

How to Play Deer in the Headlights

Setup

- Shuffle the cards and deal them all out to the players face down. The instructions do not specify if you use one or both decks at the same time. I would guess you should use one deck if there are four or so players, and both decks if there are more players.
- Place the dice in the center of the table where everyone can reach them.
- Write each player's name on one line of the score sheet.

Playing the Game

The dealer will start each round.

You will begin your turn by rolling the dice and taking an action based on what you roll on the dice.

Three Numbers – If you roll three numbers, you will discard all of the cards from your hand that match the three numbers that were rolled. If you do not have any of the numbers that were rolled, the other players can give you all of their cards that match the numbers that were rolled.

Two Numbers + Deer in Headlights – You may discard all of the cards from one of the two numbers that you rolled.

Two Numbers + Car – You will pass all of the cards from your hand that match the two numbers that were rolled to another player(s). You may give all of the cards to one player, or you can give some cards to two or more of the other players.

Two Numbers + Running Deer – You will discard all of the cards from your hand that match the numbers that were rolled. You can also choose one other number and discard all of the cards of that number from your hand as well.

Number + Deer in Headlights + Car – You will pass all of the cards that match the number rolled to one or more of the other players. You will also get rid of any cards that add up to the number that was rolled.

Number + Deer in Headlights + Running Deer – Look at the number that was rolled. If the number is odd, you will discard all odd numbered cards from your hand (not including Kings, Queens, Jacks). If the number is even, you will discard all even cards.

Two Deer in Headlights + Number – Lose a turn.

Two Deer in Headlights + Car – Choose another player who will lose their turn. Roll the dice again.

Two Deer in Headlights + Running Deer – Choose two cards/numbers and discard all of your cards of the two chosen numbers/face cards.

Three Deer in Headlights – Gather all of the cards that have been discarded in the round and add them to your cards. Your turns will also be frozen until you can roll a Deer in the Headlights symbol on your turn. After you do this, play for you will return to normal.

The unlucky player that rolled this combination will have to take all of the cards from the discard pile and add them to their hand.

After discarding any cards, play will pass to the next player clockwise.

End of Round and Scoring

The round ends when one of the players gets rid of the last card from their hand.

The player who got rid of all of their cards will score zero points for the round.

The rest of the players will score points based on the value of the cards left in their hand. Jacks, Queens and Kings are worth ten points. Aces are worth one point. Points scored are written on the corresponding section of the score pad.

If none of the players has scored 150 or more points, another round will be played. All of the cards will be re-shuffled with the player to the left of the previous dealer becoming the new dealer.

End of Game

Once someone has scored 150 or more points from the played rounds, the game will end. The player that has scored the least points will win the game.

Source: <https://www.geekyhobbies.com/deer-in-the-headlights-game-2012-dice-game-review-and-rules/> (By clicking on the link you will see the visuals for the instructions.)