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Payday board game rules

Image: Tim Noack/Moment/Getty Images Before the internet, there were few things we could do on rainy days or when we were stuck at home. If we were lucky enough to have a sibling (or a babysitter who was engaging), we could play board games when we were bored. Simply put, board games are amazing in theory: everyone gets together and has fun playing a game ... that is, until someone starts crying because they're losing or someone starts cheating because they are the older sibling and the younger sibling can't say anything. So, while board games can have the side effect of great family fun, they can also lead to rivalries and arguments that span decades – but who's counting? If your family had a game shelf (or a game room), you can probably recognize nearly every family board game that was popular when you were a kid. However, if your family was the serious gamer family (before gaming became electronic, of course), you can probably name every board game that was ever made. Let's see if you have what it takes to beat the rest. Take this quiz to find out if you can identify all of these board games (but we'll warn you, some of these games are pretty obscure). TRIVIA Can You Identify These Disney Movies From a Single Frame? 7 Minute Quiz 7 Min TRIVIA Do You Know These Games From the Price Is Right? 7 Minute Quiz 7 Min TRIVIA Can You Name 40 of the Most Famous Cartoon Characters of All Time? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Name the Disney Live-Action Movie From a Screenshot? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Complete These Disney Movie Titles? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Guess the Vintage of These Gadgets? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Identify These Candy Bars From an Image? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA From Typewriter to Boombox: Can You Identify These Old-School Technologies? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Guess the Most Popular Movies of All Time From the Plotline? 7 Minute Quiz 7 Min TRIVIA 91% of People Can't Name These Sci-Fi and Fantasy Films From One Image! Can You? 7 Minute Quiz 7 Min How much do you know about dinosaurs? What is an octane rating? And how do you use a proper noun? Lucky for you, HowStuffWorks Play is here to help. Our award-winning website offers reliable, easy-to-understand explanations about how the world works. From fun quizzes that bring joy to your day, to compelling photography and fascinating lists, HowStuffWorks Play offers something for everyone. Sometimes we explain how stuff works, other times, we ask you, but we're always exploring in the name of fun! Because learning is fun, so stick with us! Playing quizzes is free! We send trivia questions and personality tests every week to your inbox. By clicking "Sign Up" you are agreeing to our privacy policy and confirming that you are 13 years old or over. Copyright © 2021 InfoSpace Holdings, LLC, a System1 Company Risk will always be a classic strategy game go-to, but there're all kinds of awesome board games like Risk to add to your game-play arsenal. Below, I've selected a variety that all have the classic's same "world conquest" qualities with unique approaches. Whether you feel like playing for two hours or 10, and with kids, adults, or both, there's a game below for you and your crew.To find games that compare to Risk, I looked for board games that demand strategic thinking and territory building — ones that require players to build up territories and resources, and in some cases, conquer those of other players. From a space exploration game that involves using war and diplomacy to conquer planets all over the galaxy, to a territory control board game that's set in an alternate world, there are plenty of games similar to Risk that you can invest in to take your game night to the next level. Similar to Risk, most of the games below require players to be at least 10 years old; though I did include a few picks that are for teens and up, ones that have higher complexity ratings, longer play times, and slightly more adult themes. As you scan this list you'll see the recommended players, complexity scores, and pacing listed out, so you can pick the best tabletop board game for you. The games gathered below offer a pretty big range, as some of the shorter board games can wrap in just 30 or 40 minutes, while the longest game here can keep you and your friends busy for up to 6 hours. For reference, I've listed each game's estimated play times, along with complexity ratings, according to Board Game Geek, which gives Risk a complexity rating of 2.09.Check out these highly rated board games like Risk, all available on Amazon. 