

GeekOUT!™



For 2 to ∞ Players (Teams for more than 10 players)
Ages 10 to Adult • Playing Time: Approx. 30 Minutes

Object of the Game:

"Out-geek" your opponents by out-bidding and completing challenges in a variety of categories! Steal and score points by being able to complete bigger lists than your opponents, but don't bid too high or you could end up losing points in the end. Reach the Finish before your opponents do to win the game!

Contents:

144 Geek Out!™ THE BIG BANG THEORY™ List Cards
20 Chips
a 6-sided Category Die, including a blank "wild" side
Gameboard



In this edition of Geek Out! each topic conforms to one of these categories:



Math, Science,
History



Games &
Comics



Sci-Fi &
Fantasy



THE BIG BANG
THEORY™



Miscellaneous

Each card shows five topics, or challenges, organized by category. The colors of the categories correspond to the colors on the die. Each topic states the **minimum** number of items a player must list to complete the challenge. For example, if the challenge states, "Two Songs Sung by Characters" then a player must name **at least two** to fulfill the requirement. Of course other players may bid higher and attempt to list more (see **Game Play**).

Set Up:

Players may play one-on-one or divide into teams. Teams are suggested for games with groups of more than ten players and you can play with up to ten teams.

Take the cards, die, chips, and board out of the box. Place the entire deck of cards (face down), the die, and the board in a central location within reach of all players. Give each player two matching chips. Each chip has a symbol on one side, and the symbol with a

red "no" (🚫) on the reverse side. Each player places one matching chip in front of them, and the other chip on the "Start" position on the board, both with the "no" side down.

Game Play:

Select one player (or team) to go first, who then rolls the die to determine their challenge category. In the case of a blank roll, that player gets to choose any category that they desire, before hearing the topics listed on the card. The opponent to the player's right then draws the top Geek Out! THE BIG BANG THEORY List Card and reads aloud the corresponding challenge. The player states clearly if they accept the minimum bid as listed on the card, or if they would like to increase it by bidding a higher total. "Bluffing" is encouraged!

Once the original player has made their bid, the option to bid passes to the next player, clockwise. That player may pass or bid higher, but may not bid the same number stated by the previous player. Players who wish to pass should indicate this by turning their chip to the "no" position when it's their turn to bid or pass, to help the bidding process move more smoothly. This continues in clockwise order until all players have passed, except for the last player to bid. The bidding process may take several rounds to get to this point. The highest bidder must then attempt to successfully complete the challenge.

Example: It is Howard's turn, and he rolls the die getting the green THE BIG BANG THEORY category. Penny, the player to Howard's right, draws a List Card, and reads Howard his challenge: "Four THE BIG BANG THEORY Characters' Family Members that have Appeared on the show." Howard can state, "I can list four," but being a fan of the show, he decides instead to raise the stakes, claiming, "I can list five." The option to bid higher passes on to the next player in either case. Raj, the player to Howard's left, states that he can name six. Penny doesn't want to risk losing a point and decides to pass, and turns her chip to the "no" position. This bidding process continues clockwise until all players have passed except one.

Once bidding is complete and the challenge has been accepted, the last player to bid may now attempt to complete their list.

If the challenge is completed successfully, the player who accomplished it earns 1 point. The player then moves their chip up one space on the board. If the challenge is failed, the player who attempted it loses a point and moves their chip down one space. If the player's chip is on the "start" space and they lose a point, then the chip moves to the -1 space and will continue going negative if they continue to lose points (see **Scoring**). Players on the -5 space who lose an additional point are out of the game (see **Scoring Variants**).

Note: More than one chip may occupy a space on the board. If necessary, the chips may be stacked.

On the rare occasion that no one bids above the minimum number listed on the card, no penalty will be given if the challenge is not completed successfully. The original player can still attempt to list the minimum number, but won't be penalized if they fail. If they succeed, they still move their chip one space forward.

Play then passes to the left (clockwise) of the last player to roll the die, and the process is repeated.

Scoring:

Players will earn 1 point each time they complete a challenge and -1 point each time they are unable to complete a challenge. The first player to reach a total of 5 points, and has moved their chip from the Start all the way to the Finish on the board, has successfully "out-geeked" their opponents to win the game! A player can also win if all their opponents are eliminated from the game, no matter what their final score may be.

House Rules:

Geek Out! THE BIG BANG THEORY is a party game that encourages debate and discussion. Players may campaign as to why they believe an answer is valid. Some challenges on the List Cards are more vague than others, specifically to elicit a wider range of possible answers. Players are encouraged to get creative when answering! Below we have included a glossary with some of the terms that pop up frequently in the game. We recommend that you use this only as a general guide, however, and let your group decide amongst itself which answers it deems appropriate. We also suggest that you set up parameters regarding the bidding process before your game begins, such as allowing players only 10 seconds to either bid or pass, or to only write lists on paper when working as a team.

