' can = many (HORDE, SLEW, C, TON, &c.) or = EMCEE (MC) as well as indicating a container or hidden answer.

<sup>20</sup>But 'some' can = ANY in a charade, e.g. *Fidgety Eliot opens some* (5) ⇒ AN(T.S.)Y

(FS in G&M, 15 Sept 2007, clue 15A).

<sup>21</sup>'Cross' can = T, just as 'fork' can = Y, 'bend' can = ESS, &c.

\*FS in G&M' = Fraser Simpson in *The Globe and Mail*.

about*	→ RE, CA, ON, OR SO, TOPIC	
as	→ REP, QUA	
alternative*	→ OR	
bed	→ COT, CRIB, PLOT, GARDEN	
by*	→ AT, X	
British	→ B	
college or school	→ U, ETON, YALE, &c.	
commercial	→ AD	
court	→ CT, WOO	
current	→ I, see also 'in' (in <b>Some Common Synonyms</b> , below)	(physics)
dam	→ EWE, MOTHER	
doctor*(s)	→ DR(S), MD(S), RIG, (AMA), VET, SURGEON(S)	
fashion*	→ see 'in' (in <b>Some Common Synonyms</b> , below)	
force	→ F, DINT	(physics)
former	→ EX, NÉE, PRIOR, LATE, ERST	
fort, island, river, street	→ FT, I (OR CAY &c.), R, ST	(maps)
front*	→ VAN	
girl	→ GAL, MAID, MISS, BELLE	
head*, a	→ PER	
hockey player/position	→ WING	
Illinois, Ontario	→ ILL, ONT	(for example)
integrated circuit	→ IC	
loud/strong	→ F	(forte)
soft/quiet	→ P, MUM	(piano)
very soft	→ PP	
Liberal*/Republican, Right-wing	→ L, GRIT/R, TORY	
lead	→ PB, VAN, LEASH, head	see also 'shot' below
silver, gold, iron, &c.	→ AG, AU (OR OR), FE (OR PRESS), &c. <sup>1</sup>	(chemistry)
left	→ L, PORT	(nautical)
manuscript	→ MS	
married	→ M	(genealogy)
men	→ RA, SONS, CHAPS, PAWNS, MISTERS	
Monday, Tuesday, &c.	→ M, T, W, F, S	
month	→ MO	
mother, father	→ MA (OR DAM), PA (OR FOUNDER)	
North, South, &c.	→ N, S, E, W, L, R, U, D <sup>2</sup>	
nothing or zero	→ LOVE, O	(tennis)
pawn	→ P, MAN, SELL, PIECE	
play	→ DRAMA	
provided or given	→ IF, LENT	(math, logic)
senior	→ SR, DOYEN, ELDER	
shared	→ CO- <sup>3</sup>	
shot*	→ BB, PER, POP, DRAM, EACH, LEAD, AMMO, TRY	see also 'lead' above
state*	→ AVER, Ohio, &c.	
study	→ CON, DEN, READ, SCAN, REVIEW	
that man	→ HE, HIM	
temperature	→ T	
time <sup>4</sup>	→ T, AT, AGE, EON, ERA, TERM, EPOCH, PERIOD	
true, false, wrong, good, yes, no	→ T (OR SO), F, X (OR SIN, TORT, ERROR), G, Y, N	
page	→ P	
pair*	→ PR	
pitcher	→ P, EWER	(baseball)
prisoner	→ CON	
South Dakota, Florida,	→ SD, FL	(for example)
unknown	→ N, X	(from math)
used	→ W	(double-'U's)
White	→ E.B., W, PURE	(author)
work	→ W	(physics)

\*Could also indicate wordplay.

<sup>1</sup>'Tin' = CAN more often than = SN; 'Gold' can = OR as well as = AU; 'Iron' can = PRESS as well as = FE. 'Can' can = TIN, FIRE, LAYOFF.<sup>2</sup>'Down' can = SAD OR BLUE.<sup>3</sup>Snake shared undergarment? (5) ⇒ CO BRA©2008 by Fraser Simpson (clue 12A of puzzle #19 in *102 Cryptic Crosswords* published by Sterling with ISBN 978-1-4027-5489-0).<sup>4</sup>'Short time' can = MO, SEC, SHAKE OF A LAMB'S TAIL, &c.; 'Times' can = BY, X, or anything else suggesting mathematical multiplication.

point → N, S, E, W, NW, &c.  
 decade → EIGHTIES (e.g.)  
 personal → AD  
 pupil → eye  
 edge\* → RIM, HEM, BORDER  
 old (modern) → signals archaic word<sup>2</sup>,  
 former, AGED, ELDER  
 circle, globe, none, no, round, bagel, \_\_\_'s egg → o

redundant → doubled word  
 wrong\* → X, SIN, TORT, ERROR  
 ten → X, IO, CHI  
 4, 5, 50, 100, 500, 1000 → IV, V, L, C, D, M<sup>1</sup>  
 mischevious\* one → IMP  
 one → I, A, AN, EG, ACE, EACH, SOLE,  
 SINGLE, PER?, A POP?  
 put down\*, negative review → DIS, PAN