1A Space Exploration Game Like Risk Red Raven Games Empires of The Void IIAmazonFor anyone with an interest in exploring the universe, Empires Of The Void II is a great game like Risk that's the most challenging board game on this list. You'll embark on a mission to build your own galactic empire in this game, traveling to new planets where you can either wage war, form allies with aliens and new species, or start building your own structures to establish a foothold on the outer edges of your galactic world. This has a longer playing time and a higher complexity score than Risk, so it's a great level up if you've tired of playing Risk every game night. The Basics: 2 to 5 players, ages 13 and up; 1.5 to 3 hours game playBoard Game Geek Complexity Rating: 3.46 out of 5What fans are saying: "I can totally recommend this as a perfect game for couples who have even a slight interest in space games and enjoy some area control and fun battling."2A Board Game Like Risk That's Great For Two PlayersThis two-player board game pits you and a friend against each other as you race to build bridges and conquer a 12-island archipelago. You'll use cards to build bridges (or remove your opponent's bridges) from the board's map, and the game lasts for three rounds of back-and-forth card play or until someone has no bridges left on the game board. This is a quicker game than Risk and can't be played with as many people, but that makes it great for anyone who struggles to commit to a days-long battle to conquer the world (or for younger players, as well). The Basics: 2 players, ages 10 and up; for 30 to 40 minutes of game playBoard Game Geek Complexity Rating: 2.06 out of 5What fans are saying: "Great Strategy game for two people! If you like Risk or Settlers, but don't love playing them with only two people, then this game is for you. It's easy to learn, and doesn't take too long to play (our games seem to average 20-30 Min.)."3The Best Resource Management Board Game Like Risk Formerly called Settlers of Catan, Catan is more about negotiation, territory-building, and resource management than conquering. A lot of how players fare depends on the roll of the dice, but like Risk, a player's success also depends on building up their settlements and cities and expanding their army as well as collecting resources, having the longest road, and gathering victory cards. The Basics: 3 to 4 players, ages 10 and up; an hour of game playBoard Game Geek Complexity Rating: 2.33 out of 5What fans are saying: "We love to play Risk and this is always under the, "people who buy this also buy this" section. Since learning this game (which is fairly easy to learn btw), I have no desire to play Risk anymore. We are obsessed! We already want to buy expansions but are going to make ourselves wait a few months so we don't burn out."4A Territory Control Board Game Set In An Alternate 1920s Timeline Stonemaier Games Scythe Board GameAmazonSet in a post-war alternate history of "Europa," Scythe is a complex territory building game with a science fiction spin: It's a time of farming, yet players have to contend with activating monstrous machines called "Mechs," which were used to fuel the Great War. Players represent one of five Eastern European factions who are working to claim land and fortune for their people — whether by expanding their borders, building structures, enlisting recruits, or activating monstrous "Mechs" to deter potential enemy invaders. The game takes place in lands around the "Factory" — a mysterious capitalist city-state — and each player begins the game with different resources, starting locations, and a hidden goal. While players have plenty of chances for conflict and combat, none are ever eliminated. Like Risk, this competitive pick is all about expansion and territory building. Unlike Risk, dice aren't used, and it's a bit more complex than Risk, so it's meant more for teens and adults. The Basics: 1 to 5 players, ages 14 and up; around 2 hours of game playBoard Game Geek Complexity Rating: 3.37 out of 5What fans are saying: "Here is a flat out honest review. Damn is this game complicated. Takes a lot of time to learn the rules and figure out what the hell you are doing. Once you get the hang of it, its like risk on steroids. I do not recommend this to anyone looking for a fast 30 minute game (took us 2 1/2 hours to play one game). You end up reading the rules frequently and going "duh" a lot, but it's well worth it. The more you play, the better it is."5The Best Strategy Board Game Like Risk With Long Game PlayAvalon Hill DiplomacyAmazonPerhaps the most time-consuming game on this list, Diplomacy is all about negotiation, with a little bit of bluffing thrown in. This war game takes place in 1901, so about 13 years before the First World War. Players represent the "Great Powers of Europe," so you can choose from Great Britain, France, Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy, Russia, or Turkey. There are no dice; instead, players instruct their military units by writing a set of "orders" for them. At every turn, your units — that is, armies or fleets — can move to an adjoining territory, support an allied unit, or simply hold their position. The Basics: 2 to 7 players, ages 12 and up; up to 6 hours of game playBoard Game Geek Complexity Rating: 3.36 out of 5What fans are saying: "Game is fun, but takes a long time. Played a 10 hour game with friends yesterday. Tons of fun. No random chance in dice rolls like in risk. All strategy." Board games can be shockingly pricey, but the best board games under \$20 still offer super engaging and fun gameplay in a variety of different categories and themes. It helps to know which kinds of games you're looking for and your preferred number of players before you start your search, since even the best complex strategy game is unlikely to please someone who needs a breezy party game to entertain a crowd. Some board games can be enjoyed in a matter of minutes — think 15 or less — while others can last for hours on end, so consider what'll meet your desires and expectations, and choose a game accordingly.For \$20 or less, you'll have your pick of some seriously entertaining board games in a range of categories. Party board games will surely result in lots of laughs — perfect