

2025 MIT Crossword Open

November 15, 2025

Name(s): _____

Division: Individuals / Pairs

Mini Rush • 30 minutes

Note: This round is double-sided!

mini1		mini13	
mini2		mini14	
mini3		mini15	
mini4		mini16	
mini5		mini17	
mini6		mini18	
mini7		mini19	
mini8		mini20	
mini9		mini21	
mini10		mini22	
mini11		mini23	
mini12		mini24	
mini25, mini26, mini27, mini28			

Boxes are for grading purposes – leave them blank!

mini1

ACROSS

- 1 Legend-ary pop star?
- 5 Hummus or baby food, e.g.
- 6 Shapes of many race tracks
- 7 Baptisms and bat mitzvahs
- 8 Sharp, as senses

	1	2	3	4
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DOWN

- 1 Youth detention center, for shor
- 2 Make a delivery?
- 3 __ of Troy
- 4 EarthBound character donning a blue and yellow striped shirt
- 5 Excess spending by Congress, with or without "barrel"

mini2

ACROSS

- 1 End-of-maze
reward for a lab
rat, maybe
7 Keeps the beat
with a foot (or
tries to land
in-bounds, on a
football field)
8 Stuck after
taking bait, say
9 "Rare earth"
materials

	1	2	3	4	5	6
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8						
9						

DOWN

- 1 Edible ice cream
holder
2 If you can't take
it, stay out of
the kitchen,
they say
3 Jazz singer
James
4 Rank above
viscount (that
is, shockingly,
not possessed
by the rapper
__ Sweatshirt)
5 Relaxation
centers
6 Telepathic
power (or the
MIT org putting
on Splash next
weekend!)
7 __ the Beaver

mini3

ACROSS

- 1 Sweetheart
- 4 They can be
Algerian or
Roman
- 6 With 2-Down,
what these two
words meet at
- 7 Strike zone?
- 8 To be in Seville

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4						5
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7						
	8					

DOWN

- 1 Gets steamy?
- 2 See 6-Across
- 3 Old anesthetic
- 4 Monk's title
- 5 Pigpen

mini4

ACROSS

- 1 Breakfast staples
- 5 "Et tu?"
addressee
- 7 Breakfast staple
- 8 One saying
"Yes... ha ha
ha... YES!" at a
window
- 9 Statistics, e.g.,
per Mark Twain

1	2	3	4	
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	9			

DOWN

- 1 Flows out
- 2 Indiana Jones
MacGuffin
- 3 Stylish or
copacetic
- 4 What to do to a
fire that 1 Down
- 6 Third-generatio
n man

mini5

ACROSS

- 1 What does it take?
- 4 Hang loosely
- 6 Tree houses
- 7 Those against
- 8 Upcoming mo.

	1		2		3		
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	8						

DOWN

- 1 What's happening?
- 2 Refuse to throw out?
- 3 Visionary?
- 4 Double helix, scientifically speaking
- 5 Single helix, alphabetically speaking

mini6

ACROSS

- 1 Metaphorical symbol of taking on a different role
- 4 Alternative to udon
- 5 Quantities
- 6 See 3 Down
- 7 Thin layer of the earth

DOWN

- 1 Overwhelmed, in local parlance
- 2 Drive the getaway car, e.g.
- 3 Grades 6As
- 4 Middling
- 5 Stat you might try to optimize in a video game

		1		2		3
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mini7

ACROSS

- 1 Singer DiFranco
- 4 Varieties
include soap or
space
- 6 Tumult
- 7 Play unit
- 8 Nearby
makerspace,
behind MIT

	1		2		3		
4							5
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7							
	8						

DOWN

- 1 Quickly
- 2 When Rick
Astley would
give you up
- 3 Shackles
- 4 Hugs, when
written and
then said aloud
- 5 One lacking
sexual
attraction

mini8

ACROSS

- 1 Humanity's starter home?
- 5 Cut (up)
- 6 One more time
- 7 Cut (up)
- 8 Lane's lover

	1	2	3	4
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8				

DOWN

- 1 Two under par
- 2 Sap
- 3 Yeet, but in a fancier, more legal sense
- 4 State bird of Hawaii
- 5 Barrel for booze

mini9

ACROSS

- 1 Gear up
- 6 [shrug]
- 7 Insurance spokeslizard
- 8 Mathematician with a certain characteristic
- 9 Forward thinkers?

