

DARING DRAPES



With the upcoming festive and bridal season, **Preeti Devnani** gives some twists to the *sari* which will make you look sexy yet elegant, hot yet classy while maintaining that traditional look

Fiery and Festive

Orange symbolises the spirit of the festive season, so what could be better than dressing up in the colour for Dassera or Diwali puja at home with family? If you have a Diwali *taash* party at home, pick up an orange *sari* like this one to look glam and gorgeous. Wear a traditional brocade blouse for a sedate affair, and if you are going to be celebrating with a young gang like friends and cousins, pair the *sari* with a tube or a halter-neck blouse.



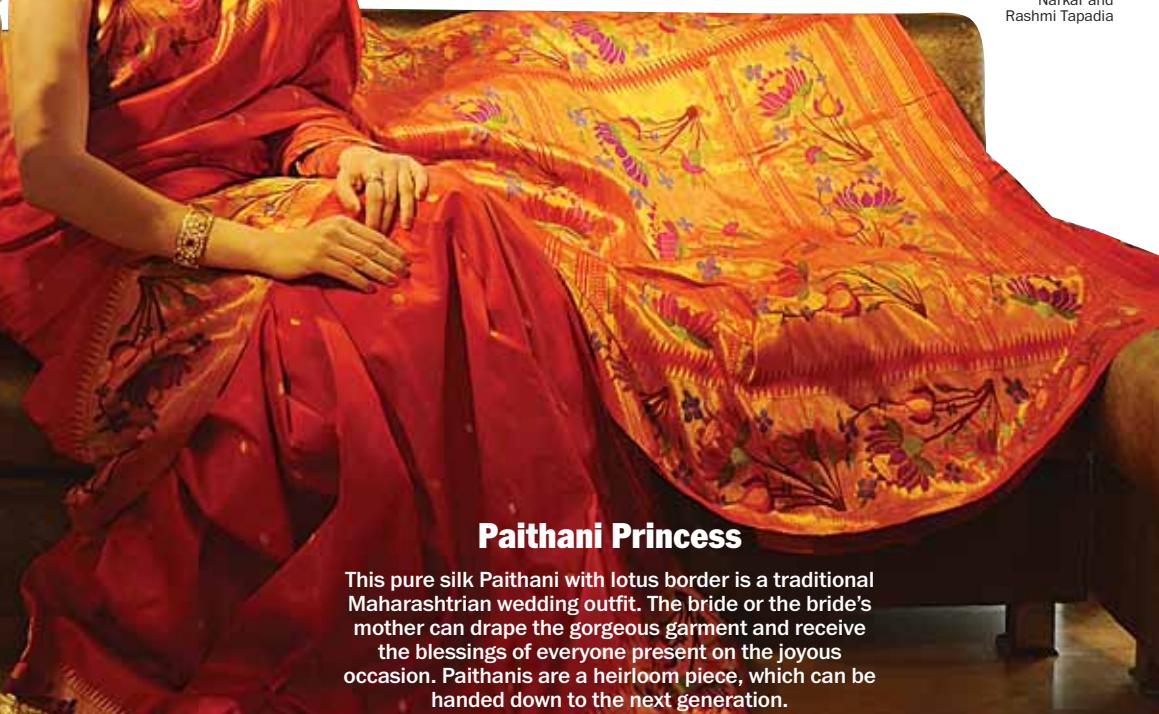
Boho Babe

This gorgeous white and yellow-shaded pure georgette *sari*, adorned with bead tassels with colourful hand embroidery gives the traditional Indian *sari* a boho twist, adding a fun feel. If it's beach destination wedding you are attending, you got yourself a perfect outfit, as its light-weight and not gaudy in its design or colour scheme. The *sari* is also apt for a cocktail function, as it is sizzling and subtle at the same time.



Mehendi Magic

It's a fantastic trousseau option, as the pink, raw silk *lehenga sari* with green net paloo. The hand embroidery gives it a regal feel, and makes it perfect for functions like *mehendi* or *sangeet*. Drape the *paloo* Gujarati-style, or like a regular *sari*, or take it over your head and complete the look with a *maang teeka*.



Paithani Princess

This pure silk Paithani with lotus border is a traditional Maharashtrian wedding outfit. The bride or the bride's mother can drape the gorgeous garment and receive the blessings of everyone present on the joyous occasion. Paithanis are a heirloom piece, which can be handed down to the next generation.



Cool Cotton

Who would have thought that a simple Solapur cotton *sari* like this one could look so couture? Extremely affordable and understated, but with a trendy, funky blouse, right accessories and attitude, you can turn it into something that will catch everyone's eyes. Wear it during this festive season, for a *mehendi* party, or even if you're going to meet your in-laws. If you want to create an arty look, add some chunky jewellery, line your eyes with kohl and wear a big *bindi*.

