AGE 12+ PLAYERS: 3–5 DURATION: 75 minutes

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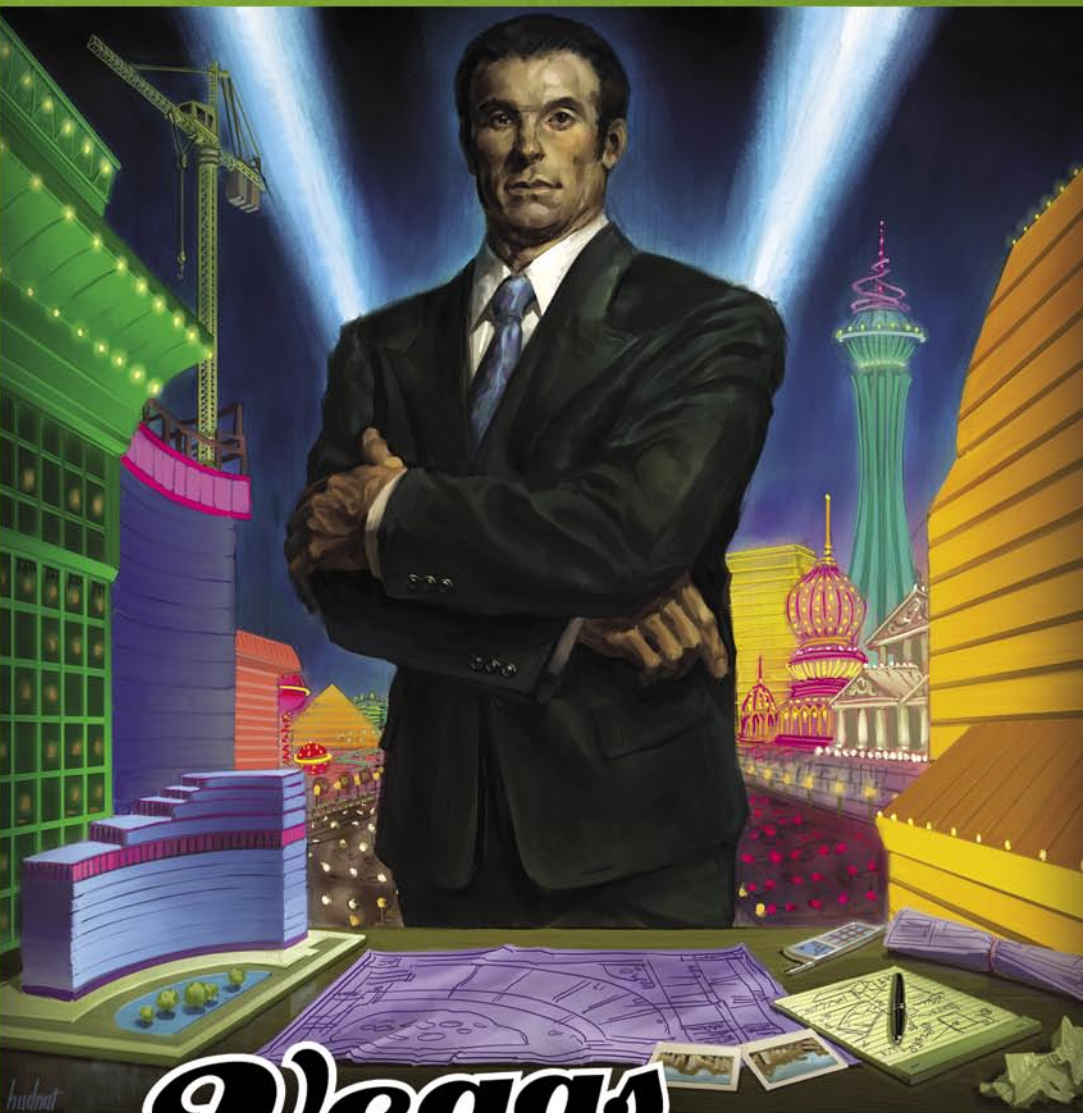
Vegas
SHOWDOWN™

RULEBOOK

You are a multimillionaire.

