



How to...



FUN FACT
The properties in the board game Monopoly, like Boardwalk and Park Place, are named after locations in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Plan a board game night

Host a friendly competition with family or friends!

Playing a board game is a great way to enjoy time with others and sharpen your problem-solving skills. Before you roll the dice, check out these tips for having the most fun with board games.

Start with a theme

After you choose a day and time, picking a theme for your game night builds more excitement. You could go with "classic board games" and play games like Clue, Life, Ludo, Monopoly, or Scrabble. Or you could pick "modern classics" and set out games such as Catan, Exploding Kittens, and Ticket to Ride. Another theme could be card games, like Sushi Go! and Uno.

Set up your space

Think about a spot that has room for the game and is comfortable. Since most board or card games are best played on a flat surface, you could meet around a dining or kitchen table. Or you could put pillows around a coffee table and have everyone sit on the floor for a cozy feel.

Serve snacks

If you want to add food, bite-size snacks or desserts that don't require utensils are easy to enjoy while playing a game. You could set out pretzels, cheese

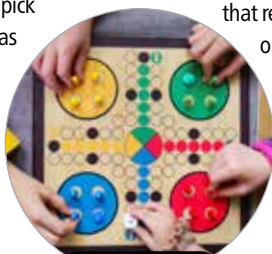
and crackers, or cookies. Bonus points if you match the food's theme to your game. For example, if you're playing Scrabble, you could serve alphabet cookies.

Prepare to play

If you are playing a board game, look inside the box to make sure no game pieces or dice are missing. For card games, check that all the cards are there and shuffle the deck before you get started. If you're playing a game that requires people to write down answers or draw things, gather paper, pens, and pencils ahead of time. Test pens to make sure they work and sharpen pencils.

Give prizes

Prizes can make the competition even more fun! One idea is to make a silly trophy ahead of time for the winner. They can keep it until a new winner is crowned at your next game night. To make one, flip over a plastic cup and glue an old toy or figurine on top. Then, with an adult's help, paint the cup and the toy gold. Or make certificates and give them out as awards for fun achievements, such as "best game face," "biggest comeback," or "best sportsmanship." The more prizes, the better!



Try a strategy game like Ludo.

Try a solo challenge



Cards With a standard deck of 52 cards, you can learn single-player games like Spider, Pyramid, and Solitaire. To become familiar with the rules, check out cardgames.io.

Rubik's Cube The cube has six sides made of colored squares, with one solid color per side. A player twists the cube to mix them up, then must return each side to its original color. There are over 43 quintillion variations!

Sudoku In this popular math game, missing numbers are filled into a 9-by-9 grid of squares, which are subdivided into 3-by-3 boxes so every row, column, and box contains the numbers 1 through 9.