

Old Maid

PLAYERS 2 to 6 **DECK** 51 cards: one queen removed **TYPE** Collecting sets **LEVEL** Easy
TIME About 10 minutes

THE GOAL

Get rid of all your cards in pairs, and don't be the player left holding the odd queen.

SETUP

2 to 6 players. Take one queen out of a 52-card deck, leaving 51 cards.

THE DEAL

Deal all the cards one at a time. Some players may get one more. Everyone throws out their pairs.

A TURN

- Fan your cards face down and offer them to the player on your left.
- They pick one without looking.
- A card that makes a pair: throw the pair out. Otherwise keep it.
- Then that player offers their cards to the next player on the left.

SPECIAL CARDS

- Three of a kind: throw out two, keep one.
- A player with no cards left is safe and drops out.

SCORING

- No points. One player loses: whoever holds the last queen.

WINNING

Everyone except the player holding the odd queen at the end wins.

HOUSE RULES

- **Jack out.** Take out one jack instead of a queen. The odd jack is the card nobody wants.
- **Old Maid deck.** Special picture decks come in pairs plus one single Old Maid card, so no card needs removing.
- **Lucky last.** Play it in reverse: whoever ends up holding the odd card wins.