

# Hchy Monkey

*a battle of lice*



## **Survival Guide**

# Survival Gear

24 monkey tiles

5 lemurs



5 orangutans



5 spider monkeys



5 mandrills



4 gorillas



80 worker lice  
(20 per color)



12 queen lice  
(3 per color)



1 game board  
(double sided)



# Introduction

“Behold...

...the Phthiraptera in its natural habitat, also known as the common louse or head lice. The lice live on the monkeys, and the monkeys eat the lice. Although it's quite a nasty symbiosis, it's also a perfect example of something we refer to as the circle of life... beautiful!”

## Setup

See the first page for a rough overview of the components.

Below is the setup for a basic game of Itchy Monkey. For more variations and advanced rules have a look at the end of the rulebook.

- 1 • Put the game board with the correct side according to the number of players at the center of the table.
- 2 • Separate all lice (wooden tokens) by color and give one color to each player.
- 3 • Put the Monkey tokens with their “normal side” on the corresponding flower spots on the game board.
- 4 • The player whose imitation of an itchy monkey surpasses the others may place his/her Queen and 2 Worker lice on one Monkey first.
- 5 • In a clockwise order all other players place their Queen and 2 Worker lice on one Monkey. Players can only place lice on monkeys that are **not** in direct proximity to or are **not** in a direct line with other monkeys with lice on them.
- 6 • The player that placed the first lice on a monkey starts the game.

## Goal of the Game

In *Itchy Monkey* several families of Lice try to become dominant. Every turn you'll spawn new lice and jump over to nearby monkeys. Alternatively you can move a monkey by tickling it, which makes it bump into other monkeys. That way whole armies of your little friends can jump over! But beware of your rival families, because nobody likes nitpicking...

**The first player that can build a colony on 5 different species of monkeys, 4 of the same, or 3 Gorillas wins the game!**

## Playing the Game

Players play in turns. A turn consists of 2 phases: **first** Spawn, **then** Move!

At any time during your own turn you may exchange 6 Worker lice on a single monkey for 1 Queen.

All Worker lice have power 1, all Queen lice have power 2 (see Jump and Bump).

## Phase 1: Spawn

Choose 1 Monkey that contains at least 1 of your lice, then:

- Add 1 Worker if the Monkey contains only Workers.
- Add 2 Workers if the Monkey contains one Queen.
- Add 3 Workers if the Monkey contains two Queens.
- Add 4 Workers if the Monkey contains three Queens.

There is no limit to the amount of lice a monkey can contain, however there is always the risk of nitpicking!

If a player has no lice left on the board, he/she may place two worker lice on any monkey at the start of his/her turn.

## Phase 2: Move

Choose 1 of the three options below:

### Jump

Choose one of your lice (either a Worker or a Queen) and move it to a directly horizontal or vertical adjacent Monkey.

If you jump onto a monkey that's occupied by lice of an opponent, you'll need to match or exceed the total power of lice on that monkey. If the power of your jumping louse matches the power of the opponents lice, all lice of both players are removed and returned to those players. If you exceed the power, all opponents' lice are removed from the monkey and returned to that player.

### Bump

Choose 1 Monkey that contains at least 1 of your lice. Move the Monkey any number of spaces, or until you bump into another Monkey, or until you have reached the end of the board. **You may move horizontally or vertically (not diagonal) in one direction only.**

If you bump into another Monkey after moving at least 1 space, any amount of lice (**none, some or all**) may jump from the moving monkey onto the bumped monkey.

If you bump into a monkey that's occupied by lice of an opponent you'll need to match or exceed the total power of lice on that monkey. If the power of your jumping lice matches the power of the opponents lice, all lice of both players are removed and returned to those players. If you exceed the power, all opponents' lice are removed from the monkey and returned to that player.

**NOTE: you can choose any amount of lice to jump over, also none!**

### Nitpicking

Choose 1 Monkey token that contains at least 5 or more Worker lice of an opponent. Remove all lice including any Queens from that Monkey and return them to the opponent.

## End of the Game

The game ends as soon as a player reaches a winning condition. To win the game players have to build colonies. **A colony consists of 3 or more Worker lice.**

**NOTE: a Queen does not count as part of a colony.**

**You win the game if you are the first player to reach one of the following conditions:**

- A colony on 3 Gorillas.
- A colony on 4 of the same species of monkeys.
- A colony on 5 different species of monkeys.

