**SQUARES FROM PAIRS**

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Clues are given for pairs of words which are spelled identically except that one of them has an extra letter (or two consecutive letters) introduced. For example, the clue ‘Stingy chap’ could yield the pair ‘mean’ and ‘man’ and the introduced letter is therefore E. Similarly, ‘Gave a gift that’s old-fashioned’ could yield the pair ‘dated’ and ‘donated’, so that the introduced letter would be ON.

Letters for the numbered squares are found by solving the relevant ‘pair’ clues. When solved, the resulting three-letter words across and down must all be common dictionary entries. In general, all the clues have to be solved before all of the three-letter words can be identified.

Versions of the puzzle can be created with more than three letters per word, and with rectangular arrays that are not square. Also, in the example below the centre is blank, but this need not be a general rule.

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**CLUES**

1  Something sharp can hurt
2,3  Dry grass can be helpful
4   Four-legged beast arrived
5   Not an elaborate scheme
6,7  Get dirt off tin
8   Aiming to succeed in finding a headache cure.