## Some Common Synonyms

addition, building → EL  
 agreement → AYE, YES, AMEN  
 awesome → RAD  
 bank → GALLERY, TIER, ROW, RELY, TD  
 black eye → SHINER  
 boy → SON  
 celebration → FEST, FETE  
 company, multinat. → UN  
 cool → ICE  
 desire → WISH  
 drip, drop → IV, TEAR  
 extremely\* → SO<sup>3</sup>, TOO  
 fellow → DON, MAN, GENT  
 force → F, DINT  
 gallery → TIER  
 god → RA, PAN, ARES, DEVA  
 grateful → ASHES  
 help → AID  
 impersonating\* → AS  
 insult\* → DIS, PAN  
 journey, part of → LEG  
 magistrate, Venetian → DOGE, (DOGEA)  
 my → WOW, GEE (Oh my!)  
 odd<sup>5</sup> → RUM  
 petition → ASK, SUE, LIST, PLEAD  
 profit → GAIN  
 selection\* → example of  
 soldier, captured\* → POW  
 story → LIE, TALE, TIER  
 trash\* → DUMP, RUBBISH, DIS, RUM  
 TV show → ER  
 vandal → HUN  
 win → W, GAIN  
 word, last → AMEN

again → RE-  
 agreement, foreign\* → SI, OUI, &c.  
 baby → PAMPER  
 black car → HEARSE  
 bone → OS, ILIUM  
 carrots, with → CRECY (cooking)  
 celebrant → FETER  
 conclude → INFER  
 cover → LID  
 die → CUBE  
 easel → STAND  
 feature\* → body part, e.g. CHIN  
 friend, partner → PAL, ALLY, PEER  
 forty days → LENT  
 general, (US General) → G, BRASS, (LEE)  
 gun → GAT, REV, UZI  
 gym, health club<sup>4</sup> → Y[YMCA], SPA  
 hit hard\* → POW, BIFF, SWAT, &c.  
 indicate → INFER  
 John → LOO, CAN  
 key → I, ISLE, ISLAND  
 mountain → MT, ALP, PEAK  
 no longer → EX, NÉE, PRIOR, FORMER, ERST  
 pastime → GAME, HOBBY  
 pixie → ELF  
 repair\* → FIX, EDIT  
 soldier → GI, ANT  
 steal → ROB  
 train → EL, COACH  
 trial → TEST, PROVE  
 twin → CHAN OR ENG  
 weak\* → THIN (as in tea)  
 winding, river → ESS

in\* → TRENDY, VOGUE, CHIC, HIP, RAGE, ELECTED, POPULAR  
 on-line \_\_\_\_\_ → E-\_\_\_\_\_, abbrev. (e.g., are you online? = RU)  
 plot → BED, MAP, CABAL, RING, STORY, GARDEN  
 pop → EACH, PER, father, soft drink  
 record → LOG, BEST, LP, EP, DISC, ENTER, LEDGER  
 red → R, Communist, Soviet (e.g., red plane = MIG)  
 rock\* → ORE, LAVA, (rel.: TOR, SCREE, STRATA)  
 Simpson → BART, HOMER, LISA, MARGE, MAGGY, OJ  
 support\* → LEG, PROP, BASE, BASIS, STAND, RAFTER

\*Could also indicate wordplay.

<sup>1</sup>But '86' can = TOSS, SINK, &c., or SMART (from TV); and '1000' can = G (grand), M (Roman numeral), K (kilo-) or THOU (slang);  
 '4 x 4' can = UTE. 'Ten' is above; Number (as many) can = HOST, SLEW, HORDE, &c.; 'Number' is on p. 4.

<sup>2</sup>But 'old country' can = USSR, EIRE OR CATHAY; 'Modern art?' = ARE

('Modern art' by Fraser Simpson in *The Walrus* 5(1) (Jan./Feb. 2008), clue #20).

See also **Bits and Pieces** (above) for 'one', 'ten', and 'forty days'; See **Miscellaneous** (below) for numbers in other languages.

<sup>3</sup>*Extremely lawful to ask* (7) ⇒ SO+LICIT

(Anonymous in *Globe & Mail* of 03 Dec. 2010, clue #7D).

<sup>4</sup>'Club' can also = BAT, MACE, TEAM or refer to a card suit.

<sup>5</sup>'Odd' can indicate anagram or telestitch.

