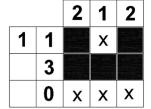
## **CHRISTMAS PICROSS**

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## Instructions:

- 1. A picross is a logic puzzle. No guessing is necessary. You use logic and deduction to find the solution.
- 2. The goal is to blacken squares in the grid to create a happy picture. Use light Xs to mark squares that you deduce are unblackened. This will help you make more deductions and fill in the whole puzzle.
- 3. The numbers around the grid are clues. From these clues you can deduce exactly where all the black squares go. There is only one solution where the clues in the columns and the clues in the rows are consistent.
- 4. Each number signifies an unbroken *line* of black squares. These lines appear in the same order as the numbers, running left to right for the rows and top to bottom for the columns. Every line of black squares is separated by one *or more* <u>un</u>-blackened squares. A zero means the entire row or column is unblackened.
- 5. As a hint, start with the column clues and look for places where there is only one way to fit all the black lines into the space available. Then see if any row clues can be used to fill in more squares with Xs or blacks. Cross out clue numbers as you complete the specific lines they refer to.
- 6. There is an interactive version of this puzzle at <a href="http://dreamsofgerontius.com/scripts/picross.html?=xmaseasy">http://dreamsofgerontius.com/scripts/picross.html?=xmaseasy</a>

## Example 1



## Example 2