Having nothing better to do, you and your multimillionaire friends got together and decided to wager on who could design the most prestigious hotel-casino on the Vegas Strip.

And so you began your grand design, starting with nothing but your brains, an empty shell of a building, and your fortune.

You soon discovered that wasn't enough. Local construction resources are limited, and you now find yourself bidding against your friends to get those resources.

The competition is fierce and the stakes are high. In fact, the stakes are the very hotel-casinos you're building.

The winner takes them all!

5 Fame Markers

80 Money Chips
(50 white, 25 red, 5 green)

17 Large Tiles

5 Population Markers

5 Revenue Markers

26 Small Tiles

1 Rulebook
(not pictured)

33 Event Cards

20 Medium Tiles

1 Game Board

5 Hotel-Casino Sheets

5 Bid Markers

2 Building
Prerequisites Charts

4 Minimum-Bid Markers

6 No-Bid Markers

1 Turn Order Button

OVERVIEW

The game is played in turns. Each turn, each player chooses an action to take, most often bidding for and purchasing a tile.

Tiles represent various rooms, locations, and gaming stations that you can put in your hotel-casino. They add to your Population, Revenue, and/or Fame total. Population and Revenue help you collect more income each turn, and Fame adds to your victory points.

You can earn additional Fame at the end of the game by carefully placing the tiles on your hotel-casino sheet when you acquire them, such as by connecting your hotel entrance to your casino entrance or creating diamond patterns at tile intersections.

The player with the most Fame at the end of the game wins.

Population

Revenue

Fame

Bid

Markers

Premier Tiles

Money Chips

$25

$5

$1

SETUP

★ Put the game board on the table. Stack the Restaurant, Lounge, and Slots tiles face up on the spaces marked for them. If you're playing with three players, remove three tiles on each of those stacks from the game.

★ Each player chooses a color and takes the hotel-casino sheet for that color, along with the Population, Revenue, Fame, and Bid markers of that color.

★ Put your Population marker on the "8" space of the track on your hotel-casino sheet, your Revenue marker on the "5" space of the track, and your Fame marker on the "0" space of the score track on the game board.

★ The remaining tiles are the "premier" tiles. There are three different sizes of tiles and each has an "A" back or a "B" back. For each tile size, separately shuffle the B stack and the A stack face down, and then put the A stack on top of the B stack. Put the resulting three stacks next to the game board.

★ Flip the top tile from each of the three premier stacks and put those tiles on the three empty premier spaces on the game board not marked "4–5 Players Only." Each of those spaces has an associated number track under it used for bidding. On each of the tracks with a tile, put a Minimum-Bid marker on the circular bidding-track number that matches the starting-bid price indicated on that tile.

★ Put the reference charts near the game board in easy reach of all players. Shuffle the Event deck and put it face down next to the board.

★ Choose a player to serve as the banker for the game. That player puts all the money chips within easy reach. This pile of chips is the "bank."

★ The banker gives each player $20 worth of chips.

★ Randomly decide who goes first. Give that player the Turn Order Button.

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HOW TO PLAY

Each turn, do the following in order:

1. Drop prices.

2. Flip new tiles (if needed).

3. Collect income.

4. Choose actions.

5. Adjust Fame, Revenue, and Population.

6. Pass the Turn Order Button.

1. Drop Prices

Skip this step on the first turn.

The first player (the player with the Turn Order Button) starts each turn by dropping the prices of each premier tile on the game board. To do so, move the Minimum-Bid marker for each premier tile on the board to the next-lower circular space (skipping the next-lower square space). For example, lower a marker that's on 18 to 12, not to 15.

If you lower the marker from the "3" space, remove the tile on that space from the game.

2. Flip New Tiles

For a 3-player game, leave the space marked "4–5 Players Only" empty for the entire game.

In all other cases, fill an empty premier space on the game board by drawing 1 card from the Event deck. Then, follow the instructions on that card, completing any actions it says to take.

Symbols on Tiles

Starting-Bid Price

When a premier tile goes up for auction, put a Minimum-Bid marker on the matching space of its bidding track.

Population

This represents the number of patrons you can comfortably accommodate in your hotel-casino, based largely on the food services you offer.

