

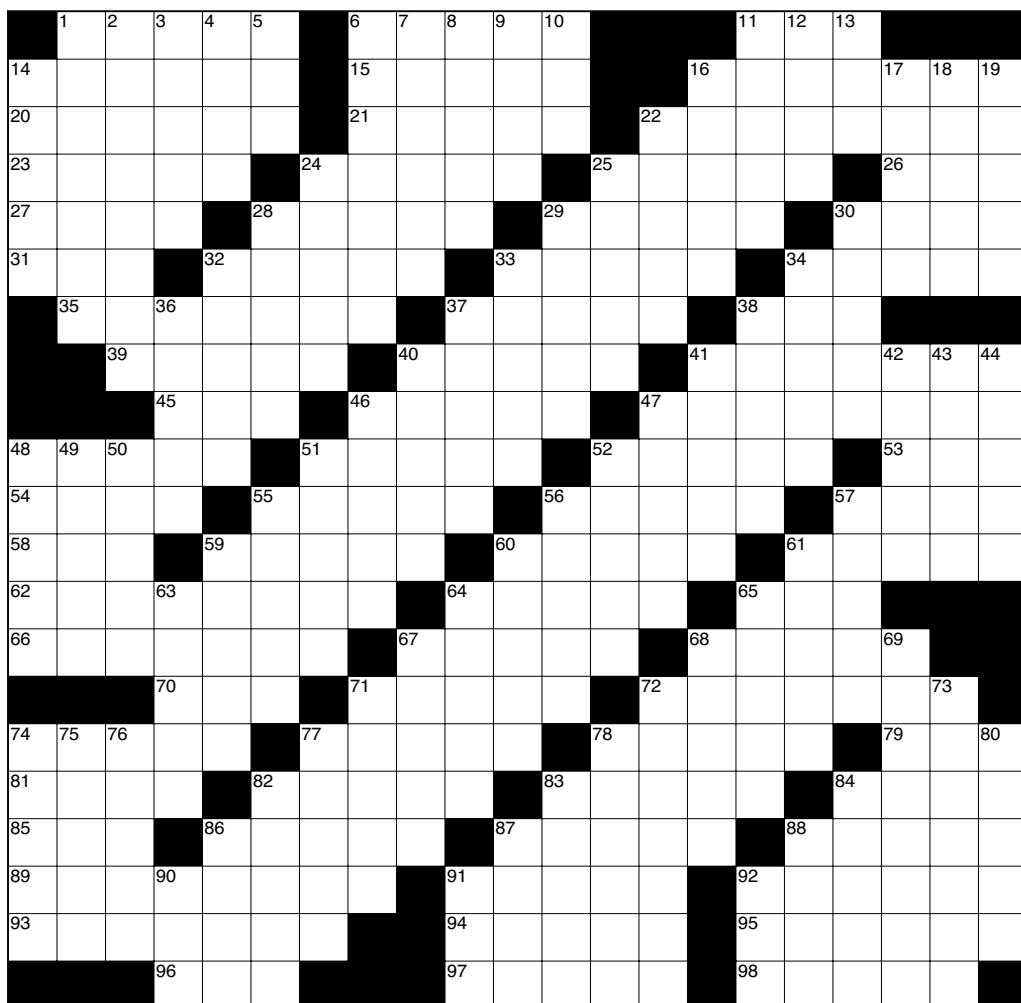
The Stepword Fives

By Merl Reagle

NOTE: Two well-known “step”-related titles are hidden diagonally in this puzzle — both of them run in straight lines (although one makes an appropriate turn) and both are 18 letters long. Can you find them?

