

2025 MIT Crossword Open

November 15, 2025

Names: _____

Team Name: _____

Team Round 1 (Out of Shape) • 1 hour

Spiral 1

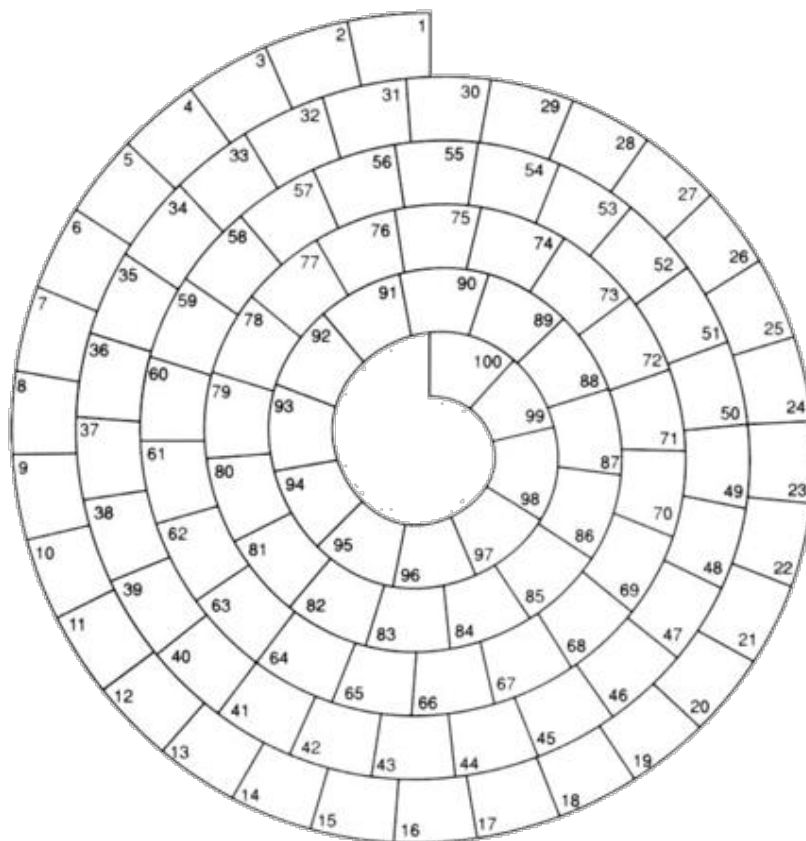
Spiral 2

Petal 1

Petal 2

Don't Miss Out

Boxes are for grading purposes — leave them blank!

