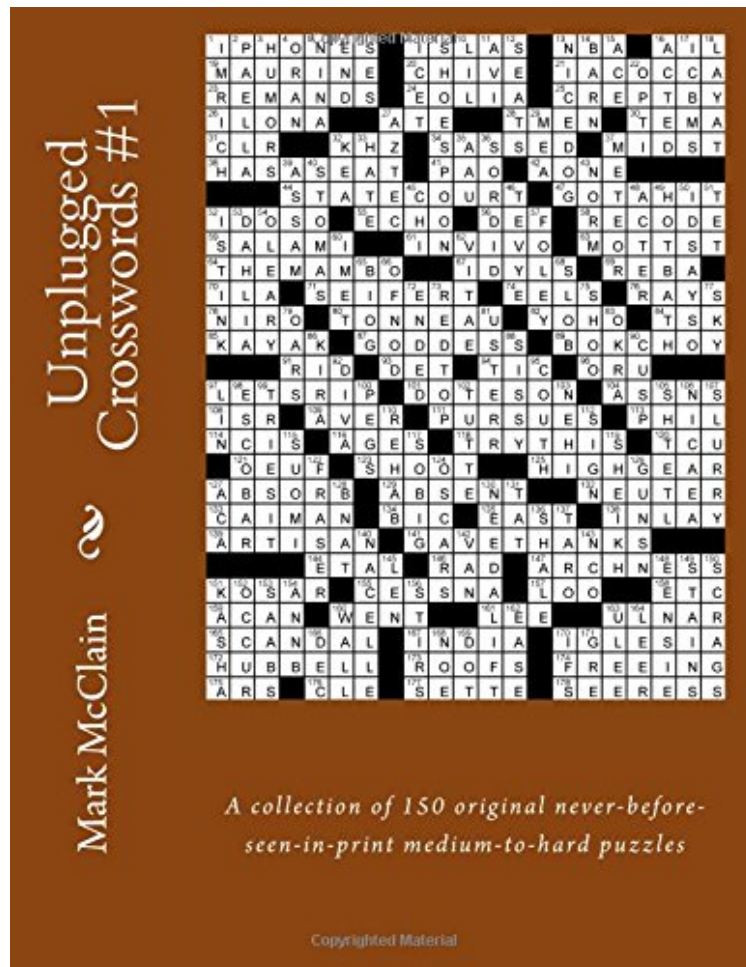


# Unplugged Crosswords

Mark McClain

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**Mark McClain : Unplugged Crosswords** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unplugged Crosswords:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good tricky fun! By D. A. Spruzen, author I received my copy today and did the first puzzle at once. This is a satisfying book, tricky in the best way, and fun, too. Many crosswords these days use far too many popular culture names and titles for people like me who have no interest in such things. This puzzle was reasonable with only one that I could work around. Bravo! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent In All Ways By David I have been doing crossword puzzles for over 30 years, and this is one of my favorite books of crosswords. The whole production is very high quality, from the paper used for the puzzles, the feel of the front and back covers, and even the short intro written by Mr McClain. Clues are challenging without being frustrating or impossible. I only hope he publishes a volume two soon. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A first-rate crossword compendium By Richard L. Clark Mark McClain, an up-and-coming constructor, has

recently published "UNPLUGGED CROSSWORDS", a very nice collection of 150 puzzles. I've taken a representative sample of these crosswords out for a test drive and -- I gotta tell you, folks -- this book rocks! With intriguing themes and lively clues, these puzzles will appeal to even the most discriminating cruciverbalist. As an added bonus, all of these puzzles are previously unpublished -- not a single reprint in the bunch. Finally, at less than six cents a pop, these crosswords are one hell of a bargain. Terrific price -- terrific puzzles! Richard L. Clark

150 original crossword puzzles  
Never-before-seen-in-print (not reprints from old publications)  
132 daily size puzzles (15x15)  
18 Sunday size (21x21)  
Difficulty: MEDIUM to HARD (on balance, the puzzles in this book probably lean toward the "HARD" end of this range, while "Unplugged Crosswords #2" will be a little more toward the "MEDIUM" end - take your pick!)  
135 Themed puzzles (30+ different kinds of themes)  
15 tougher themeless puzzles  
Answers in the back of the book  
Excerpt from the author's Preface: In addition to everyday words and phrases (and the occasional vocabulary-builder), these puzzles contain a good sprinkling of entries to test your knowledge in subjects including music, cinema, television, geography, company/brand names, history, politics, the classics, literature, sports, pop culture, science, and others. Your familiarity with a few dozen words of languages you might have studied in school or picked up along the way will come in handy. Colloquialisms, slang, puns, and wordplay gimmicks will be found throughout. The clues range from obvious to obscure, with the former appearing often enough to help you fill in around the latter. A question mark (?) following a clue is your tipoff that something tricky is going on. Whether your goal is to have a little fun, while away some time, tackle a challenge, improve your vocabulary and knowledge, or get some mental exercise, I hope you find something within the covers of this book to fulfill your objectives. For more information visit my web site [crosswordsbymark.wordpress.com](http://crosswordsbymark.wordpress.com) or the Unplugged Crosswords page on Facebook, where you can share your comments and critiques. HAPPY SOLVING! Mark McClain January, 2016

About the Author  
Freelance crossword puzzle constructor Mark McClain is a native of Alva, Oklahoma, and now resides in Salem, Virginia, near the Appalachian Trail and Blue Ridge Parkway. His puzzles appear regularly in well-known newspapers and nationally distributed puzzle publications.