Players may decide before the game begins that the validity of answers will be checked by opponents with an online search. Use your best judgment, though, so that this does not slow down the tempo of the game and hinder the fun!

Glossary:

Games: Unspecified, "Games" can refer to games of any sort, including traditional tabletop board and card games, role-playing games, or video games. If specified, however, the list given must comply with the specification. For example, if the challenge is to list video games, then a tabletop card game may not be included.

Comics: For the purposes of game play, "Comics" include Comic Books, Graphic Novels, Comic Strips, Manga, and Anime. For the purposes of game play, the term "Comic Book" includes any "US," "European," or "western" comic book or graphic novel and "Manga" includes any "Asian," or "eastern" comic book, graphic novel or animated cartoon.

Sci-Fi: For the purposes of game play, this genre contains materials, books, television shows and films set in a Science Fiction setting that includes futuristic themes and technology, space travel, alien races, undiscovered fictional technology and the like. Examples of "Science Fiction" that are mentioned on the show are: *The Matrix*, *Westworld*, and *Blade Runner*.

Fantasy: For the purposes of game play, this genre contains materials, books, TV shows and films which take place in a Fantasy setting that includes recreationist/fictional history, magical elements, fictional creatures and the like. Examples of "Fantasy" mentioned on the show are: *The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, and *King Arthur*.

THE BIG BANG THEORY Category: In this category, "on the show" is implied - for example, when asked to list characters' last names, it is implied that players must list last names of characters on THE BIG BANG THEORY. In this category, "Characters" refers to characters who have appeared or who have been mentioned on the show.

Character: A character is a person or individual in a film, TV show, novel, or other work of fiction. In THE BIG BANG THEORY category only, "Characters" refers to characters who have appeared or who have been mentioned on the show.

Series/Serials: A "Serial" is any series of films, books, etc. that belong to each other in parts, sequels, trilogies or more. No serials are allowed in a valid list. For example, if *Superman* is listed, then *Superman 2* cannot be listed. Spin-offs are allowed in a valid list (see **Spin-offs**, below). Reboots are considered part of a serial. For example, the film *Batman* and the film *The Dark Knight Rises* are considered serials and may not be used together in a valid list.

Spin-offs: A "Spin-off" is a book, television show, or film that is derived from another with an alternate storyline and/or cast. Spin-offs ARE allowed in a valid list. For example, if THE BIG BANG THEORY is listed, then *Young Sheldon* may be listed too.

Franchise: A "Franchise" is any well-known intellectual property that has been created into a combination of books, films, television shows, games and merchandise.

Named: A "Named" item is one that actually has a name. For example, if the challenge is to list named colleagues of the main characters, then "Barry Kripke" would be valid, but "the guy with the speech impediment" would not. Unnamed items, like "the people sitting in the lunchroom" are also not allowed.

References: When asked to list specific references, players may include dialogue, clothing, or items seen. For example, when asked to list references to specific comic book characters (like The Flash), players could include what was said and by which character(s), articles of clothing worn, memorabilia, comic book covers seen, etc.

Mentioned: When asked to list things that are mentioned, players should say who mentioned it or the circumstance, for example, when asked to list Sci-Fi films mentioned on the show, players could include "Howard argued with Stephen Hawking about *The Matrix*" or that "Penny saw the trailer for *Batman v Superman*."

Times/Instances: For example, if asked to list "Two Times Characters were seen Dancing," players should describe the circumstance, location, or occasion, or if possible, name the episode.

Quotes: When asked to quote a character or line from the show, players don't have to use the exact wording, but try to be as accurate as possible. How exact players have to be can be determined before beginning the game and by House Rules.

Scoring Variants:

Before the beginning of the game, players may vote to decide whether to allow players who have gone below -5 to remain in the game, even if they continue to lose points. Players who have reached the -5 space and then lose another point simply remain on the -5 space until they earn a point by successfully completing a challenge.

Mixing Instructions:

Geek Out! THE BIG BANG THEORY can be played on its own, or may be combined with other editions of Geek Out! When playing with multiple editions, keep the card deck from each edition in a separate pile. On a player's turn, after rolling the die, they may choose from which pile they would like a card to be drawn.

When combining Geek Out! THE BIG BANG THEORY with other editions, decide beforehand whether to play with the board and this scoring mechanic, or with the classic, original "Geek Out!" scoring, using won List Cards as +1 point, and the Scoring Squares to denote -2 points for unsuccessful challenges.

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