



Allergen Check

The grid of images contain some images that are types of relatively common culinary nuts (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_culinary_nuts). The flavor text implies that Ben wants one (1) for everything that is a nut, and none (0) for everything that is not. Thus, the image grid maps to a grid of 1s and 0s as follows:

Each row can then be read as a binary number: 00100 is 4, 01001 is 9, 01110 is 14, 00101 is 5, and 10010 is 18. The numbers 4, 9, 14, 5, 18 then translate into letters of the alphabet using a A=1, B=2, etc. scheme to give the answer, **DINER**.

 0 Lighter	 0 Cow	 1 Pine nut	 0 Volleyball	 0 Car
 0 Zeppelin	 1 Wall (wal)nut	 0 Shoe	 0 Fish	 1 Pea-nut
 0 Rick	 1 Coco-nut	 1 Cola (Kola) nut	 1 Candle nut	 0 Cat
 0 Roll	 0 Mario	 1 Chestnut	 0 Milk	 1 Brazil nut
 1 Palm nut	 0 Purse	 0 Honda	 1 Bread nut	 0 Phone

Editor notes:

- Learning to read the flavor text here is essential. The theme/text implies that we care about whether or not Ben needs to beware of his nut allergy, and specifically implies that things that are nuts are 1's and things that are not nuts are 0's
- Classification type questions (e.g. is it a nut or not?) are often incorporated into puzzles. The using of binary numbers is one way to convert the concept of classification into an answer.
- Here we introduce another common system for producing letters: indexing into the *alphabet* itself rather than a phrase from the puzzle (as was done in the first pre-event puzzle).
- Unless you're a nut expert, you probably had to Google around to find out that palm nuts, bread nuts, kola nuts, and brazil nuts are nuts. Puzzles are designed with the expectation that solvers have access to full resources, and if something is unknown you should pull out the search engine and look it up.

(Easter Egg: Ben Gorter is not just a randomly made-up name. Can you figure out who this mystery man is????)