ACROSS

- 1 Evenly matched
- 6 Swiss ____
- 11 Once around the pool
- 14 Pearl Jam’s genre
- 15 Listener to Mark Antony
- 16 Guy on a pumper
- 20 Hit, as a hide-out
- 21 “My Fair Lady” lady
- 22 Highly spiced smoked beef
- 23 Put out, as stamps
- 24 Symbol of authority
- 25 Like the music of Mingus or Monk
- 26 “For shame!”
- 27 Grand Canyon transport
- 28 Women’s mag, or man’s name
- 29 Commandment verb
- 30 Compact item?
- 31 3-D hosp. procedure
- 32 Babe Ruth’s number
- 33 Comes to
- 34 Call a halt to
- 35 Contest mailings
- 37 Plain people?
- 38 Fruit drink brand
- 39 Soccer scores
- 40 Connects emotionally
- 41 Fleet member
- 45 Do a string thing
- 46 Second-highest world capital
- 47 Tot’s vehicle
- 48 ____ spray
- 51 Slalom challenges
- 52 Mazda model
- 53 Denzel Washington film, “The Book of ____”
- 54 Smoky stone
- 55 Shaw’s “Jaws” role
- 56 Entertainer Gaynor
- 57 Take all the fun out of
- 58 Keats subject
- 59 Kicks on fourth
- 60 Sentimental
- 61 Scaling needs
- 62 Document certifiers
- 64 Popular Carlo?
- 65 J F M A M J J A S O N D
- 66 Webs, e.g.
- 67 Rough-and-tumble
- 68 Writer Gorki
- 70 Put it to
- 71 “Nuts!”
- 72 Eloi portrayer in “The Time Machine” (1960)
- 74 Dark suit?
- 77 Source of down
- 78 Boxer-actor Rosenbloom
- 79 On the ____
- 81 Boo’s partner
- 82 Mighty mount
- 83 Trial location
- 84 “Sesame Street” character
- 85 Maria’s introduction?



- 86 Artist Frida
- 87 Chart anew
- 88 Earlier
- 89 Together again
- 91 1992 candidate
- 92 Piercing target
- 93 Theoretically
- 94 MacDowell of L’Oréal ads
- 95 Thai and Chinese, e.g.
- 96 Ship letters
- 97 Longest river in France
- 98 1814 treaty city

DOWN

- 1 Wipeout?
- 2 Traitor
- 3 Inappropriate
- 4 Author and film critic James
- 5 Showed (the way)
- 6 Paper airplane folds
- 7 1982 Fleetwood Mac hit
- 8 Buddy
- 9 Bring down the house?
- 10 Test subject on “CSI”
- 11 Inventor of the symphonic poem
- 12 Pretentious, perhaps
- 13 For each
- 14 Big name in fairy tales
- 16 Rattles
- 17 Group with “kingpins”
- 18 Fishy
- 19 Dorothy, to Aunt Em
- 22 Covers some ground?
- 24 Tiresome talkers
- 25 Monologue material
- 28 Owner of Easter Island
- 29 Like some attitudes
- 30 Condemn openly
- 32 Have fewer points than
- 34 About, before a date
- 36 Bottom line?
- 37 Slangy establishment
- 38 Papa Doc ruled it
- 40 God portrayer
- 41 Patsy Cline hit
- 42 Become frosty
- 43 “Dallas” matriarch, Miss ____
- 44 Control, with “the”
- 46 Throws in the towel
- 47 Church donation
- 48 Planes, trains and automobiles?
- 49 Cook’s protector
- 50 December addressee
- 51 iPod items
- 52 Mathis classic
- 55 Idiosyncrasy
- 56 Saxophonist-composer Jimmy, known for his big-band arrangements for Benny Goodman and Count Basie
- 57 TV host who idolized Barbra
- 59 People from the paper
- 60 Lawn care buy
- 61 Renee in “Chicago”
- 63 Emirate emigrés
- 64 Answered a cattle call?

- 65 Jackie’s predecessor
- 67 Drive through Beverly Hills
- 68 Comedy of errors
- 69 ____ stew
- 71 Playing surface
- 72 Animal on some Florida license plates
- 73 Unknown quantity
- 74 One of Xavier’s exes
- 75 Perk (up)
- 76 Deplete
- 77 Procaine predecessor
- 78 Clinton’s “My Life,” e.g.
- 80 Societal customs
- 82 Fills to the gills
- 83 “Rigoletto” composer
- 84 Els who has tees
- 86 Gymnastic maneuvers
- 87 City near Sparks
- 88 Luxurious
- 90 Flagstaff sch.
- 91 Buddy
- 92 There’s a price on it

*** PUZZLE FANS ! ***

For info on Merl’s Sunday crossword anthologies, visit www.sundaycrosswords.com

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