for a game night with friends both new and old — while classic board games are not only nostalgic, but classic for a reason (they're fun). Trivia board games and word board games both require players to get on their thinking caps. Strategy board games tend to be the most complex, requiring players to problem solve their way to victory. Some of these games are super competitive, but you may also want to opt for cooperative-style games in which players work together towards a common goal.It's time to get your game on; these eight picks are wildly popular on Amazon, so they're sure to become your new favorites. And most importantly, they won't break the bank since they all cost \$20 or less — some even cost less than \$10!1. A Less Expensive Version Of A Popular Board GameDays Of Wonder Ticket to Ride - New YorkAmazonA spinoff of a wildly popular strategy board game (Ticket To Ride), Ticket To Ride New York from Days Of Wonder has a lot in common with the original, but is simpler and more compact. However, reviewers on Amazon indicate it's still loads of fun — and heck, for less than half of the price of the original, it's hard to say no. Reviewers give this pick a whopping 4.7-star rating overall, among 1,400 and growing reviews.The board game takes just a few minutes to learn. During the game, players race through the streets of the Big Apple completing routes and fulfilling destination tickets. Play is super fast-paced, with most games taking 15 minutes or less, and is recommended for ages 8 and up (making this a solid family game night pick).If you just can't get enough of this franchise, the board game also comes in Amsterdam and London versions, both of which are also under \$20. Enthusiastic Amazon review: "New to the ticket to ride franchise? This is perfect for you! Very easy to learn, and it gives you a good idea how to play the larger, original ticket to ride. This is like a mini travel version of the base game and it plays very quick at around 15minutes or so. Highly recommend."2. A Fan-Favorite Classic Board Game For Hours Of EntertainmentHasbro Games Monopoly Board GameAmazonWith a whopping 4.8-star rating overall on Amazon, after more than 22,000 reviews, it's clear that Monopoly from Hasbro Games remains a favorite still to this day — it's been sold under its current name since 1935! The classic board game is highly competitive as players buy and sell properties with the goal of bankrupting others out of the game. Plenty of strategy is required in order to win, but you'll also need to rely on a bit of luck. Play time varies depending on the number of players, but you can expect a game to last a few hours or more. The game is recommended for players ages 8-plus, making this one a good pick for family game.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "I bought this for my 10-year-old so we could have a family fun night and he could have the memories of playing a classic board game [with] his family like I had. Monopoly will not disappoint. This is excellent family fun that will create years and years of memories that are priceless."3. A Cooperative Board Game That Requires Plenty Of StrategyGamewright Forbidden IslandAmazonAdventure awaits! Forbidden Island from Gamewright requires players to work together — yes, it's a cooperative game — on the quest of a lifetime. The goal? Capture the sacred treasure and make your escape, while avoiding some seriously dangerous threats along the way. Plenty of strategic thinking, problem solving, and, of course, cooperation is required — so put your thinking caps on and enjoy your journey.Forbidden Island is for players ages 10-plus, and the play time is about 30 minutes or so.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "This is by far one of my favorite games. I love how everyone works together against the game. You really have to work together as a team and plan out your turns. [...] This is really a game for people who want to work together to come up with the best possible course of action because this game is difficult! We've lost a lot! You can set the difficulty level, however, since the board and characters change each game, even the easiest difficulty can be impossible in some [play throughs]. Every game is different though since the "board" is never the same and there are so many different roles you can play! All these variations make it so this game never gets old! I definitely recommend this game!"4. A Throwback Party Game For Music LoversFilled with all of the biggest hits from the '80s, '90s, and '00s, This MTV game from Big Potato Games will have you moving and grooving as you reminisce about your favorite throwbacks. The party game is easy to learn and play, and it's super fast-paced to keep all players totally engaged. Be the first team to collect an artist card from all eight challenge categories — including some seriously fun ones like Headbangers, Pop Anthems, and Hip-Hop Queens — and you'll walk away winners.The game is for ages 14-plus, though younger players may be at a disadvantage if they don't listen to a lot of music from the '80s. It requires two AAA batteries to play (not included). Play time varies based on the number of people participating.