1	2	3	4	5
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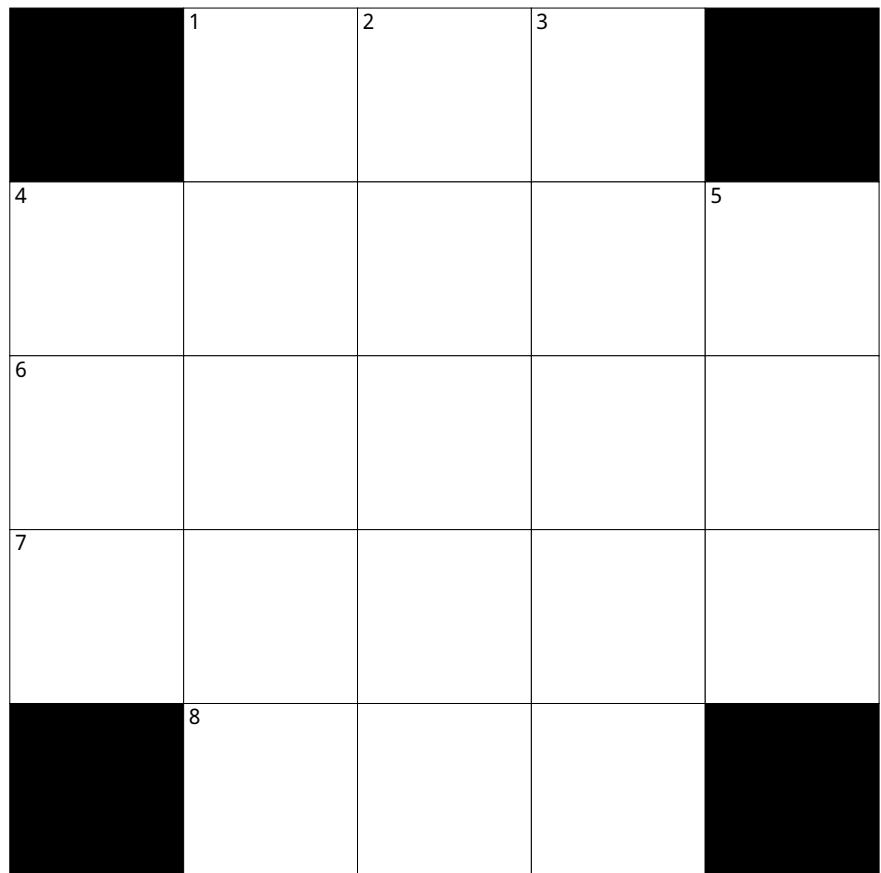
DOWN

- 1 Bounds, but not leaps
- 2 Waiting list
- 3 NBA player Chubby Cox, to Kobe Bryant
- 4 Tatter?
- 5 The P of S&P 500

mini10

ACROSS

- 1 Rapper Lil __ X
- 4 Golf shirts
- 6 Bicker
- 7 Prominent
MBTA station
- 8 Little chuckle



DOWN

- 1 Prominent
MBTA station
- 2 Pond buildup
- 3 Prominent
MBTA station
- 4 Faux __
- 5 Envision

mini11

ACROSS

- 1 Common
keysmash
- 5 Apple helper
- 6 Number of S's
in this grid
- 7 Unwanted
plants
- 8 Number of F's
in this grid

	1	2	3	4
	5			
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7				
8				

DOWN

- 1 Extremely pale
- 2 "Yes" intensifier
- 3 Scott in an 1857
decision
- 4 Interjections of
outrage
- 6 Number of D's
in this grid

mini12

ACROSS

- 1 Confidentiality doc
- 4 Length of this answer
- 5 Device in a gnocchi recipe
- 6 Eggy?
- 7 Logistics center