badger	→ RAG ON	Barker	→ BOB, SEAL
bitter	→ ALE, STOUT, beer	breather	→ LUNG
butter	→ GOAT	camper	→ RV
catcher	→ TRAP (see also 'trapper')	character	→ letter, ideogram, AURA, RÔLE, RUNE
charter	→ MAP MAKER, FOR HIRE	chopper(s)	→ TOOTH (TEETH)
cooler	→ 'ADE, JAIL (CAN, BRIG, CELL, GAOL)	copper	→ CU, CENT, PENNY, police
cylinder	→ LOOP	drawer	→ TILL
drawing	→ LOT, LOTTERY	eavesdropper	→ ICICLE
farmworker	→ BRACERO <sup>1</sup>	feller	→ LUMBERJACK
Fisher	→ CARRIE	flatter	→ BUTTER UP
flower	→ RIVER	forecaster	→ PROPHET
gripper	→ TALON	heater	→ GUN
hipster	→ CAT, HEPCAT	Homer	→ HR, WINSLOW
home-wrecker	→ TORNADO	honker	→ NOSE
hopper	→ HARE, RABBIT	jogger	→ REMINDER
layer	→ HEN	letter opener	→ DEAR SIR
lighter	→ FLINT	listener	→ EAR
lower	→ COW, cattle, kine, neat, bovine	mariner	→ TAR, sailor
member, colony	→ ANT, BEE	Mideasterner	→ SEMITE
minister	→ TEND, NURSE	mister	→ SPRAY BOTTLE
murderer	→ CAIN	newspaper	→ RAG
number	→ N, SKIT, ANAESTHETIC, song, dance	one evening	→ AVENGER
ones that ____	→ ____-ERS	Perrier?	→ EAU
picker	→ guitarist, harpist, &c.	pitcher	→ P, ADMAN
planter	→ SEEDER	player, tape	→ DJ
players	→ ORCHESTRA	porter	→ ALE
prayer	→ PRIEST	prayer?, good	→ AMEN+ABLE
processor, food	→ TOOTH	promoter	→ ANGEL
revolver	→ wheel <sup>2</sup> , satellite	rider	→ PS, JOCKEY, PASSENGER
rocket launcher	→ NASA	rubber	→ MASSEUR
seeder	→ PLANTER	server	→ TRAY
sewer	→ TAILOR, SEAMSTRESS, NEEDLE, &c.	sister	→ NUN
sitter	→ HEN	soldier	→ ANT, GI
steeper	→ TEA BAG	streaker	→ COMET
stroller	→ AMBLER	swimmer(s)	→ FISH, SCHOOL
teacher	→ LESSON, SWAMI, RABBI, TUTOR, PROF	tear-jerker	→ ONION
tender, legal	→ RN (registered nurse)	tower	→ TUGBOAT
trapper	→ NET, WEB	trouper	→ ballet dancer, actor
worker	→ ANT, BEE, HAND, SLAVE, STRIVER	writer	→ PEN, HAND

## Miscellaneous

**after making** *Defeat after making AC flaw (6)* ⇒ DEFECT (from defeat)

(source unknown)

*Sharp-witted charlatan has change of heart (5)* ⇒ QUICK (from quack)

FS in G&M, <sup>†</sup> 07 Feb 2009, clue 23D

**phone #** *A pastime: Phone 6 names, primarily Greek (9)* ⇒ A+GAME+MNO+N

FS in G&amp;M, 04 Aug 2001, clue 26A

**telestitch** *Evens out in unsteady kind of car (4)* ⇒ USED (UnStEaDy)

FS in 102, <sup>†</sup> clue 17A of puzzle #37

**(foreign)** *East German with resplendent bird (7)* ⇒ OST+RICH

FS in G&amp;M, 27 Apr 2003, clue 18A

*Competitor 4 at Oktoberfest (4)* ⇒ VIER

FS in G&amp;M, 20 Oct 2007, clue 18A

**(punctuation pun)** *[I note dins]? (2,8)* ⇒ I+N. B.+RACKETS

FS in G&amp;M, 20 Oct 2007, clue 13D

*Professor/benefactor (5)* ⇒ DON+OR

FS in G&amp;M, 12 Jan 2008, clue 13A

## Sources

- [1] The Games guide to solving cryptic crosswords. The text is reprinted from *Games Magazine's World of Cryptic Crosswords*. © 1992 by Games Magazine. P.O. Box 184, Fort Washington, PA, 19034, USA.
- [2] Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon. Clue-solving for beginners: Instructions for The Atlantic Puzzler.
- [3] Peter Biddlecombe (ed.). Yet another guide to cryptic crosswords. Downloaded on 29 April 2000 from (URL:<http://www.biddlecombe.demon.co.uk/yagcc/>).
- [4] Theresa Gies. Guide to solving cryptic crosswords. 'Other Clue Types' section especially; downloaded on 29 April 2000 from <http://www.execulink.com/~tagies/cryptics/solvingguide/other.html>. (Main page is at <http://www.execulink.com/~tagies/cryptics/solvingguide/solvingguide.html>).
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- [6] Fraser Simpson. How to do a Cryptic Crossword puzzle. Downloaded on 03 May 2000 from (URL:<http://www.globeandmail.com/services/site/crypticcrossword.html>).
- [7] Fraser Simpson. *The Globe and Mail Cryptic Crosswords*, volume 1. Times Books, 1997. ISBN 0-8129-2946-2.

<sup>1</sup>'Bracero' = Mexican migrant worker (from Cox & Rathvon in *The Atlantic*).

<sup>2</sup>'Wheels' can indicate reversal (FS in G&M\*, 30 Aug 2008, clue 2D).

\*'FS in G&M' = Fraser Simpson in *The Globe and Mail*.

<sup>†</sup>'FS in 102' = Fraser Simpson in *102 Cryptic Crosswords* (published by Sterling with ISBN 978-1-4027-5489-0 in 2008).