

# Go Boom!

This classic is a favourite among children and a great introduction to cards for youngsters. But don't be fooled – easy doesn't mean boring!

## Number of players

This is a game for four players. More can play with a second pack of cards.

## Age and skill level

For ages eight and above; level 3.

## Cards

All the players pick a card from the deck. The person with the highest card deals. Seven cards are dealt face down to each player. All other cards are collected into a stack in the middle and the top card is turned over and put face up next to it to start the game. This is the widow.

## How to play

The aim is to cover up the widow with one of the seven cards in your hand. The

card you play must be of the same rank or suit as the widow. If you don't have a card that you can put down, you must take a card from the stack. It is now the next person's turn.

It's better to put down higher cards if you have the choice. Once all the cards from the stack are gone, everyone carries on playing from the cards in their hands, and if you can't put a card down, then you miss a turn.

The person who runs out of cards first is the winner. To find out who comes second and third, turn all the cards over and add up the numbers on your cards. Picture cards count as ten points and an Ace counts as 15 points. The person with the most points is the loser and the person with the least points is second.

## Winning way

Try to get rid of your higher-value cards as early as possible. To this end, when you cover the widow with a card of matching suit (rather than rank), you should try to put down an Ace, a court card or the highest-valued pip card you can. That way, if you don't get rid of all of your cards, your deficit total won't be too high and you'll have a chance of coming second.