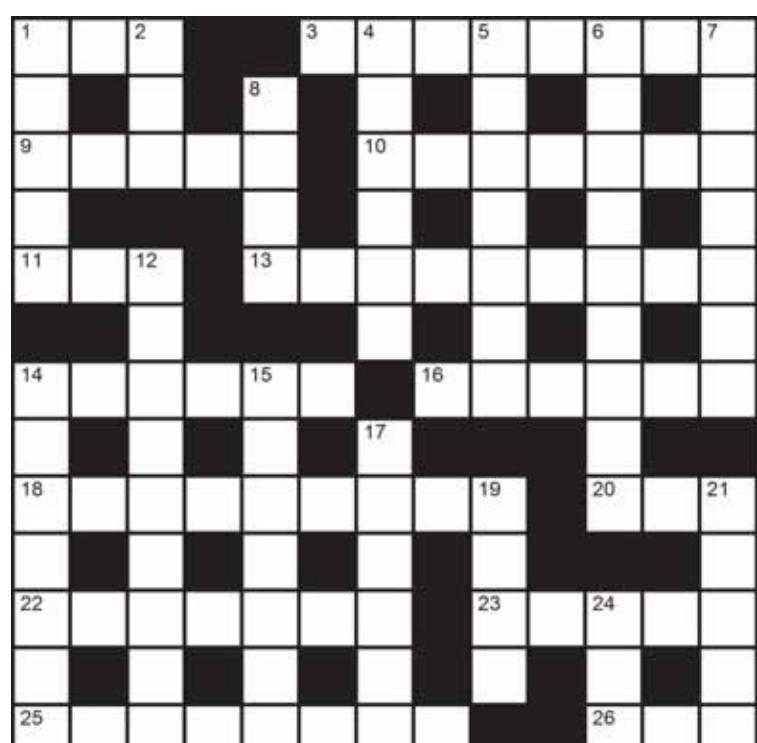
Make-up: Meenakshi Satya Naidu; **Photographs:** Snehil Sakharla
Model: Hanika Paryani; **Styling:** Rasika Wakalkar

The above collection is a part of the *sari* week being hosted at Rudraksh, 104 Varsha Avenue, Anand Park, Aundh

Crossword no 54

Suggestions?

email feedback to
inbox@dnaindia.net



Solution to Crossword 53

Across: 1 Como, 3 Comperes, 9 Netball, 10 Sepia, 11 Lorca, 12 Gothic, 14 Carved, 16 Litter, 19 Pelmet, 21 Cocks, 24 Would, 25 Reel off, 26 Minimise, 27 Bell.
Down: 1 Conflict, 2 Motor, 4 Oology, 5 Posit, 6 Repaint, 7 Swan, 8 Pavane, 13 Trustful, 15 Raeburn, 17 Inchend, 18 Starts, 20 Madam, 22 Clone, 23 Swim.

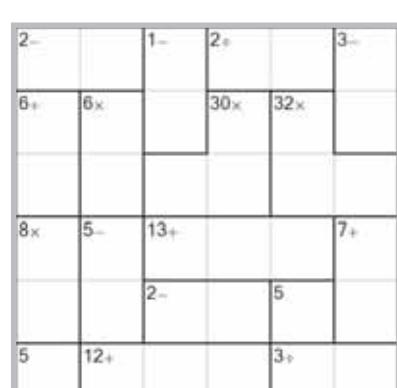
mathdoku 54

Yesterday's solution



How to play

Like normal Sudoku, each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 6, inclusive, without repeating. The number within the heavily outlined boxes (cages), must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target number shown in the top left-hand corner of each cage. To start with, fill in the single-box cages with the number given in the top left-hand corner.



sudoku

Yesterday's solution



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How to play

Fill each of the blank boxes with the number grid from 1-9, and the letter grid from A-I with no letters or numbers repeating in vertical, horizontal rows or 3x3 grids. Do not repeat any letters in a line. Each puzzle has only one solution.



The long-awaited COMEBACK

Ishani Bose

We have seen him play myriad roles on television and films, the latest one being that of Inspector Dutta in the Oscar-nominated film *Barfi*. After an impressive stint of 18 years in filmography, actor Saurabh Shukla is back to doing what he loves the best - theatre. His recent play titled, *Two To Tango, Three To Jive (T3J)*, is about a middle-aged man, who during his mid-life crisis, tries desperately to have flings with three women (played by Negar Khan, Mona Wasu and Preeti Mamgain). His women, with time, incorporate diverse viewpoints of life, which are not only strange, but also real.

Shukla, who began his career as a theatre artiste, joined the National School of Drama (NSD) Repertory in 1991. But acting was never on his mind. "I was inclined towards filmmaking. Acting was something that happened to me on the way. I used to direct plays and once, in one of my plays, I had to fill in for an actor, who ditched us at the last moment. That was the first time I realised that I could act and since then there has been no looking back," says the multi-talented artiste, who later moved to Mumbai after Shekhar Kapoor, smitten by one of his stage performances, signed him up for the role of Kailash for his movie *Bandit Queen*.

Since then, life has been nothing less than a roller-coaster ride for the actor. "After shifting to Mumbai, I couldn't take out time for theatre, as it did not pay well and I had to support myself in a new city. I had ample of opportunities coming my way, which were mostly movies and television serials. Gradually, I started doing well," says the actor.

He adds, "After *Satya*, I was flooded with offers. Acting and filmmaking took away all my time, and I could never find time for theatre, which I had been yearning for, for long," says the virtuoso, adding that on meeting Ashwin Kidwani, he finally decided to satiate his craving of directing and acting in a play.

Shukla says, "Theatre in India still does not pay well. It isn't self-sustaining, but people like Ashwin make it possible. When I met him for the first time, I realised we share the same views about theatre and that's why I decided to work with him."

T3J is an adaptation of American playwright Neil Simon's *Last Of The Red Hot Lovers*. The story is about a middle-aged man facing mid-life crisis. We ask the actor if he has experienced any such thing in real life and he replies, "Yes I did! It's that funny age when you look back and ask yourself if whatever you've done so far is truly worth it and then if you feel you haven't, you urge is to do something drastically different. Most men start drinking or indulge in extra-marital relationships. I suppose women experience it too, but have a different way of expressing it," he says.

Apart from this play, the artiste is also gearing up for his next movie *Jolly LLB*, where he plays an interesting role. "I also have Yash Raj Film's *Gunde* in the pipeline and a couple of other movies. But I'll definitely be doing a lot of plays now," he concludes.

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Actor-director **Saurabh Shukla**, who returned to theatre after 18 years with the play *Two To Tango, Three To Jive*, talks about his surge into films, love for theatre and more



Saurabh Shukla