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "Wow, all the late 90s early 2000s feels for this game! The art is so cute and as usual Big Potato kills it with the sweet box design and little extras like stickers, big red buzzer... Really fun light party game that's easy to learn and perfect for those of us who are adults now looking back to our glory days of trying to learn how to vogue and do the Bootylicious dance."5. A Trivia Board Game Where You Shout Out Answers Without Waiting For Your TurnUniversity Games Smart AssAmazonUniversity Games' Smart Ass isn't your average trivia game. Instead of taking turns, the game requires players to think fast and shout out guesses to questions in an attempt to become the ultimate Smart Ass! Each "who," "what," or "where" question comes with eight clues to guide players towards the correct answer.I have played this game before and can attest that it's an entertaining option to play with a group of people. And the trivia itself can actually be quite challenging (it's intended for ages 12-plus), so you certainly won't get bored. The game time varies based on the number of players and how quickly each question is answered.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "The greatest part of this game is that you're always playing. One player reads the cards and everyone else answers the question. The fastest answer wins! It's got creative and fun questions and keeps you interested the entire time. Not everyone is super good at the game, but it can be played by almost anyone. [Gets] even crazier with teams!"6. A Two-Player Strategy Board GameMattel Games Blokus DuoAmazonIf you're seeking a board game for just two people ages 7 and up, it doesn't get any better than Blokus Duo from Mattel Games. The highly strategic game requires players to take turns placing as many of their 21 pieces on the board as possible while blocking the opponent's pieces at the exact same time. But here's where it gets extra interesting — each piece must touch another of the same color, but only at the corners. The game ends when no more pieces can be played, and whoever has the fewest leftover pieces wins!Blokus Duo is super simple to learn, and the game takes about 30 minutes or so to play. If you have more players that want to join in on the fun, the original Blokus game has enough pieces for up to four players — it just costs a bit more. Enthusiastic Amazon review: "Blokus Duo is a game created for just two players, opposed to the regular game blokus, which is for four players. As a avid fan of two player games, this one is nearly at the top of my list. It's simplicity, speed of gameplay, and surprisingly deep strategy make it a great game to just pick up and play with just about anybody. Be aware that The game is competitive, and in order to win you have to 'block' your opponent. A poor sport may not Enjoy this game.[...] Give it a try if you are a fan of the original blokus!"7. A Classic Mystery Game For Less Than \$10Sometimes you just can't beat the classics, and that's certainly the case when it comes to Clue from Hasbro Games. And clearly I'm not the only one that has much love for this board game — Clue has more than 11,000 reviews on Amazon and a knockout 4.8-star rating overall, a true testament to reviewers' adoration of this pick.If you've never had the pleasure of playing this mystery-filled game, the goal is to uncover who murdered Mr. Boddy, as well as where the crime was committed — and with which weapon. Was it Professor Plum in the library with the dagger? Or perhaps the culprit was Colonel Mustard in the conservatory with the wrench? If you remember this game from your childhood, you might not recognize the newest suspect, Dr. Orchid, who is a later addition to the roster. But whether the murderer is Dr. Orchid or one of the original characters, the first person to figure out what happened (and where) wins the game. Clue requires strategy, deduction skills, and some luck, too. And let's just say it can become quite competitive. The game's length depends on the number of players, but play usually takes at least 30 minutes and is recommended for players ages 8 and up.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "Great game!!!! Giving this a 5 because it's family friendly fun for such an affordable price. I paid under \$ 10 for it and it will last a very long time!! I like the addition of ORCHID and how they updated the characters. Small compacted box, easily fits in most drawers. Thanks again Amazon, yet again, another wonderful buy!!!!"8. A Word Game That Can Be Played With Tons Of PlayersHasbro Gaming Taboo Board GameAmazonHasbro Games' Taboo is a board game of unspeakable fun! The premise of this pick is simple — describe a word or phrase printed on a card to your teammates until they correctly guess what's on the card. However, the path to victory is actually much trickier than it seems, since there is a list of strictly forbidden clue words that you'll have to avoid saying, plus you'll have a limited amount of time.Taboo is the perfect pick for a game night, as it can be played with many players. And since it comes with 260 cards and more than 1,000 guess words, you'll get tons of enjoyment out of it. This board game is intended for ages 13 and up.Enthusiastic Amazon review: "I had played this about 10 years ago at a party after everyone had a few cocktails and remembered how fun it was. I ordered it for when friends are over and my husband read the instructions and said "I'm going to be awful at this and it doesn't look like any fun". I kept assuring him he was wrong. Lo and behold when people came over and we played it he had a blast. The fun part is in the mistakes you make when playing it's in my opinion. Order it and you'll see what I mean."

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