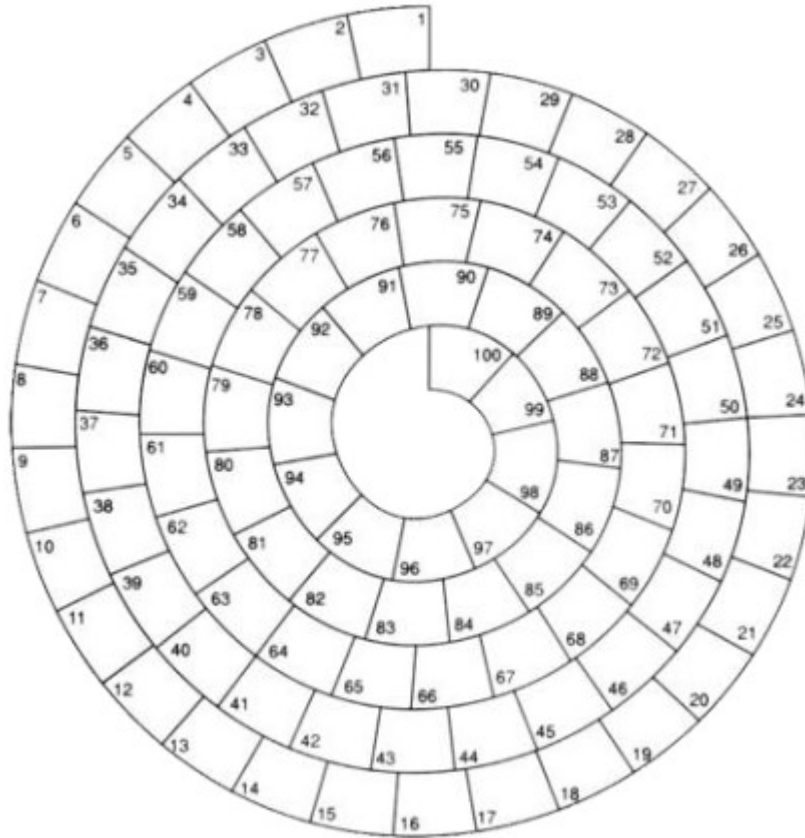


Inward

1-10 Inattentive daydreamer... or your average Starfleet recruit
 11-13 It might get caught by Tony Hawk
 14-19 Harmless, medically speaking
 20-22 Ones with a strong similarity
 23-27 Certain plants with needles
 28-31 Chat response which sometimes has MAO appended to it
 32-39 Plasticize, like a restaurant menu
 40-44 "Metamorphosis" author Franz
 45-49 Nudge to notify your neighbor, maybe
 50-52 "Thank you for coming to my ____ talk"
 53-57 Copy of The Tech, for example
 58-61 Format associated with WWW pages
 62-66 Winter X Games host city in the Rockies
 67-69 Take the money and run
 70-76 Possibly redundant term for Coke, Pepsi, etc.
 77-79 Ran into
 80-85 Enters, as data
 86-88 Stop for a stoplight?
 89-92 Bad sign
 93-97 Plant that's the source of licorice's flavor
 98-100 Where you're presumably solving this

Outward

100-96 Figures of interest to a racer (or a speed-solving crossword)
 95-91 Mindlessly silly or stupid
 90-82 Non-traditionalist, in regards to art or design
 81-75 Like a song that's cheerfully brisk
 74-72 Claim something you shouldn't, as with a resume or expense account
 71-65 Super Dave ____ (Bob Einstein character that is no relation to Ozzy the rock star)
 64-60 One of 150 in the Bible
 59-55 Where you're presumably solving this (2 wds)
 54-48 Where the other half of the music is, on record or a cassette table (2 wds)
 47-43 Depressingly unlikely to change
 42-36 Result of applying a bronzer (2 wds)
 35-26 Response stongly in favor of something (4 wds.)
 25-18 Gleeefully chortling
 17-8 "Drunk as a skunk", more politely
 7-5 Breeze through, as an exam
 4-1 Limits on admission or spending

