

RULES FOR PLAYING

"CLUE"

The Great Detective Game!



For 3, 4, 5 or 6 players
Ages 8 & Up

INTRODUCTION

CLUE is unlike any other game. All of the characters are fictitious — even the “victim” is imagined. It is like a Stage Play.

The scene opens in Mr. Boddy’s palatial mansion. Mr. Boddy is the victim of foul play and is found in one of the rooms.

THE OBJECT OF THE GAME is to discover the answer to these three questions:

- 1st. WHO? Which one of the several suspects did it?
- 2nd. WHERE?
- 3rd. HOW?

The answer lies in the little Black Envelope resting on the stair-way marked X in the center of the board. The envelope contains 3 cards. One card tells who did it — another card reveals the room in which it all happened, and the third card discloses the weapon used.

The player who, by the process of deduction and good plain common sense, first identifies the 3 clue cards hidden in the little black envelope, wins the game.

This is accomplished by players moving into the rooms and making “suggestions” of what they believe is the room, the person and the weapon for the purpose of gaining information. This information may reveal which CLUE cards are in other players’ hands and which cards are missing and must, therefore, be hidden in the little black envelope. “Accusing” a suspect and naming the weapon and the room under suspicion is one of the most exciting features of CLUE.

EQUIPMENT:

The game Board showing nine rooms of Mr. Boddy’s house.

Six colored tokens representing the suspects in the house. The colors of the pieces are closely associated with the names of the suspects:—

<i>Suspects</i>	<i>Tokens</i>
Col. Mustard	Yellow
Miss Scarlett	Red
Prof. Plum	Purple
Mr. Green	Green
Mrs. White	White
Mrs. Peacock	Blue

Six miniature weapons and ONE DIE.

The pack of 21 illustrated cards includes a card for each of the 6 suspects, one for each of the 6 weapons, and one for each of the 9 rooms.

There is also a pad of Detective Notes and six pencils to aid the players in their investigations.

PREPARATION:

Place the wooden playing pieces on the starting squares marked with their names. All 6 pieces are placed on the board regardless of the number of players.

Place each of the Weapons in a different room, using *any* of the rooms.

Arranging the Cards:

Place the empty envelope marked “Clue Cards” on the spot marked “X” in the center of the board. Then sort the pack of cards into three groups — Room Cards, Weapon Cards and Suspect Cards.

Shuffle each of these three groups separately. Take the top card from each group and place it in the envelope. This should be done carefully so that no player knows any of the three cards (one room, one weapon, and one suspect) placed in the envelope.

Dealing the Cards:

The remaining cards in the three piles are now thoroughly mixed together and shuffled, and then are dealt, one at a time, clockwise around the table to each player. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT NO PLAYER SHALL SEE ANY OF THE CARDS WHILE THEY ARE BEING SHUFFLED AND DEALT. Some players may receive more cards than others.

Each player holds the cards dealt to them, taking care that no other player sees the cards in their hand.

START:

Each player takes the colored token nearest to them on the board, and uses it throughout the game. The player having the red token, Miss Scarlett, rolls the die and moves first.

After Miss Scarlett has moved, the next player on the left rolls the die and moves. Each of the other players follows in turn. In succeeding games players should take turns, dealing and starting.

MOVEMENT OF TOKENS:

Players to reach a room may move their tokens on the yellow squares anywhere on the board according to the throw of the die. All the yellow squares on the board are for the movement of tokens.

Tokens can move forward, backwards, or crosswise, but—**never diagonally**. A token may be moved forward and crosswise on the same turn, but it cannot move to a particular space twice in the same turn.

NO TWO TOKENS MAY OCCUPY ANY ONE SQUARE, NOR MAY A PLAYER MOVE THEIR TOKEN THROUGH A SQUARE OCCUPIED BY ANOTHER TOKEN. A room, however, may be occupied by any number of tokens and weapons.

MOVING INTO A ROOM:

There are three ways of **entering** a room: (1) Throwing the die and moving your token along the squares *entering through a doorway*, (2) via the *Secret Passages* by leaping across the board, *corner to corner*, without using the die, and (3) a player’s token may be *placed in a room by another player* in the feature play known as “the Suggestion.”

If the space at the entrance to a room is occupied by the token of one player, no other player may move into that room, through *that* door.

GETTING OUT OF A ROOM:

There are three ways of **leaving** a room: (1) by throwing the die and moving out through a doorway onto the squares, heading toward another room of your choice, (2) by using the Secret Passages and finally, (3) by being transferred to a new room by some other player.

On the throw of the die, players may enter Rooms by the **doors** only, but cannot leave a room on the same turn; **entering the Room ends the move**. It is not necessary to throw the exact number to enter a Room. That is, if a player needs 4 to bring them into a room and throws 6, they ignore the last two units after entering the Room.

Players already in a room may leave it **by any door** — using the die as usual and moving toward another room — or, they may use a secret passage, if in a corner room.

The doors of each room are not counted as a square.

THE “SUGGESTION”

Whenever a player moves into a room they should make a “Suggestion.”

