

**cryptic**['kriptɪk] *a*

1. 1) скрытый, тайный
- 2) таинственный загадочный  
cryptic utterance - загадочное высказывание
2. *биол.* защитный  
cryptic coloration - защитная окраска

**cryptic**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**cryptic** ['kriptɪk] *BrE* ['kriptɪk] *AmE* ['kriptɪk] *adjective*

with a meaning that is hidden or not easily understood

**Syn:** ↑mysterious

- a **cryptic message/remark/smile**
- a cryptic crossword clue

**Derived Word** ↑cryptically**Word Origin:**early 17th cent.: from late Latin **crypticus**, from Greek **kruptikos**, from **kruptos** 'hidden'.**Culture:****crosswords**

Crosswords, or **crossword puzzles**, first appeared in the US in the early 20th century. Today, many people in the US and in Britain regularly **do crosswords** sometimes on the bus or train on their way to work. Most newspapers and magazines contain at least one crossword and there are often prizes for people who send in the correct **solution**. Books of crosswords are also popular. **Solving** a crossword involves answering a set of **clues**. The answers are words or phrases which fit together in a **patterned grid**. The clues are usually numbered and listed as **across** and **down**, according to whether the answer reads across the grid or from top to bottom.

There are two basic types of crossword, called in Britain **quick crosswords** and **cryptic crosswords**. In quick crosswords the clues are usually **definitions** of the answers. This is much the most common type of crossword in the US, where the **grids** are usually a lot bigger and contain many more words. These crosswords are not necessarily easy, and the one in the Sunday issue of the **↑New York Times** is considered very difficult.

Cryptic crosswords, which began in Britain and are much more popular there than in any other country, have clues which contain both a **definition** of the answer and a word **puzzle** involving the letters in it. One common type of word puzzle is an **anagram**, in which the letters of the answer word are rearranged in the clue to form another word or phrase. For example, CARTHORSE and SHORT RACE are both anagrams of the word ORCHESTRA.

**cryptic**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**cryptic** /'kriptɪk/ *BrE* *AmE* *adjective*[**Date:** 1600-1700; **Language:** Late Latin; **Origin:** crypticus, from Greek, from kryptos; ⇨ **↑crypto-**]

having a meaning that is mysterious or not easily understood

**cryptic remark/comment/statement etc**

a cryptic note at the end of the letter

**—cryptically** /-kli/ *adverb*

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**THESAURUS**

- **mysterious** difficult to explain or understand, and often strange or slightly frightening: the mysterious disappearance of ships in the waters of the Bermuda Triangle | What's that mysterious noise?
- **puzzling** difficult to explain or understand: At first this must seem a puzzling question. | I found her attitude deeply puzzling.
- **baffling** impossible to understand, so that you feel very confused: It was a baffling case. | Like many people, I find theoretical physics baffling.
- **inexplicable** *formal* impossible to explain: For some inexplicable reason her mind went completely blank. | Some things in life are inexplicable.
- **enigmatic** *formal* mysterious and difficult to understand, but also often attractive or interesting – used especially about people, their expressions, or things they say: She gave him an enigmatic smile. | an enigmatic remark
- **cryptic** *formal* having a meaning that is difficult to understand, and is not expressed in a clear direct way – used especially about things that people say or write: I got a rather cryptic message from him. | cryptic comments
- **be a mystery** if something is a mystery, you cannot understand how or why it happens: Four years later, his death remains a complete mystery. | It's all a mystery to me.
- **be shrouded/veiled in mystery** if an event or a situation, especially one that happened a long time ago, is shrouded in mystery, it is mysterious because no one knows exactly what happened: Stone age civilization, veiled in mystery as it is, has provided the greatest challenge to historians.

**cryptic**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **12008**<sup>MCW</sup>15000 **9046**<sup>COCA</sup>RANGE: **12k** CRYPTIC <sup>880</sup>cryptic <sup>759</sup>

