

It's an Appalachian Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving day on Hatfield farm.
The turkey hid inside the barn.
The ax was propped against the hay;
almost time for Turkey Day.



Plump and juicy fowl for dinner;
Turkey wished that he was thinner.

“Take the Pig – he weighs a ton;
Goose is cooked when well-done.
Chicken is a treat with rice;
roasted Duck is really nice.”



Farmer Hatfield was surprised
to see the creatures exercise;
doing pushups, lifting sacks,
stretching, doing jumping jacks.

“Jed,” his wife said, “it’s a plight;
them critters slimmed down overnight.
I’m ‘afeard’ this thing is bad.
The kinfolk will be awfully mad;

“It’s pert-near time for Clara’s brood.
Cousin Clem’s clan’s comin’ soon;
Gramps and Granny’s makin’ time
‘cross that Appalachian line.”



“Folks on mules and wagon trains,
over hollers, hills, and streams;
sho’ nuff, the folks are comin’-
guitars twangin’, banjos strummin’;

They’ll be a’hankerin’ to eat;
you knowed them mountain folk love meat.

But Jed was mountain through and through.
He knowed just what he had to do.

The clans were plumb put out to see
the turkey and the pig ran free;
the goose and chicken nibbled grain;

“Whar’s the meat?” the folks complained.

Jed replied and scratched his head,
faced his angry kin and said,

“No need to git your dander up -
I’m pleased to hear my chickens cluck.
I like my white and waddy duck.
My turkey gobbles happily;
my goose is a delight to see.
Why, my animals are family!”



Now Jed’s plan came as no surprise.
He knowed his kinfolk was mountain-wise.
He jumped into the fishing hole.
He didn’t need no fishin’ pole.

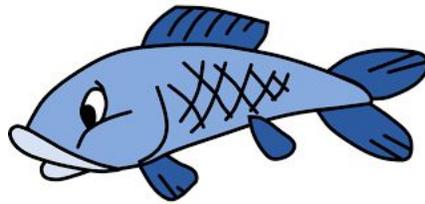
Then every woman, child, and man
caught them fish with them brave bare hands
and cooked them up in fryin’ pans.
And all the kinfolk cried ‘Hooray!’ –
A fish fry for Turkey Day!

-with cornpone fritters, lima beans;
berries, grits, and turnip greens,
‘taters, golden-yellow fried,
apple butter pumpkin pie.....



And after folks had stayed a spell,
And after gone their yonder way;
Jed was glad he heered them yell . . .

“Fish is fine come Turkey Day!”



THE END



Appalachian Thanksgiving Dictionary of Dialect

Afeard - Afraid

Awful Mad - Very Mad

Catched Them Fish With Bare Hands - Called "Noodling"

Clan - Family

Clara's Brood - Clara's Family

Critters - Animals

Heered - Heard

Holler - a Valley

Knowed - Know or Knew

Kin/Kinfolk - Relatives

No Need to Git Your Dander Up - Don't Worry

Pert Near - Almost

Plight - Problem

Plumb Put Out - Really Upset

Sho Nuff - Sure Enough, Yes

Stayed a Spell - Stayed a While

They'll Be Hankering - They Will Be Wanting

Them Critters - Those Animals

Whar - Where

Yonder - Over There

Use these words to create your own sentences. Try them out on your friends and family.

