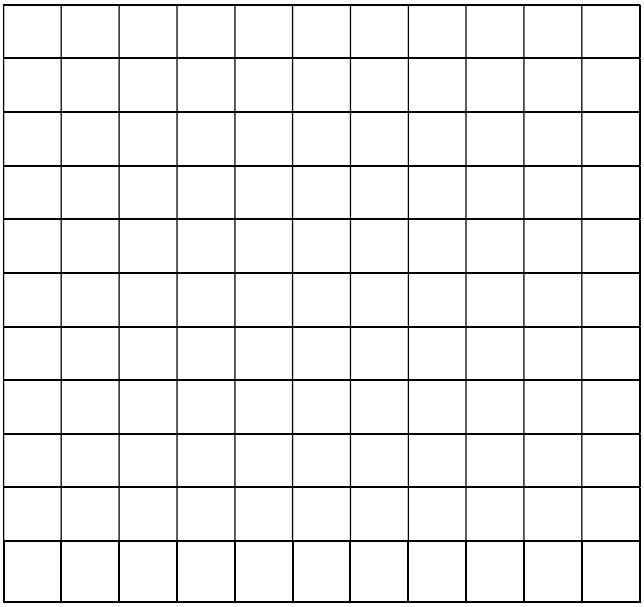
Cardinals - by Peter Green

Guess the words defined by the clues. The answers vary in length from 3 to 8 letters long and of these 9 are capitalized, 1 is an acronym and 1 is an English spelling. Punctuation in the clues may or may not help the solver. Enter the answers in the grid one after the other starting in the top left corner and in the same order as the clues. Across words that don't end at the rightmost square of the row will continue on the leftmost square of the next row. Similarly, down words that do not end in the bottom square will continue at the top of the next column.

For 5 across entries and their 5 intersecting down entries, part of each word has to be replaced by an appropriate character. In addition, for 7 other across words and 7 other down words, one letter will need to be removed from each answer before it is entered into the grid. These 14 letters, taken in order (across and then down) will provide an appropriate phrase for this puzzle.



Across

1. Show a shirt over a pair of jeans (8)
2. Slap around to sever power (6)
3. Mine a bread product (4)
4. A good quartet rarely contains a fish (5)
5. Homespun, in essence, implies fragility (8)
6. Richard has no rights so I leave for the country (4)
7. Golfers fume or so it's written (8)
8. Indifference is a path you'd enjoy- (6)
9. Laura is befuddled to the ear (5)
10. Start a ligature of bones (4)
11. Not in and not vacant passage (6)
12. She has riposted without having sent anything! (5)
13. Diamond anniversary of a horological base (5)
14. Mount the insect going west and east (4)
15. Swellings turn and storm away (6)
16. Pre-audit but don't edit the Indonesian vessel… (4)
17. …or the Indonesian place of cannibalism (4)
18. Castrated male, calf covered in water for the female (6)
19. Colorful divider takes a turn for a bloodsucking insect (9)
20. Bailing out with me! (8)
21. Depose by returning to hug ourselves- (4)
22. Some extraordinarily large European wine region (5)
23. Rides a burro to English shady spot (6)
24. Oil cartel aims to stop economies (4)
25. Get up for an enclosed celebration (6)

Down

1. Try to stamp out part of the ship (7)
2. Really fancy flyer regarding the circle in the middle (5)
3. Finally, if you see well, get gasoline- (4)
4. I heard Mr. Costello and his first baseman create a video streamer (4)
5. M. Hurok the sun god (3)
6. Concentrate on repair to the brewed tea (6)
7. Tailless miser has opening for something that didn't happen quite right (8)
8. Look both ways! (4)
9. Avian box sits on top of the line (7)
10. Ruminant hears middle C (3)
11. Vis-à-vis dropping the duplicate permit (4)
12. Old coin is found in Donegal, Ireland (4)
13. Initially alleviate some cancers inside fungal sacs (4)
14. A zealous advocate can perform one endless scene (8)
15. The smallest amount is rented I hear (5)
16. Armenian is being guarded in a Madras hotel (5)
17. TV Doctor is almost a postgrad and somewhat ill (4)
18. Insignificant daisy is lacking heart and overgrown (5)
19. A cable from Guyana missing the last half (3)
20. The singer is somewhat of a Fireball (4)
21. Terribly unattractive; lose turn and set in motion (8)
22. Carney will take on an assignment for the collection (7)
23. Ancient City that Saul revisited to find the sea witch (6)
24. Runt troubled by a pirouette (4)
25. Bubbly guy rereads the book (4)
26. Plasma carriers result from a zero rate change (6)
27. Started to live with a weapon (5)