

Quartets

3 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: Medium

Collect the most complete quartets (sets of four matching cards).

SETUP

- Use a standard 52-card deck or specialized Quartets deck.
- Shuffle and deal all cards evenly among players.

SCORING

- Each completed quartet counts as one point.
- Player with the most quartets when all are collected wins.

Tip: Track which ranks opponents ask for to deduce what they are collecting.

ON YOUR TURN

- Ask a specific opponent for a card rank you already hold.
- If they have it, they give it to you and you go again.
- If not, your turn ends and they become the next asker.
- Lay down completed quartets (4 of same rank) face-up.

Quartets, also known as Happy Families, is a classic card game enjoyed by players of all ages. It involves collecting sets of matching cards while trying to avoid being left with incomplete sets. The game can be played with standard playing cards or specialized Quartets decks featuring themed categories such as animals, vehicles, or famous characters.

Objective

The objective of Quartets is to collect complete sets of four matching cards, known as quartets, from the deck. Players take turns asking opponents for specific cards to complete their sets while strategically withholding cards that opponents need.

Setup

1. **Players:** Quartets can be played with two or more players.
2. **Deck:** Use a specialized Quartets deck or a standard 52-card deck, depending on player preference.
3. **Dealing:** Shuffle the deck and deal all cards evenly to each player. There is no draw pile.

Gameplay Basics

1. **Asking for Cards:** Players take turns asking a specific opponent for a card they need to complete a set. If the opponent has the requested card, they must give it to the asking player. If not, the turn passes to the player who was asked (they become the next asker).
2. **Collecting Quartets:** When a player collects all four cards of a set (a quartet), they place the set face-up in front of them.
3. **Strategic Play:** Players strategically ask opponents for specific cards while trying to deduce which cards opponents are collecting. Players must always answer truthfully and hand over requested cards if they have them. A player may only ask for a rank if they already hold at least one card of that rank.
4. **Winning:** The game continues until all quartets have been collected from the deck. The player with the most quartets at the end of the game is declared the winner.

Special Rules and Variations

1. **Variety of Decks:** Quartets decks come in various themes and categories, allowing players to choose decks that match their interests.
2. **Special Cards:** Some Quartets decks include special cards with unique abilities or effects that can alter gameplay.
3. **Custom Rules:** Players can create custom rules or variations to add complexity or adjust the difficulty level of the game.

Round Example

Each player is dealt an equal number of cards from the shuffled deck.

- Player A asks Player B for a specific card to complete a quartet.
- If Player B has the requested card, they give it to Player A, who then takes another turn.
- If Player B does not have the requested card, Player A draws a card from the draw pile.
- The game continues with players taking turns until all quartets have been collected.

Tips & Strategy

Pay attention to opponents' card requests and try to deduce which cards they are collecting. Keep track of which cards have been requested and which are still in play.

Successful Quartets players balance strategic card asking with deductive reasoning, adapt to opponents' playing styles, and employ bluffing tactics to gain an advantage.