		1	2	3
	4			
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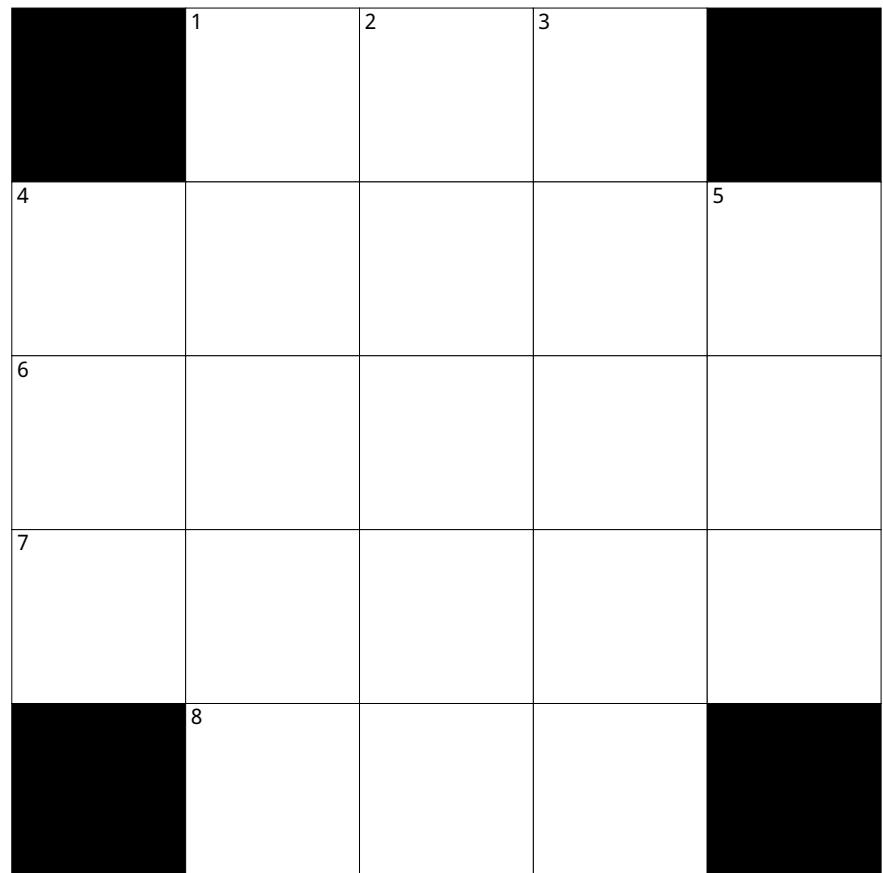
DOWN

- 1 "ong fr" follower
- 2 Caused by
- 3 Stop on the Métro?
- 4 Side length of this grid
- 5 Cone counterpart

mini13

ACROSS

- 1 Number of five-letter answers in this puzzle
- 4 Basque hat
- 6 1-Across Russian monarchs
- 7 Pesto's city of origin
- 8 Diarist Anais



DOWN

- 1 Scrabble score of 4-Across
- 2 Modern-day Persian
- 3 Gas below Krypton
- 4 Unlike this crossword
- 5 PreCheck org.

mini14

ACROSS

- 1 Cloven-hoofed males
- 5 Burst out
- 7 Pre-natal check
- 8 Where It happened
- 9 Cloven-hoofed females

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DOWN

- 1 Left on _____
- 2 Exercising second amendment rights
- 3 "The Bear Came Over The Mountain" author
- 4 What is slain in a 2019 roguelike
- 6 Playthings

mini15

ACROSS

- 1 Pull-down target muscles
- 5 Sire of a mythical Sire
- 7 Where to find foxes in Minecraft
- 8 Listlessness
- 9 What those at high society functions seek to be

1	2	3	4	
5				6
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DOWN

- 1 Bardic instrument
- 2 Inverse trig functions in Excel
- 3 It used to be yours
- 4 "Speaking of...", e.g.
- 6 Right as __

mini16

ACROSS

- 1 Fly like an __
- 6 It may be of truth or of salt
- 7 Suffered fever and chills
- 8 Maker of the Grand Caravan
- 9 Housed, as a pig

1	2	3	4	5
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DOWN

- 1 Exclamation of old-timey surprise
- 2 Cant
- 3 Covered in gold leaf, perhaps
- 4 Medieval master
- 5 What this list of clues has just done

ACROSS

- 1 Awards
awarded at the
World Science
Fiction
Convention
6 Hit the big red
button
7 Region
containing
Ephesos and
Colophon
8 Occam's
principle tool
9 Sank like a __

1	2	3	4	5
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8				
9				

DOWN

- 1 They may set
off sensitive
triggers
2 A menace of
WWII shipping
lanes
3 Weirdo on
stage with
Kermit and
Fozzie
4 Hunter seen at
night
5 Take a hard
look

mini18

ACROSS

- 1 Exile isle
- 5 Auli'i's princess
- 7 Wednesday's companion
- 8 Hello, and goodbye, in French
- 9 Legendary Loch

