



Back and Forth | a cryptic puzzle by Emily Cox & Henry Rathvon

We go back and forth with this puzzle, with half of the Across answers entered in the usual direction (from left to right) and the other half entered in reverse (from right to left). Their clues are given out of order; to locate them in the grid you'll need help from the Down answers, which are normal. The unclued shaded Down shows something you might go back and forth over.

Back and Forth

- a Go back and forth through Metallica verse retrospectively (9)
- b Arena rock band jams acoustically (4)
- c Swirling new kilt, star's flashing? (7)
- d Direct the guy in front of a crime boss (4-2)
- e Keep eating a Thai dish (5)
- f Wacko half-lost in performance (4)
- g Ill-tempered desire seizes snake (7)
- h Returning Yankee candle scent, back down? (6)
- i Plot about shady enterprise between two marks? (9)
- j Seem to be a potential jury member at hearing (6)
- k Teaching assistant given gift (6)
- l \$1000, with free network (4)

- m Flipped 1980s Chrysler frame (4)
- n Powerful mass transit vehicle in decay (6)
- o 51-foot ride up a hill (4)
- p In speech, relate a story about Genesis figure someplace in the Holy Land (3,4)
- q Sage is surrounded by my group (4)
- r Okay, Dad's Black (8)
- s Desmond, going around Australia, takes a nap (5)
- t Australian oddball had nice bananas (7)
- u Ambitious defense torn apart (6)
- v Going west on vacation in fishing spot, couldn't sleep (3,5)

Down

- 1 True executor's reading material (5)
- 2 Itinerant is in a Mideast region (5)
- 3 Speculate on a stage of development (4)
- 4 Track workout in grass took a turn for the worse (8)

- 5 Pelvic bones curve when seen from behind (5)
- 6 In addition, glimpse high point (4)
- 7 Small theater production fan (5)
- 8 A doctor, in greeting an emperor (7)
- 9 Left the pits aboveboard (6)
- 10 Holder for tea cup put in place to work out (5)
- 11 Pastor, whenever withdrawing small bill (5)
- 12 Badly butchers Austrian composer (8)
- 13 Obvious affair involving part of the psyche (7)
- 14 Male feline beside Eastern witch of myth (6)
- 15 Blended wine's strength (5)
- 16 Crooked character in "Love Boat" series on Netflix (5)
- 17 Levy on group of biologists? (5)
- 18 Exhausted writer in the middle of street (5)
- 19 React to something funny in skating rink (4)
- 20 Market mobile for dictation (4)

► **Get the solutions** to this week's Journal Weekend Puzzles in next Saturday's Wall Street Journal. Solve crosswords and acrostics online, get pointers on solving cryptic puzzles and discuss all of the puzzles online at WSJ.com/Puzzles.