A “Suggestion” consists of naming a Suspect, a Weapon and the Room into which the player has moved. AS SOON AS A PLAYER MAKES A SUGGESTION THE TOKEN OF THE SUSPECT NAMED AND THE WEAPON NAMED ARE BROUGHT INTO THE ROOM NAMED IN THE SUGGESTION. No player may forfeit a turn to remain in a particular room. Players must move by a throw of the dice or by the secret passages on each turn.

An Example:

The player representing Miss Scarlett may, in two moves, reach the Lounge. Miss Scarlett may then call a Suspect into the Lounge (for example Mr. Green) and move the green token into the Lounge. She will also call into the Lounge some weapon (for example, the Wrench) and will say “I suggest that the crime was committed in the LOUNGE, by MR. GREEN with the WRENCH.”

Note: — All tokens, spare ones as well as players’ own tokens fall under equal suspicion and should be considered by players making “Suggestions.”

PROVING THE SUGGESTION TRUE OR FALSE:

When a Suggestion has been made the first player to the left of the one making the Suggestion examines their cards to see if they are able to prove the Suggestion false. To disprove the Suggestion they must hold one or more of the cards named. (In our example above, the cards named are Mr. Green, the Wrench and the Lounge). If the player holds one or more of these cards, they **must** show **one only** to the player making the Suggestion. **This must be done without the other players seeing the card shown.**

(If Miss Scarlett holds **in her own** hand one or more of these cards, perhaps the **Lounge** and **Mr. Green**, she may soon discover whether some other player has the wrench, or if it is hidden in the envelope. A smart player will often deliberately make a Suggestion naming

one or two cards that they hold in their own hand just to gain information or to mislead the other players.)

If the first player to the left does not have any of the three cards, then the next player at their left examines their cards and **must** show one of the three if they have it. A player having more than one of the called cards may show whichever one they wish, but only one.

Obviously if any player holds in their hand one or more of the 3 cards named in the suggestion, it is proof that those particular cards are not in the black envelope. Therefore, when a card is shown to the player who made the Suggestion, their Suggestion has thus been proved to be false, and they may wish to make a note of this on their Detective Pad.

The opportunity to prove the Suggestion false passes to the left until some player has shown ONE card to the suggesting player, whose turn then ends, and play passes to the next player.

If no one disproves the Suggestion the player then may either pass the turn or else make an ACCUSATION.

ACCUSATION:

When a player is satisfied that they know the three Clue Cards hidden in the envelope, they can on their turn, make an ACCUSATION. The player states that they are making an Accusation and names the three Clue Cards they believe to be in the envelope. Then, carefully, so that the other players do not see, they look at the three cards in the envelope. Contrary to the rules for making a suggestion a player may make an accusation whether or not their piece is in the room they mention.

WINNING THE GAME:

IF THE ACCUSATION IS CORRECT, THAT IS, IF THE PLAYER FINDS IN THE ENVELOPE, THOSE 3 CARDS THAT THEY JUST NAMED, THEY LAY THE CARDS FACE UP ON THE TABLE, AND THAT PLAYER IS THE WINNER.

If the Accusation is incorrect, the player returns the three Clue Cards to the envelope **unseen by any other player** and replaces it on the board. Having made a false Accusation they have no further moves in the game, and cannot win, but as a player they can contradict Suggestions made by other players with the cards they hold in their hand.

A player can make only one Accusation during any one game.

SECRET PASSAGES:

The Secret Passages shown in the corner rooms enable players to move between opposite corner rooms in **one** move. This can be done on a player’s turn without throwing the die merely by moving their token to the opposite corner room and announcing their using the Secret Passage. A Suggestion may be made after this move.

OTHER INTERESTING NOTES AND HINTS FOR PLAY:

A PLAYER MUST BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL IN EXAMINING THEIR CARDS BEFORE STATING THEY CANNOT DISPROVE A “SUGGESTION.”

“Suggestions” may even include cards held in the player’s own hand.

The room named in a Suggestion must always be the one into which the suggesting player’s own token has been moved.

A player may make only one Suggestion after entering a room, and may not make another until entering another room or else, using at least TWO TURNS, leaving and then re-entering the same room.

Tokens and weapons transferred to a room as the result of a Suggestion are not returned to their original positions on the board. To leave a room in which a player’s token has been placed by a Suggestion, a player on their next turn uses either the THROW OF THE DIE or, if in a corner room, they can use the SECRET PASSAGE.

If a token is moved into a room by a Suggestion, the player who owns the token may, on their next turn, make a Suggestion of their own for that room. For this turn they do not throw the die or move their token.

By making Suggestions and having them proved **True** or **False** players will eventually be able to identify the three Clue Cards in the envelope.

Although there is no requirement or rule on how players should use the Detective Note Pads it is suggested that the best and easiest way to play the game is to check off items on the Note Pads as they become known and using the initials of the player showing the card sometimes is an additional aid in winning the game.

Some players prefer to check off the names of the cards dealt to them **at the beginning** of each game.



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