

SMALL
TALK
BINGO

Hilarious balderdash for 4
to 8 players aged 14 and over



moses.

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WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 90 chat cards
- 16 team cards (2 per color)
- 1 "Four-player card"
- 6 bingo boards
- 6 pens
- 1 scoreboard
- 1 sand timer



You'll also need a damp cloth to wipe the bingo boards clean. Don't have one handy? Then use the pen caps instead.

CHAT AND SCORE!

It's very simple: basically, two of you just have a chat about a given topic for two minutes. Before you start chatting, though, the other players must first jot down nine words. Then the small talk can begin! Listen carefully to what your fellow players say. Did they use any of the words you jotted down? It's great if they do because you earn points for each of these. Whoever earns the most points wins.

HOW TO SET UP THE GAME:

Shuffle the chat cards and lay them face down in a pile in the middle of the table. Put the sand timer beside the pile. Get out the bingo boards, scoreboard, and pens. Each of you should choose a color and take the corresponding team cards. Shuffle the team cards and place them face down in a pile. Take a look at the bottom two team cards. Are they the same color? Then place one of them at the top of the team card pile. Are they different colors? Then do nothing. These team cards determine who talks to whom. Now write the players' names on the scoreboard next to their chosen color.

Are there just four of you playing? Then you'll need the Four-player card rather than the team cards. Place it face up in the middle of the table. Each of you should choose a player color—red, yellow, green, or blue. Now you know who has to talk to whom in each round. Return any spare materials to the box.



HOW TO PLAY:

The game involves a series of rounds. In each round, two of you chat about a topic. The chat cards tell you what you should talk about. The other players have to guess what words they think you'll use during your conversation. You earn points for each word mentioned.

Turn the top two team cards over. Are they the same color? Then return one of them to the bottom of the team card pile and turn over another team card. The team cards determine who the small talkers are in this round. Turn over the top chat card. The small talkers have to chat about this topic for **two minutes**. Read the topic indicated on the card out loud and have the sand timer ready.



Tip: You can also set the timer on your smartphone for two minutes.

> JOT DOWN WORDS

The remaining players should grab a bingo board and pen. They are the bingo players in this round. Turn the sand timer over. Starting now, you have two minutes to write down words and names that you think might come up in the conversation.



Hold your bingo board so that none of the other players can see what you're writing. Write something in each of the nine boxes. You can also write phrases or short sentences. Make sure you write 9 different words on your bingo board. Has the sand timer run out and you haven't written down enough words yet? That's unfortunate: you'll have to play with fewer words in this round. Think carefully about how you should arrange these words to get a Small Talk Bingo.



Tip for the small talkers:

While the other players are jotting down words, you can start thinking about what you want to say about the topic.



Note:

To get into the swing of things at the start, you can also do a practice round without any time limit for jotting down words.

➤ TIME TO TALK!

Have you all jotted down some words on your bingo board? Then the small talkers can get chatting. The bingo players aren't allowed to say anything. Turn the sand timer over again. The small talkers now have two minutes to discuss the given topic.

Bingo players beware: You'll need to keep a close eye on your bingo board and listen carefully while the small talkers are chatting! Has a small talker said one of the words that appears on your bingo board? Great! Then circle the word on your board.

➤ SMALL-TALK-BINGO

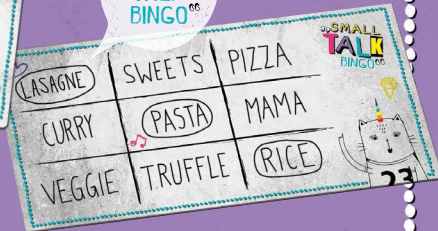
Have you have circled three words in a (horizontal, vertical or diagonal) row on your board? Then shout out "Small Talk Bingo!"

The small talkers immediately stop their conversation and pause the timer – put the sand timer on its side for this. Now check to see whether you really do have a Small Talk Bingo.

- **Yep?** That's great! The round then ends immediately. The small talkers and bingo player to achieve a Small Talk Bingo each get six points. The other bingo players go empty-handed in this round. Make a note of the points on the scoreboard for the according player colors. Let the sand timer finish so you can start a new round.

Note: If several bingo players shout out "Small talk Bingo!" at the same time, they all receive six points. Small talkers still only get just six points though.

- **Nope!?** Did you not get a Small Talk Bingo after all? Then continue the sand timer and resume your conversation.



➤ SCORING – NO SMALL-TALK-BINGO

Did the sand timer run out before anyone managed to get a Small Talk Bingo? Then the small talkers go **empty-handed** in this round. All bingo players receive **one point** for each circled word in this round. Make a note of the points on the scoreboard for the according player colors.

ON TO THE NEXT ROUND:

Clean the bingo boards and put them back in the middle of the table together with the pens. Take care not to accidentally wipe the scoreboard clean! The team cards already played can be discarded in a pile. Turn over two new team cards. These are the small talkers for the new round. All of the others are the bingo players this time. Now uncover a new chat card. The small talkers should read the topic out loud. The remaining players should grab a bingo board and pen, and jot down nine different words again – this time, on the new topic. Have you jotted down some words? Then the small talkers can turn the sand timer over to start the new round.

➤ WHICH WORDS ARE ALLOWED?

Agree before you start playing what types of words you want to allow. We suggest you only allow **nouns, verbs, and adjectives**. Verbs can be written in any tense – so “walk,” “walking,” and “walked.” Both the **singular** and plural forms are accepted. You can write down **sayings** or **phrases** made up of two or more words, too. **Proper names** are also allowed.

You should only circle the words that the small talkers say exactly as you wrote them. Synonyms do not count – “work” and “job,” for example.

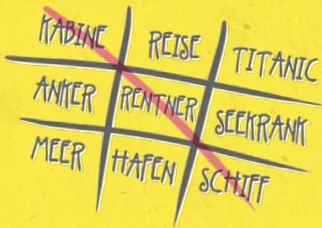
Example: Sam says “The local waste disposal department does a great job.” Emma wrote “garbage” on her bingo board, so her word unfortunately doesn’t count.



Avoid **auxiliary verbs** (to do/be/have, etc.), **modal verbs** (can/could/may/might/must, etc.), **exclamations** (oh, ouch, etc.) **conjunctions** (and/or/but, etc.), **particles** (yes/no/maybe/almost/even, etc.), **pronouns** (me/you/mine/hers/his, etc.), and definite and indefinite **articles** (the/a). You also should **not** write down **any words** that appear in the exact same wording on the chat card. Be **creative** and think about where the conversation might go! Agree among yourselves what you will and won't accept.

END OF THE GAME:

The game ends as soon as all of the team cards have been played. Each of you will have then had either two (with five to eight players) or three (with four players) chats. Add up the points for each player on the scoreboard. The player with the most points wins. In the event of a tie, then there are several winners. Take a damp cloth and wipe the bingo boards and scoreboard clean.



Merci and Thx :

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