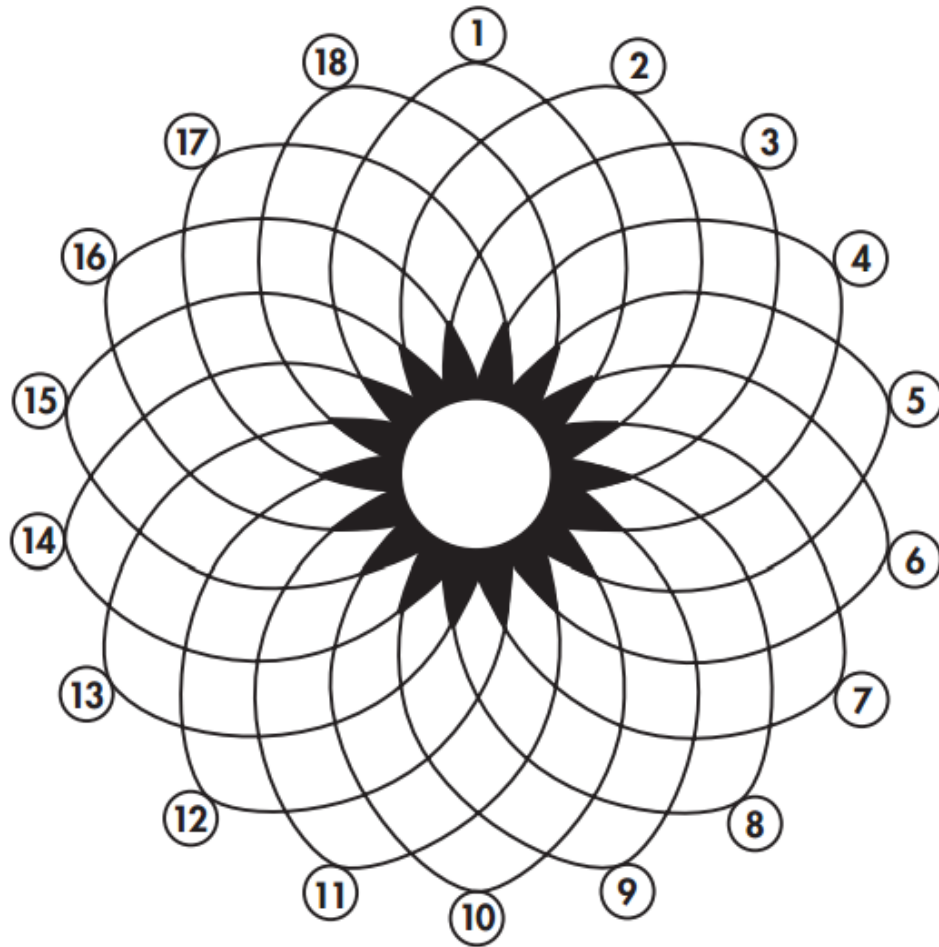


INWARD

- 1-5 Ordinance that a party may break
- 6-10 What you're at school to do, purportedly
- 11-21 Venomous lizard of the Southwest (2 wds)
- 22-28 Zebra, to some fans
- 29-35 The bling in a ring
- 36-42 Shine out (from)
- 43-46 Riotous type of suit
- 47-53 Campari cocktail
- 54-56 Tire pressure unit
- 57-63 Lipids form one in cell membranes
- 64-67 With two parts
- 68-75 Infamous *The Adventure of Link* line (3 wds)
- 76-81 Like a margarita glass vis-à-vis salt
- 82-87 Multidisciplinary science journal with a name allowed by this clue
- 88-91 Masked *Team Fortress 2* character
- 92-97 City famous for tinned sausages?
- 98-100 Exactly one operation

OUTWARD

- 100-94 She doesn't have to put on the red light
- 93-89 One out of fifty-two out of eighty-eight
- 88-85 Home of Paddington Bear
- 84-79 (In) concert
- 78-73 Make right what's left
- 72-67 Put back in the post
- 66-61 Namesake in *Little Shop of Horrors*
- 60-56 Why I couldn't possibly have done it
- 55-50 Mathematical object describing, e.g., fermionic intrinsic angular momentum
- 49-44 Variety of penguin or Linux
- 43-40 Function whose nontrivial zeros all have real part one half, probably
- 39-35 Given a label
- 34-30 Lost civilization of *Outer Wilds*
- 29-25 John best known for tractors
- 24-19 Search like a particular mustelid
- 18-16 ____-cone
- 15-10 Meaning harm
- 9-7 Call me by my middle name, maybe?
- 6-1 Region of damaged tissue