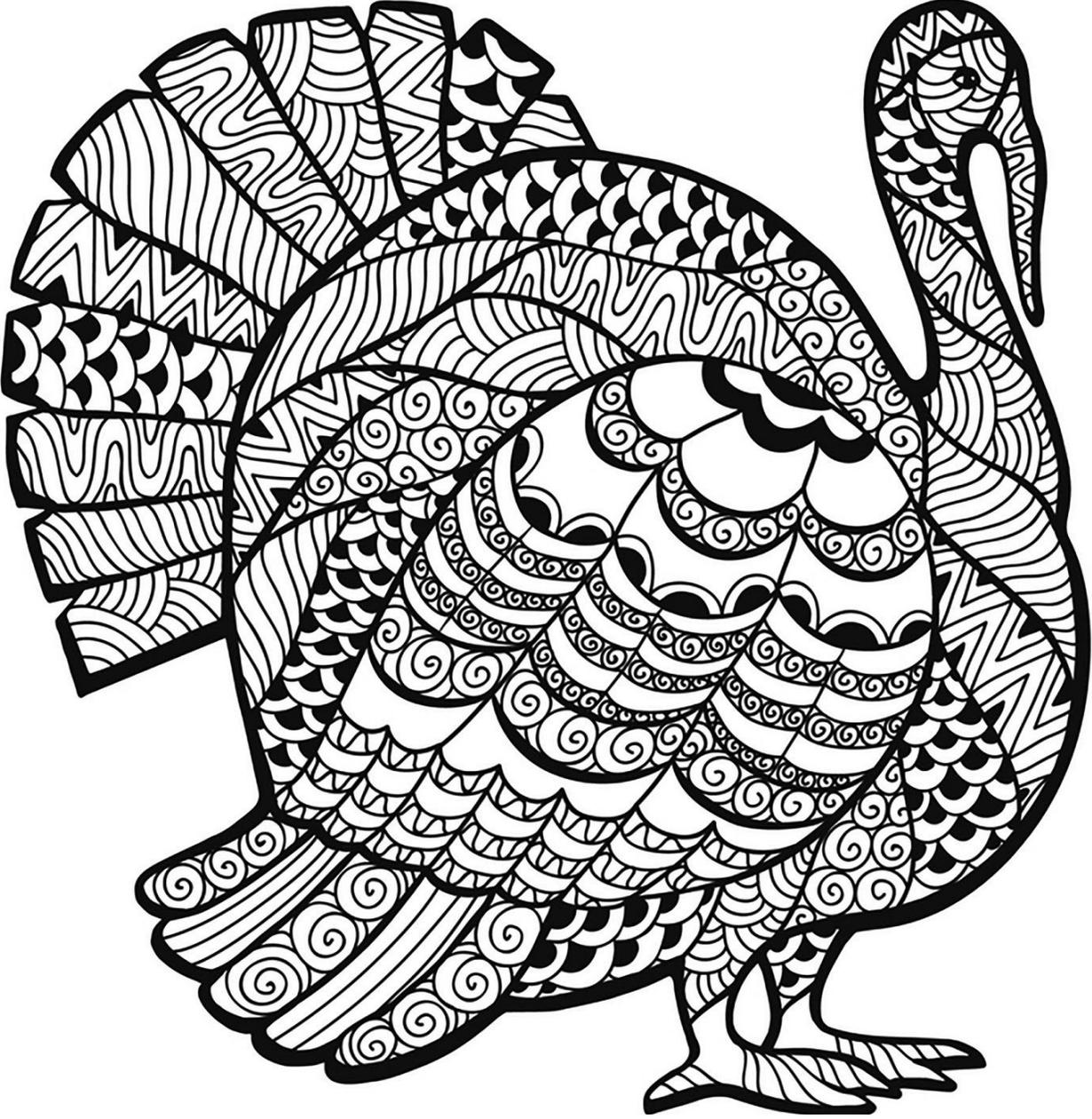
Build Your Own **TURKEY**



- DIRECTIONS:**
1. Color the parts above.
 2. Cut out the parts along the outermost lines.
 3. Glue or tape the parts together to make a turkey!

Print your guest's names on individual turkeys and use them as placeholders

Color the Turkey



It's An Appalachian Thanksgiving

Y	F	N	A	T	R	C	L	A	N	L	A	I	H
N	I	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	R	N	C	P	A
E	S	A	E	N	O	P	N	R	O	C	T	I	T
K	H	P	R	D	C	O	I	A	R	Y	U	C	F
C	F	P	H	U	S	U	C	P	A	F	R	Y	I
I	R	A	O	C	A	R	N	R	I	A	N	R	E
H	Y	L	A	K	N	G	O	U	T	M	I	A	L
C	G	A	R	P	S	O	N	H	S	I	P	K	D
A	A	C	N	Y	H	R	S	I	A	L	G	I	F
A	N	H	G	K	E	N	E	H	E	Y	R	N	A
N	R	I	U	O	A	K	T	T	F	O	E	F	R
C	D	A	U	S	O	R	R	O	A	G	E	O	M
K	N	N	S	T	K	S	A	U	N	T	N	L	Y
S	T	I	R	G	L	I	E	A	T	I	S	K	O

- DUCK
- APPALACHIAN
- CORNPONE
- GOOSE
- HATFIELD FARM
- TATERS
- FISH FRY
- GRITS
- FEAST
- CHICKEN
- HOORAY
- TURNIP GREENS
- KINFOLK
- FAMILY
- TURKEY
- CLAN
- HOLIDAY

Did You Know?

Appalachian Mountains

The **Appalachian Mountains** are a large group of North American mountains.



They form an area from 100 to 300 miles (483 km) wide, running 1,500 miles (2414 km) from the island of Newfoundland in Canada to central Alabama in the United States.

The individual mountains average around 3,000 ft (900 m) in height. The highest is Mt. Mitchell in North Carolina (6,684 ft or 2,037m). Mt. Mitchell is also the highest point in the United States east of the Mississippi River as well as the highest point in eastern North America.

The term **Appalachia** is used to refer to the mountain range and the hills and plateau region around it.

The term is often used to refer to just areas in the central and southern Appalachian Mountains. These areas usually include parts of the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina, and sometimes extending as far south as northern Georgia and western South Carolina, as far north as Pennsylvania, and as far west as southeastern Ohio.

The poem uses American Mountain English, influenced by early colonial Scotch settlers. This rich, expressive and phonetically delightful cultural dialect is spoken in varying degrees by the approximately 20 million people of Eastern America's Inland South.