Revenue

This shows the amount of money you can potentially earn, given enough patrons.

Fame

The player with the most Fame at the end of the game wins.

Theme Bonus

Fit tiles with these symbols together to create diamond or partial diamond shapes, earning you bonus Fame at the end of the game (see "Final Scoring," page 10).

If an Event card says you can't bid on a certain type of tile or take a particular action this turn, put a No-Bid marker on the affected tiles or action as a reminder. If you can't complete an action immediately, leave the card in play until you can complete it.

After you've completed the Event card action, look at the symbol in the center of the card.

Flip the top tile of the premier stack indicated by the symbol and fill an empty premier space with it. Then put a Minimum-Bid marker on the circular bidding-track number that matches the starting-bid price of the newly placed tile.

Repeat the tile-flipping process for each empty premier space.

Discard completed Event cards face up next to the deck.

If you can't replace a tile because no tiles of the indicated stack remain, then the game ends (see "Final Scoring," page 10).

3. Collect Income

The banker gives each player an amount of money chips equal to the lesser of that player's Population and Revenue numbers ($5 to start).

Green chips are worth $25, red chips are worth $5, and white chips are worth $1.

How much money a player has is public knowledge.

Small Tile

Medium Tile

Large Tile

CONVENTION

Each player collects income equal to his or her Population this turn, instead of collecting the usual income.

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Some Event cards have special rules that override the general rules.

4. Choose Actions

Starting with the player with the Turn Order Button, each player in clockwise order chooses one of the following actions:

1. Bid on Tiles

2. Renovate

3. Publicity

Once you've chosen an action, you can't change that action unless you are outbid for a tile.

Bidding on Tiles

To bid on a tile, put your Bid marker on the bidding-track space that shows the amount of money you want to bid for that tile.

To bid for a premier tile, you must bid an amount equal to or greater than the price indicated by the Minimum-Bid marker for that tile. To bid for a non-premier tile, you must bid an amount equal to or greater than the price indicated by the minimum-bid space (in yellow). If another player has already bid on a tile you want to bid on, you must bid higher than that player.

You can't bid a higher amount than your cash on hand, and you can't bid higher
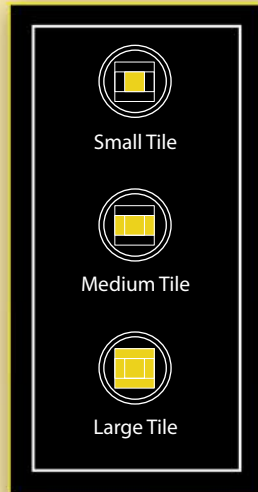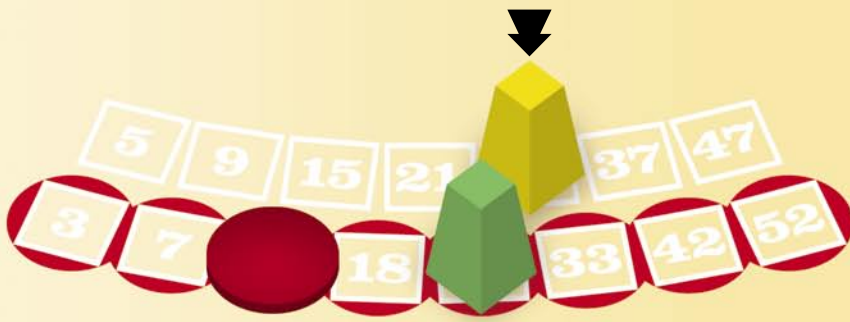
than the highest space on the bidding track. It's okay, however, to make a bid that's higher than the minimum-bid price to try to "lock out" other players from the tile.

Each time you are outbid on a tile, you must wait for your turn to come up again in the player order. Then you pick up your Bid marker and choose an action again (including bidding higher for the tile you were outbid on, if you want).

Bidding is complete once each player has taken an action and no players have been outbid for a tile.

The second bidding track for Slots is used only in a 5-player game. The two tracks are independent of each other and bids are made separately on them, making it possible for two players to purchase a Slots tile in a turn.