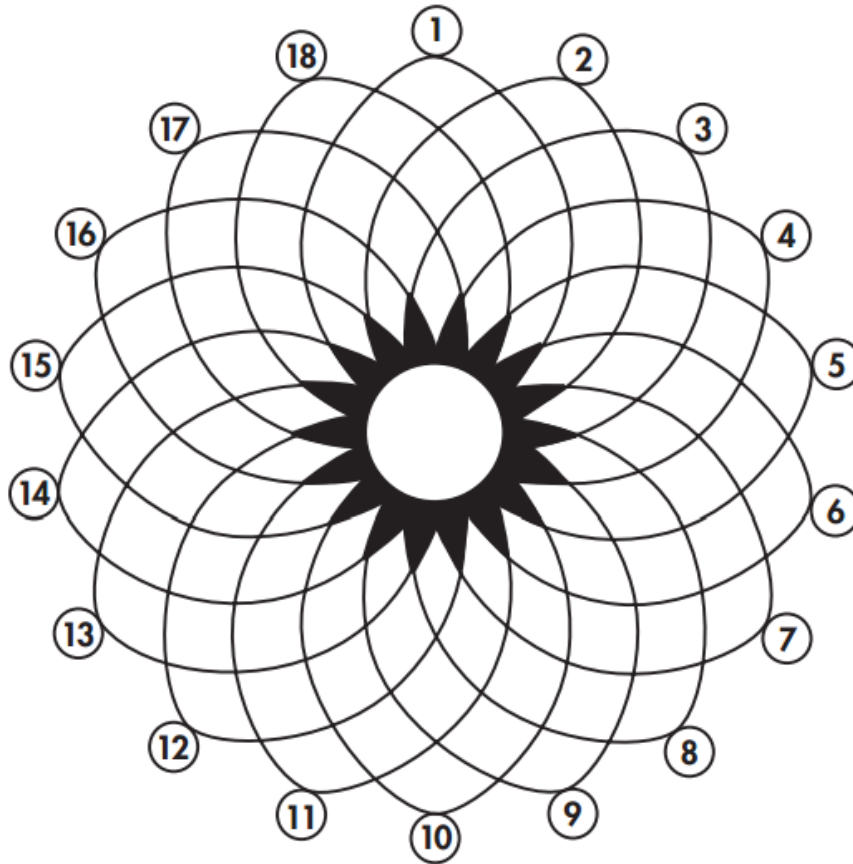


Clockwise

1. "___-Its" (Brand of snack crackers)
2. Deteriorates due to oxidation
3. Appropriately named author of the ghoulish "The Gashlycrumb Tinies"
4. Macho dude (hyph.)
5. Shakes one's gr***, perhaps
6. Plants that gets by with a little help from their fronds
7. Erect a structure
8. Bird known for its small, speckled eggs
9. Cubist who gained prominence in the 80's
10. ___ Institute of Technology
11. Thin and nasal in tone
12. Gimli in "Lord of The Rings", for example
13. Holy Hand Grenade of Antioch's count
14. Establishment offering dyes or perms
15. "Fry cook" or "burger flipper", for example
16. Guantánamo Bay, more casually
17. Puts on weight
18. Pure pleasure

Counterclockwise

1. Traverse El Capitan, for instance
2. Endangered horned animal
3. Provide an uncertain answer
4. Connectors in your car's engine, say
5. Try-hards in the car rental biz
6. What you're running on when you're not quite running on empty
7. Sea captain's "Don't do that yet" command
8. Book of scripture whose name includes an apostrophe
9. Completely bankrupts
10. Mathematically complementary pairs
11. Up your offer for, as on eBay
12. Metaphorical reason to examine the details
13. Shake one's ***, perhaps
14. Not entirely above board
15. Visit a chapel in Vegas, perhaps
16. Name for the ♪ symbol (2 wds.)
17. Action figure with an assigned code name
18. Item passed in a relay race



Clockwise

1. Mixing board input or output
2. Lovely, like a lass
3. Iteration of a writer's work
4. Old MacDonald's combo
5. Tubular pasta
6. Horror star Karloff or British PM Johnson
7. Hebalist's offerings, maybe
8. Loses the color in one's face
9. Joyous feeling
10. Gets lined up
11. Gibbs' first name on NCIS (but not "kamikaze videogamer Jenkins" – that's got two E's)
12. Camera worn on one's head
13. Pomme de ___ (literally "earth apple", in French)
14. Indian flatbreads
15. Bushlands or other uninhabited areas
16. Things you shouldn't do (Hyph.)
17. ___ Dame (Paris Cathedral or Indiana uni)
18. Send excess stuff to the thrift store, e.g.

Counterclockwise

1. Motorized vehicles
2. Sticky plant seeds that inspired Velcro
3. Avoid getting hit, in a gym class game
4. Roommate residing on Sesame Street
5. Baby grand, for instance
6. Physically intimidating
7. Took first place (2 wds)
8. Movie you'd be embarrassed to watch with your parents
9. Early Nobel Prize winner Curie
10. Deposits in a delta
11. Instruments portrayed on ancient urns
12. Sign on a men's room door, maybe
13. Indiana Jones might carry one
14. Some car confiscations, briefly
15. Feel anxious over
16. Discord's subscription plan
17. "It's the honest truth!" (2 wds.)
18. Locales for lily pads

This puzzle has a secret passageway, but you don't need to find it for full credit.

