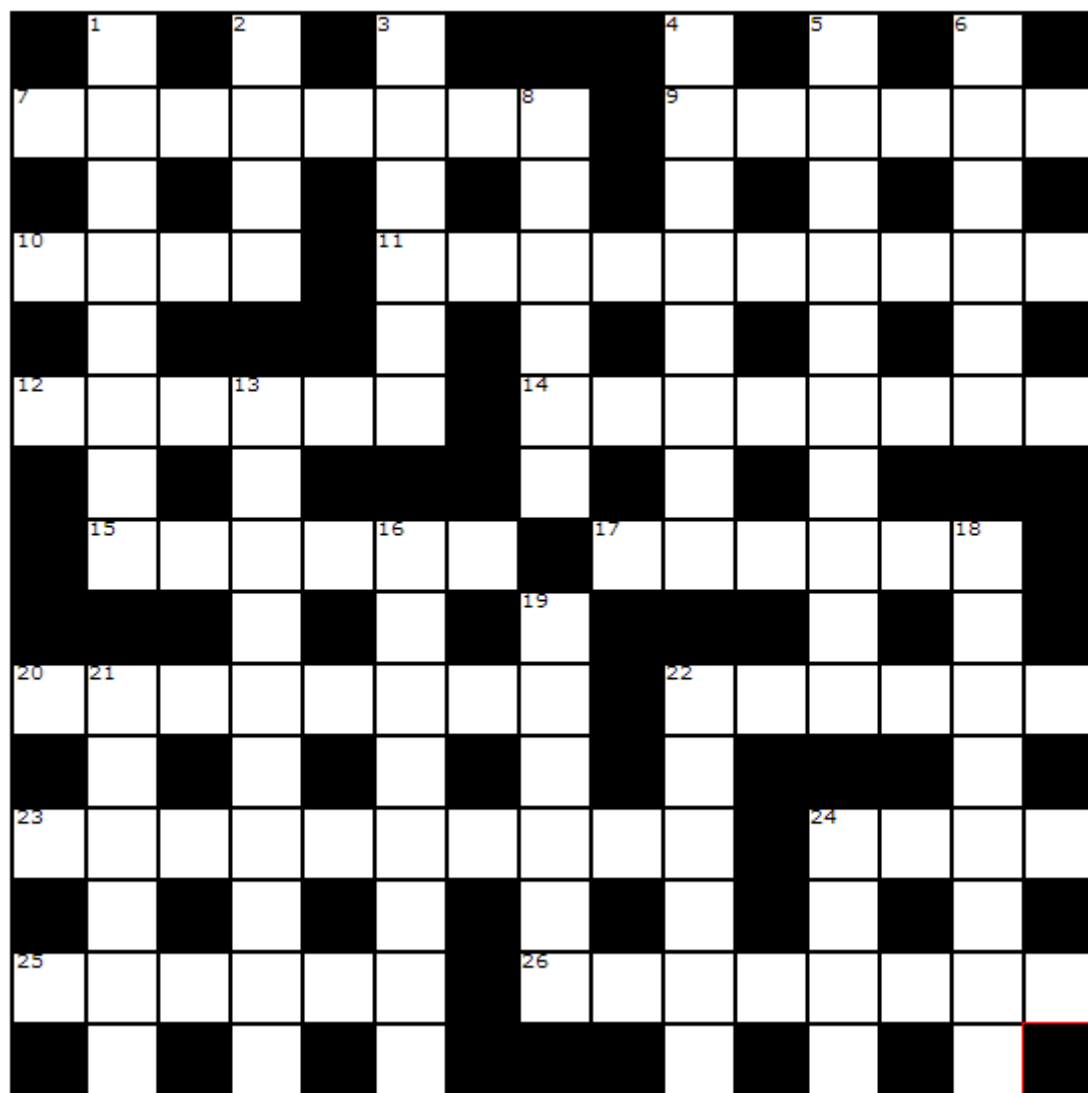


Bridge Cryptic Crossword



Across

- 7 One hoping trick will work, actually being taken in by French (8)
- 9 Handsome youth holding hand down bids in oddly deficient way (6)
- 10 After top honour, duke worsted in court, in a way (4)
- 11 Hard to handle, like a pointless holding? (10)
- 12 Positive indicators about right requirements for contract (6)
- 14 Difficult partner no longer playing (8)
- 15 Claim about line with ace and queen that's made by professional (6)
- 17 Don't follow suit - change to green energy (6)
- 20 Complaint I had rejected - more upset about diamonds (8)
- 22 Defend against South, in another test for learner (6)
- 23 Made first bid, holding cards tight? Just the opposite (4-6)
- 24 Reports from one couple at table about another (4)
- 25 Didn't bid spades, oddly (6)
- 26 Turn of partner to err - for example, about passing (8)

Down

- 1 For instance, gets rid of diamond, being heartless? (8)
- 2 Start putting one's cards on the table in corrupt deal (4)
- 3 Concerns - lots of little ones raised by partners, normally (6)
- 4 Patience, for example, as funny fellow hunted animals (4,4)
- 5 People managing without skill name business associates (2-8)
- 6 Nothing old foursome raised for player taking bow (6)
- 8 Some 19 that's extractable from tropical plants or shrubbery (6)
- 13 Bid one's spades over West, showing immaturity (10)
- 16 Penalties for players, not clubs (3,5)
- 18 Blow to West coming from unwise bid, ultimately, since double goes in (4,4)
- 19 Part of 6 or 24 down for English composer (6)
- 21 Way to dramatically expose king not ruled out (2,4)
- 22 Leader's odd new arrangement of pack (6)
- 24 Advance cautiously, finishing in two hearts, vulnerable (4)

Solution to Bridge Cryptic Crossword

	¹ D		² L		³ I			⁴ C		⁵ C		⁶ V		
⁷ F	I	N	E	S	S	E	⁸ R		⁹ A	D	O	N	I	S
	S		A		S		U		R		P		O	
¹⁰ A	C	E	D		¹¹ U	N	B	I	D	D	A	B	L	E
	A				E		B		G		R		I	
¹² T	R	I	¹³ C	K	S		¹⁴ E	X	A	C	T	I	N	G
	D		A				R		M		N			
	¹⁵ S	A	L	A	¹⁶ R	Y		¹⁷ R	E	N	E	¹⁸ G	E	
			L		E		¹⁹ B				R		A	
²⁰ D	²¹ I	S	O	R	D	E	R		²² R	E	S	I	S	T
	N		W		C		I		E				T	
²³ O	P	E	N	H	A	N	D	E	D		²⁴ N	E	W	S
	L		E		R		G		E		O		I	
²⁵ P	A	S	S	E	D		²⁶ E	L	A	P	S	I	N	G
	Y		S		S			L		E		G		