Purchase & Placement of Tiles

Once bidding is completed, each player with a bid on a tile pays the bank the amount of the bid, then either places the tile on his or her hotel-casino sheet, or puts it to the side for later placement. There's no limit to the number of tiles a player can have off to the side.

If you purchase a tile but don't place it (because you choose not to or you don't meet the prerequisites for it), you may instead place a tile onto your sheet that you had earlier put off to the side.

Tiles must be placed as follows:

★ You can't place a premier tile if your hotel-casino sheet doesn't have any of the tiles shown above the premier tile on the Building Prerequisites reference chart. On the chart, a tile and its prerequisites are connected by a white line. For example, to place a Fancy Slots tile, you must have a Slots tile on your hotel-casino sheet. And to place the Dragon Room tile, you must have Slots and Fancy Slots on your sheet. The number next to each premier tile on the reference chart is the number of copies of that tile included in the game.

★ You must be able to trace a route along an uninterrupted path of tiles from your yellow (casino) entrance to each yellow tile you place without passing through any tile walls. The same rule applies for blue (hotel) tiles, but hotel tiles must connect to the hotel entrance. The same rule applies to green tiles, but green tiles must connect to either entrance.

Renovate

In this example, a Lounge was in a position that wouldn't have allowed the blue player to fill her Hotel section. By renovating, she can place the Night Club in a way that fills her Hotel section.

Incorrect Placement

CASINO DOOR
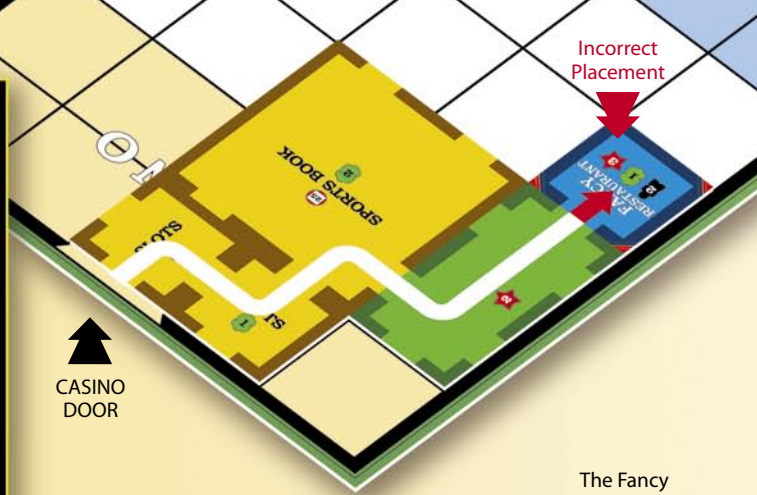
The Fancy Restaurant can't go next to the Lounge. It must be connected to the blue (hotel) entrance by an uninterrupted path of tiles without passing through any tile walls.

The Night Club tiles have special placement requirements. In addition to the prerequisites listed above, a Night Club tile must be placed so that one of its entrances connects to a Lounge or Fancy Lounge entrance.

Once you place a tile on your hotel-casino sheet, you can't remove it or rearrange it in any way unless you later take the Renovate action.

Renovate

To take the Renovate action, put your Bid marker on the Renovate space on the game board. Any number of players may choose to renovate on any given turn.

When you renovate, you may take 0, 1, or 2 tiles off your hotel-casino sheet, and then place 0, 1, 2 tiles you own from off your sheet onto your sheet. You don't have to take the same number off as you put on, and the tiles you put on your sheet may be any of the tiles you removed on previous turns.

Example: You renovate and take a Lounge off your hotel-casino sheet. You then return the Lounge to your sheet and also put a Night Club on your sheet that you had purchased on a previous turn but didn't want to place yet.

After you renovate, your tiles must follow the rules of tile placement outlined in "Purchase & Placement of Tiles," page 7. (It's okay if you create gaps in your tile layout when you renovate, as long as your tiles follow the placement rules when you're finished.)

Publicity

To take the Publicity action, put your Bid marker on the Publicity space on the game board. Any number of players may choose to publicize on any given turn.