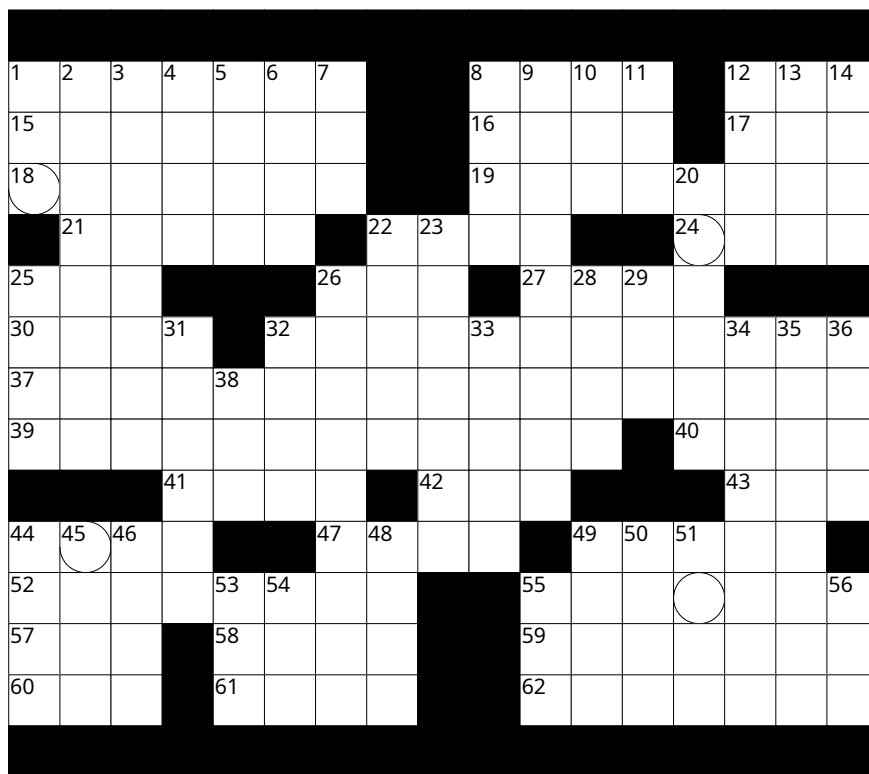
Don't Miss Out

ACROSS

- 1 Changes the title of (as a file)
 8 Taylor Swift won 12 before she became a pop artist
 12 ___ João
 15 Outermost layer of a plant's cortex
 16 Dutch radio astronomer with a namesake cloud
 17 Gemini, e.g.
 18 Bona fide
 19 Academic designation which MIT lacks
 21 Lower liquids?
 22 Helpful spots
 24 Musical instrument that uses electric fields to play music
 25 Soft
 26 Start a lap?
 27 ___ Lazarus, author of "The New Colossus"
 30 Destinations after taking your A-levels
 32 Result after entering an incorrect password
 37 Line inviting FOMO...or phonetically, a way to described the circled boxes
 39 Home of Ernie, Mr. Hooper, and Grover
 40 Pixy ___
 41 Impresses
 42 To be human?
 43 Fox-like
 44 Otherworldly
 47 Like lemons and gooseberries
 49 "Thanks, ___"
 52 Normal
 55 Tiny, tiny pieces
 57 Channel you can still watch Alex Trebek
 58 Witch's spot
 59 Scottish breakfast item
 60 OTOH, more formally
 61 Common Python conditional
 62 It might be given while panning

DOWN

- 1 Lee follower
 2 Person preparing for their final day
 3 Defining characteristic of an indefinite integral
 4 A little more, for short
 5 Easily walked over
 6 Mesozoic and Cenozoic, for example
 7 T-shirt abbreviation
 8 Source of some white powder
 9 Animal named for other animals due to its cuteness and size
 10 Branch
 11 Midwestern airport
 12 Skid row
 13 German food import
 14 Spilling salt, maybe
 20 Bead counter
 22 It can be used for reds or whites
 23 Coffeeshop freebie
 25 Curry's team, familiarly
 26 Watches the red carpet, in a way
 28 Mizzen ___
 29 Opposite of free-response, like on the APs (abbr.)
 31 Some wraps
 32 Detective Nancy
 33 Big critic from Chicago
 34 Is non-vegetarian
 35 Its flag has a lion



- 36 Justin Timberlake brought it back in 2006
 38 Subculture derived from punk
 44 Like an omelet
 45 Home ___
 46 Relative pronounced differently in the UK and America
 48 Pay to play
 49 Country between Norway and Pakistan
 50 Snack
 51 Early school topic
 53 Occupation of many coders (abbr.)
 54 Spat ending?
 55 Actress who played Elizabeth Schuyler
 56 Spanish 101 verb