

‘Talents’ card-game rules

You will need two or three players, and a standard 52-card deck of playing cards.

Set up

Remove the picture cards (Jack, Queen and King) from the deck and place them face-up in a pile. Shuffle the remaining cards and deal a hand of cards to each player.

- With 2 players: deal 2 cards to one player and 5 to the other.
- With 3 players: deal 1 card to the first player, 2 cards to the second player and 5 cards to the third player.

Place the rest of the cards face-down in a pile between the players.

Play

Start with the player who has the least cards in their hand.

On your turn, you may take *either* (not both) of two actions.

- *Either* discard 1, 2 or 3 cards from your hand and take 2, 4 or 6 cards from the face-down pile and put them into your hand (take twice as many cards as you discard);
- *or* discard 5 cards from your hand and take 1 picture card from the face-up pile and put it into your hand.

Add your discarded cards to the face-down pile after you take your cards.

Game end

The game ends when there are no more picture cards to buy.

Who wins?

At the end of the game, each player counts how many picture cards they have. Then, *subtract the number of cards you started with from the total* to get your final point total.

So, if you started with 5 cards and ended with 6 picture cards, your final score is $5 - 6 = 1$.

If you started with only 1 card and ended with 2 picture cards, your final score is $2 - 1 = 1$!