

Full Security

This grid is a 3D cylinder that has been cut along the back and opened up into a 2D panel for ease of viewing.

It is in fact the nine rings (labeled R1 to R9) of a security lock which guards a very special place. This place can only be accessed when all the nine rings are correctly rotated to the left or right and it is your job to do this and so be able to enter the facility.

For the across clues below, the answers will always start somewhere on the appropriate ring and proceed round that ring ending up back at the starting point. The clues are in the correct order but it is your responsibility to figure out exactly where the first answer for each ring starts. Plus, for each of the nine rings, one letter from one of the answer words will need to be omitted from the grid.

The down clues are in normal order. The first word will be entered starting in the top left corner and then the words will proceed in order downwards. When the bottom of a column is reached then the answer will continue at the top of the next column.

The answers words are between three and eight letters long, five are capitalized, three are alternate spellings or archaic, one is an abbreviation and one is a phrase. Punctuation in the clues may or may not help the solver.

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|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| R1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

To open the lock, mentally move each ring according to the letter removed from that ring's answer words:

- If that letter is an A then move the ring one space to the right, if it's a B then 2 spaces to the right etc. up to M which means move the ring 13 spaces to the right.
- If it's an N then move the ring 1 space to the left etc. up to Z which means move the ring 13 spaces to the left.

When the rings are properly positioned, the identity of the place being protected will be revealed in the outlined middle column.

Across

- R1 Audition around six is not significant (7)
Carrying capacity of Thor, nine argue oddly (7)
- R2 Man has a vanity, heartless thug (5)
Maiden, name left and right point! (3)
Baby, wrap cooking thing returning with treat (6)
- R3 Cultural fashion I repeat (4)
Story about me with nothing in back, outer edge! (6)
Trace back, pointless goods conveyor (4)
- R4 King of Poland interwoven and put in position (6)
Water, closets commonly went solo (4)
Daily workout without a charming work (4)
- R5 Rant, die, reincarnate and leave the vehicle (7)
Place in harem and pagodas (3)
Some clothes obtained and returned to Spanish capital (4)
- R6 Next to nothing, top body part (4)
Complete for the second time, or lastly for the second fugato (4)
Picture enclosure has vessel (6)
- R7 Ran away without finishing, Will gave sustenance (3)
Seeks opinions without southern paintings (8)
Took away so to speak, heavy metal (3)
- R8 Sews badly, turn for energy of scaredy cat (4)
Article for King George - both the II and III, teed crookedly (4)
Goes west, of fabricator of leaves (6)
- R9 Active hero, spa has cosmetics, brand (7)
Apportions normalcy, including most of cell (7)

Down

1. Gravy, gutlessly appraise and go round (6)
2. Enclave, composed ability to bond (7)
3. Back of here, a reminder (4)
4. In place of Ted, as may be (5)
5. Barbarians were reclusive, of the second person to speak (8)
6. A Yogi Berra thing perhaps, dash to the ascension (6)
7. Chants in the beginning, one's finality (7)
8. Islamist has changed and I participated (4)
9. Low without the jewelry, blooming makes a comeback (3)
10. As well as lunch she offered starters (4)
11. The animals trampled on the vegetables (4)
12. Read about and around, initially rendering it cheerless (5)
13. Cap circumscribed, mite circumscribed (7)
14. Childs game, come-back and make the point for the earnings (4)
15. JP in olden times, piled on somewhat (3)
16. Hard to comprehend vitamin, topless Second-In-Command informally (4)
17. Exclamation of surprise about the gym, hood (2,2,3)
18. Supporter of the last temple (4)
19. Of camels, the Dutch place (4)
20. Ace, you are one middling cereal (4)
21. Swamplands, part power unit (3)
22. Plaudit, arena removal returns twin (4)
23. Criticize and vacillate, not being dead anyhow (5)
24. Capital of Ethiopia, nurse that is a street character (5)