

Connect the Dots

Within the grid, some squares contain two letters; these are read the same way going across and down.

The two letter squares form four distinct groups; taken together in the order given, the squares within a group describe the shape they are forming, and the colour of line that you should join them together with.

The groupings below do not tell you which square to take out of the word – if a word appears twice though, it will be for two different squares. No square is in multiple groups.

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12		13					
14	15				16					
17		18		19		20			21	
22				23	24			25		
			26		27					28
29			30				31			
	32			33		34	35			
36					37				38	
39	40			41		42		43		44
45					46					

Group 1:

13a, 11a, 5d, 5d

Group 2:

33d, 33d, 34d, 34d

Group 3:

31d, 37a, 36a, 30a, 18d,
22a, 22a, 5d, 24a, 24a, 25d

Group 4 (do not join these together; each square is an individual coloured dot):

31d, 25d, 12d, 20d, 30a, 39a, 36a

Across:

- Idiot animal (3)
- Pig to make weary recital (4)
- (Regrettably) held onto bird (5)
- Saw, is in arms? (6)
- Loose stone about David's opponent, a knock out! (8)
- I see English and N. Ireland rebels (5)
- Crikey! 'S not a lie! (6)
- Small sea vessel from the East transports many on land (3)
- Fake reindeers at Zach's housing (6)
- Legions made drink (4,3)
- Sleigh sputtering; this power needs guile and lips to make it! (8)
- Clear centre field (3)
- Inexperienced, let Charles go in first (6)
- Raced up ridge peak; but first, places piton (4)
- Serving party left twice to work (6)
- Prince is always hiding me (5)
- Odd tot (3)
- Essential to add 'com' after? (3)
- Supports, rears (5)
- Is lapse troubling, giving tremors? (7)
- Clerks giving orders... (7)
- ...so shut out! (4)
- Holy english dish (3)
- Speed in tap measurement? (3, acronym)
- Dick's book, of non-gender specific lover in Britain (4)
- Barbed exteriors to secure tomato site (6)
- Grotto interior in good or bad state? (7)

Down:

- First month in Assyria Bible? (4)
- That girl rules Kor (3)
- Some tune I'd love to recall? (5)
- Stop a break in song (6)
- Eastern game gives one's pride (3)
- Excess over 2nd Dec - 3rd Jan results in bad protein for some (6)
- Rudolph's first, Blitzen in the middle, Dasher's fourth maybe? (4)
- Rewrote the old English letter (3)
- Model, stoned, shows some leg (5)
- Sub-genre gleefully is following the rules (2,5)
- You trial under religious group, wanting nothing to do with society (8)
- Pours out last glass without us, grinch! (8)
- Santa on vacation to catch governor (6)
- Baby bringer is naked after a change of heart (5)
- Santa Claus runs into problems taking southern headings, had to follow them! (7)
- Altogether, North America's in an unhealthy state (2,3)
- Creosote (mostly) handed out for kid's toy (7)
- US choir group, a joyous hit? (4,4)
- Wimp wassails with us, replacing abuse (4)
- Do as little as possible (nothing!) to make game piece (6)
- Wrap up for mummy (6)
- Drinks up in river; hates to do so (7)
- Potential (not nil!) to break crockery piece (6)
- Queen in old Ireland (4)
- Grant said colour (3)
- A thousand; first guess for weight measure (2)