1	2	3	4	
5				6
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	9			

DOWN

- 1 CPR experts
- 2 Mean Girls actress
- 3 Bad Bunny's __ INoLVIDABLE
- 4 A Latin year
- 6 FBI employees

mini19

ACROSS

- 1 See 5-Across
- 5 Something that ones drinking from a 1-Across 7-Across need 180 of (beyond their requirements)
- 6 Valuable horses
- 7 See 5-Across
- 8 Singles

	1	2	3	4
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DOWN

- 1 Sleep on it!
- 2 Busy doing its thing
- 3 Carnival attractions
- 4 UFO occupants
- 6 "___ 'nuff!"

mini20

ACROSS

- 1 Stars of the sports roster
- 6 Artist behind the 2017 masterpiece *Melodrama* (and the songs *Ribs* and *Royals*)
- 7 They make up matter
- 8 TV, newspapers, magazines, etc.
- 9 Signs of future trouble

1	2	3	4	5
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DOWN

- 1 Remember it!
- 2 Sacred symbol
- 3 Wear away
- 4 Site moderator
- 5 Flat-topped landforms (which get their name from "tables" in Spanish)

mini21

ACROSS

- 1 With 8-Across,
alter ego of
Marshall
Mathers (aka
Eminem)
- 5 Helpers around
the House
- 7 Heart vessel
insert
- 8 See 1-Across
- 9 Counterpart of
"if" in a coding
construct

DOWN

- 1 Talk back
disrespectfully
- 2 Graceful
adjective, aptly
inside "slither"
- 3 Like a gas
described by
 $PV=nRT$
- 4 Fixes
- 6 Eye ailment

1	2	3	4	
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	9			

mini22

ACROSS

- 1 "___ strikes 12,
midnight
arrives"
- 6 Crane-like bird
- 7 Best
competitive
effort
- 8 Part of one's
identity living
outside of office
in Severance (or
a convex navel)
- 9 Design details

DOWN

- 1 Theory that
describes a
double
pendulum or
underlies the
butterfly effect
- 2 Advantage,
metaphorically
- 3 Deliver an
address
- 4 ___ sans (font)
- 5 Places for
braces or pads

1	2	3	4	5
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mini23

ACROSS

- 1 Wild card that features prominently in Balatro
- 6 Solo
- 7 Prepare for presentation, as food
- 8 Felt unwell
- 9 Draws closer

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DOWN

- 1 "__ is an island by the sea filled with volcanoes and it's ~beautiful~" ("history of __" by bill wurtz)
- 2 Apt name for a skateboarder?
- 3 "I'm __-fied" (poster in the Banana Lounge featuring a tree-hugging animal) (well, at least i think it's there?)
- 4 Input
- 5 Marsh plants

mini24

ACROSS

- 1 Word in MIT's motto
- 5 Foreign
- 7 Worst possible turnout
- 8 V on a violin score
- 9 Dealers in futures?

DOWN

- 1 Word in MIT's motto
- 2 Get married in a hurry
- 3 Daughter of Tantalus
- 4 What to call un hombre
- 6 Word after "breaking" or "bad"

1	2	3	4	
5				6
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mini25, mini26, mini27, mini28

ACROSS

- 1 Hockey feint
5 Unquestioned belief
10 Smartphone display tech
11 Give a seat to
12 Lackeys
13 Advocate for gender equality
14 Picture place
16 Sanctuary
17 School of Athens? (abbr.)
20 Unaffirmative abbreviation
21 Biblical "house of God"
23 "___ kidding me?"
24 Cabinet member
28 Ends
29 New, to a 1-Down
30 Meaty sauce
31 Lesbian speech?
32 Polite interruption

DOWN

- 1 Like around 10% of MLB players by birth
2 Eponymous girl of a "book for precocious grown-ups"
3 "Duotones" saxophonist
4 Famous Ford flop
5 One who disparages
6 ___ Miss
7 Night sky twins
8 Hosts, for short

9 J.D. holder

- 15 Longtime Egyptian president
17 "...obviously?"
18 Curious monkey
19 It's three from sulphur
22 Colorful fish
24 Earning Bitcoin, perhaps
25 California's Big
—
26 Golf peg
27 Noted apple picker

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
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12					13				
14				15					
16						17	18	19	
20				21		22			
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24	25	26	27			28			
29						30			
31						32			