

1	M	E	M	O		5	D	A	N	C	E		10	R	I	S	E	DSD	RIGHT-DOWN-RIGHT	
14	A	M	Y	S		15	I	L	I	A	C		16	O	S	H	A			C
17	L	O	S	E		18	P	E	P	T	O		19	L	E	E	R			
20	I	R	E		21	I	S	A	A	C		22	C	L	E	A	N	SAS	DOWN-LEFT-DOWN	
23	B	A	L	E	D		25	S	T	O	G	I	E							A
27	U	P	F	O	R	I	T		29	N	O	R	D	I	C	S		WAA	UP-LEFT-LEFT	RD
			33	N	I	C		34	A	D	O		35	R	O	P	E	WDD	UP-RIGHT-RIGHT	
36	A	P	T		39	S	E	A	L	O	F	F		42	N	A	T			
43	L	I	D	S		44	C	L	E		46	E	R	R				SSS	DOWN-DOWN-DOWN	
48	I	N	S	T	E	A	D		50	A	D	O	P	T	M	E		AAA	LEFT-LEFT-LEFT	I
			54	A	S	P	E	N	S		56	W	I	R	E	D				
57	P	I	S	T	E		60	R	O	S	I	N		62	A	N	G	DSS	RIGHT-DOWN-DOWN	N
63	I	D	L	E		64	S	A	T	I	N		65	R	U	D	E			A
66	P	E	A	L		67	A	A	R	G	H		68	A	M	E	R			L
69	E	S	P	Y		70	O	N	E	N	D		71	W	A	D	S	WAW	UP-LEFT-UP	

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CARDINAL

Quite a tricky one! There were no obvious theme answers, but the clue for 71-Across was particularly interesting: [Bunches... or the letters that are often used in place of arrow keys]: WADS.

Even if you weren't previously familiar with the way that the W, A, D, and S keys are used in place of arrow keys, hopefully looking at their location on your keyboard should have made it clear which letter indicates which direction: W = up, A = left, S = down, D = right.

But then came the tricky part. Which W, A, S, and Ds were supposed to guide you? If you tried to solve the original version, there was not a lot of information to help you here. However, in the second version (the one with a hint), 8 of the entries had all of the words in their clues capitalized. These clues should have stood out for 2 reasons: First, you're looking for an 8-letter word, so finding 8 of anything in the grid should have indicated you were on the right path. Second, all of the words were capitalized in these clues, even when it broke grammar conventions. Broken conventions are often an indicator of meta content.

So you've got 8 entries, and the first letters of the words in their respective clues can be used as a set of directions. But which letter in the entry should you start with? The title was "Entertainment Centers" indicating that you should start in the central letter of each entry - since each of the 8

entries had an odd number of letters, that was a realistic option. (The "Entertainment" part of the title was in reference to the fact that WADS are often used in place of arrow keys for gaming purposes).

TLDR: Find clues where each of the words started with only W, A, D, or S. Start at the central letter of each of those 8 corresponding entries, and then use the letters from the clues to navigate to new letters in the grid.

For example: 5-Across was DANCE [Do si do]. Take the central letter, N, and then go D, S, D (right, down, right) to arrive at C.

22- Across was CLEAN [Spick and span]. Take the central letter, E, and then go S, A, S (down, left, down) to arrive at D.

Once you'd done that, the resulting letters (in grid order) spelled **CARDINAL**, an 8-letter adjective which was fitting because you used the **CARDINAL** directions to navigate to your answer.