

RULES FOR PLAYING Boggle

AGES 8 & UP

EQUIPMENT: Sixteen letter cubes, a cube tray with dome, a 3-minute timer, score pad and 2 pencils. Use your own pencils for games with 3 or more players.

OBJECT: To list, within 3 minutes, as many words of the highest point value as you can find among the random assortment of letters in the cube tray.

PREPARATION: Drop the letter cubes into the dome and place the yellow cube tray, grid side down, over the dome. Turn the domed tray right-side up, shake the cubes around, and move the tray until each cube falls into place in the grid. As one player removes the dome, another player starts the timer.

PLAYING: When the timer starts, each player searches the assortment of letters for words of *three letters or more*. When you find a word, write it down. Words are formed from *adjoining letters*. Letters must join in the *proper sequence* to spell a word. They may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, or up-and-down. No letter cube, however, may be used more than once within a single word.

RIGHT

Figure 1
OILS
(OIL)



Figure 2
SILO



Figure 3
SOIL



Figures 1 through 3 show how words can be formed using the adjoining letters S, O, L, I.

WRONG

Figure 4
SOILS



Figure 5
SOAR



Figures 4 and 5 show two *incorrect* spelling techniques: 1) in “SOILS” (Fig. 4) the one adjoining “s” is used twice; 2) to form “SOAR” (Fig. 5) requires skipping over the letter “r.” No skipping is allowed; *letters must adjoin in sequence*.

Try your skill at finding the hidden words in the letter arrangement above. There are more than 70 words, including “molar,” “prose,” and “turmoil.” Can you find more?

TYPES OF WORDS ALLOWED:

Any word (noun, adjective, adverb, etc.) is acceptable as long as it can be found in a standard English dictionary. Plural nouns are allowed, as are all verb tenses.

Words within words are also permissible; e.g., **spare**: spa, par, are, spar, pare.

SCORING AND WINNING:

When the timer runs out, everyone must stop writing. Each player in turn then reads aloud their list of words. Any word that appears on more than one player's list must be crossed off *all* lists, including that of the reader.

After all players have read their lists, each player scores their remaining words.

SCORING

NO. OF LETTERS:	3	4	5	6	7	8 or more
POINTS:	1	1	2	3	5	11

The winner is: 1) the player whose words have earned the most points; or 2) the first player to reach 50 points, 100 points; or whatever score is considered by all to be a reasonable target.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Neither the cubes nor the tray may be touched while the timer is on.
- Not acceptable are: proper names, abbreviations, contractions, hyphenated words and foreign words that are not in an English dictionary.
- Multiple meanings of the same word do not earn multiple credit. The word “tear,” for example, can mean both “rip” and “cry”; yet it may count as only one word.
- The same word found by a player in different areas of the grid may not be counted for multiple credit.
- The “Qu” cube counts as two letters.
- The letter “M” has straight sides, the letter “W” has slanted sides.
- The letter “Z” has a line under it and should not be seen as the “IN.”
- Full credit is awarded for *both* the singular and plural forms of a noun – provided that the player has listed them as separate words.
- Common words tend to be found by more than one player. Therefore, if your words are unique and unusual, they are more likely to earn you points.

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