

The six types of cryptic clue used in <https://24days.in/umbraco-cms/2021/christmas-crossword/>

Type	Description	Example Clue
Anagram	<p>Anagram clues contain <i>indicator</i> words such as <i>mixed, confused, changed, corrupted</i> and <i>about</i>.</p> <p>Does the clue contain a word that could be an anagram <i>indicator</i> and, if so, next to the <i>indicator</i> is there a word or phrase with same number of letters as the answer? If yes then chances are rearranging those letters will give you a word or phrase which is defined by the rest of the clue.</p>	<p>Corrupted trace leads to a Javascript framework (5)</p> <p><i>Corrupted</i> is the anagram indicator, <i>trace</i> has 5 letters, an anagram of <i>trace</i> is <i>React</i>, and <i>React</i> is a Javascript framework. The answer is React.</p>
Homophone	<p>The Homophone clue will have <i>indicator</i> phrase such as <i>it's said, we hear, and sounds like</i>. In these clues the solution sounds like another word given by the <i>wordplay</i>.</p>	<p>Data structure that sounds like a glimmer of light (5)</p> <p><i>Sounds like</i> is the homophone indicator, a glimmer of light is <i>a ray</i> which sounds like <i>array</i>, a data structure. The answer is Array.</p>
Hidden	<p>Hidden clues are arguably the easiest to solve as the answer is literally concealed in the clue.</p> <p>Again an <i>indicator</i> word will be used. Hidden <i>indicator</i> words include <i>in, inside, within</i> and <i>amidst</i>.</p>	<p>Parched in the Kalahari desert (4)</p> <p><i>In</i> is the hidden indicator, the word <i>arid</i> is in <i>Kalahari desert</i>, and <i>arid</i> means parched. The answer is Arid.</p>
Takeaway	<p>The Takeaway clue involves something being deducted from something else.</p> <p>The takeaway <i>indicator</i> will be a word such as <i>short, almost, topless</i> or <i>endless</i>.</p>	<p>Possess a topless dress (3)</p> <p><i>Topless</i> is the takeaway indicator meaning remove the first letter from another word. <i>Gown</i> is another word for <i>dress</i>, and if you remove it's first letter you have <i>own</i>, which means <i>possess</i>. The answer is Own.</p>
Double Definition	<p>If you split the clue in two parts there is one word or phrase that is defined by both parts. There is no <i>indicator</i> word in these sort of clues, but the lack of an <i>indicator</i> word can be indication itself...</p> <p>Hint: try putting commas in various parts of the clue and see if both sides have a common answer.</p>	<p>Fickle source control (9)</p> <p>Split the clue in two parts with a comma as <i>fickle, source control</i>. Another word for <i>fickle</i> is <i>mercurial</i>, and <i>Mercurial</i> is a type of source control (although somewhat overshadowed these days by git). The answer is Mercurial as it is answers both definitions.</p>
Quirky	<p>For this type of clue I can only apologise as I have never been able to explain it well. Usually the clue ends with a ? or a ! as a hint that it's not one of the standard types.</p> <p>All I can suggest is that you think laterally and see what comes to mind!</p>	<p>Yank it! Give us a tow! Drag me! (4,8)</p> <p><i>Yank, tow</i> and <i>drag</i> are all synonyms for the word <i>pull</i>. Each phrase is <i>requesting</i> someone to pull. So the answer is Pull Requests. Again, I am sorry, and I now wonder if writing all this will actually put you off instead of encouraging you to try!</p>