When you publicize, you immediately gain 1 Fame, plus you may put 1 tile you own that's off your hotel-casino sheet onto your sheet. For example, if you purchased a tile on a previous turn but couldn't place it at that time because you didn't meet the tile's prerequisites, you could place it later when taking the Publicity action as long as you then have the prerequisite tile or tiles on your sheet.

5. Adjust Fame, Revenue, and Population

After you renovate or place a tile, add any Fame, Revenue, or Population bonuses given by newly placed tiles to the appropriate tracks. You track your Fame on the game board, and you track your Revenue and Population on your hotel-casino sheet. If you renovate and remove tiles to place others, make sure to remove any bonuses the removed tiles gave you first. Simply move the appropriate marker up or down on the track a number of spaces equal to the amount shown on the tile.

Each player also retrieves his or her Bid marker at this time.

6. Pass the Turn Order Button

The player with the Turn Order Button passes it to the player on his or her left. That player is the first to act during the next turn.

If any No-Bid markers were placed on tiles or actions during the Flip New Tiles step, remove the markers now.

Final Scoring

Once the game ends, players score Fame in the following categories:

Filled Casino Section

You score 5 Fame if the yellow shaded section on your hotel-casino sheet is completely filled in with only yellow and/or green tiles.

Filled Hotel Section

You score 5 Fame if the blue shaded section on your hotel-casino sheet is completely filled in with only blue and/or green tiles.
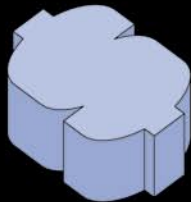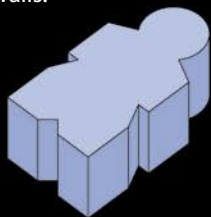
Connected Hotel-Casino

You score 3 Fame if you can trace a route along an uninterrupted path of tiles from your casino entrance to your hotel entrance without passing through any tile walls.

Highest Population

The player with the highest Population scores 5 Fame, second place scores 3, and third place scores 1.

Highest Revenue

Score this just like Population, except this is for Revenue.
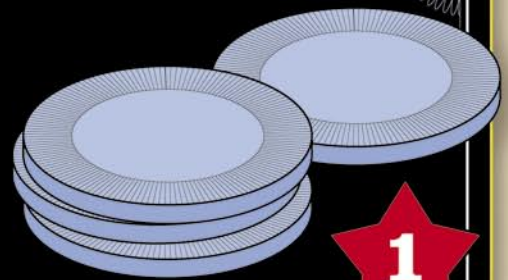
Each Full $10

You score 1 Fame for each full $10 you have in cash at the end of the game. Turn it into the bank after scoring it. (Keep any leftover amount in case there's a tie at the end of the game. See "Winning the Game," page 11.)

Each

You score 1 Fame for each three-quarters diamond shape you have at the end of the game.

Each

You score 3 Fame for each full diamond shape you have at the end of the game.

1st

2nd

3rd

FILLED CASINO SECTION

5

SLOTS

GAME END

The game ends immediately when either of these two conditions applies:

★ A player completely fills his or her hotel-casino sheet with tiles.

★ You try to replace a premier tile, but no tiles from the stack indicated by the Event card remain.

Scoring Ties

If two players tie when scoring highest Revenue or Population, they split the Fame for that place and the next place down (round fractions down). Each scores 4 Fame if tied for first place, 2 Fame if tied for second, and 0 Fame if tied for third.

If three or more players tie for a place, they split the Fame for that place and each place down. Add the Fame for those places and divide the total by the number of tied players (round fractions down). For example, if three players tie for first, each scores 3 Fame.

Winning the Game

The winner is the player with the most Fame at the end of the game. If there's a tie, then the player with the most cash left is the winner. If there's still a tie, the game is a draw.

FILLED HOTEL SECTION 5

CONNECTED HOTEL-CASINO 3

HIGHEST REVENUE 5 1st 3 2nd 1 3rd

FINAL SCORING

HIGHEST POPULATION 5 1st 3 2nd 1 3rd

EACH FULL $10 1

EACH 1

EACH 3

BUILDING PREREQUISITES

11

CREDITS

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Thanks to all of our project team members and the many others too numerous to mention who have contributed to this product.

Color of parts may vary from those pictured.