

# Casting Spells

Bobby Fortanelly

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## Outline

What is a spell?  
Steps of Casting a spell  
Activating Abilities

# Outline

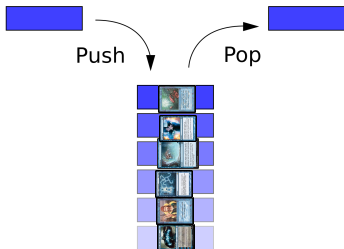
What is a spell?

Steps of Casting a spell

Activating Abilities

# What is a spell?

- ▶ Spells are cards on the stack
- ▶ Copies of spells are also spell.



# What can be a spell

- ▶ Artifact



# What can be a spell

- ▶ Artifact
- ▶ Creature



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# What can be a spell

- ▶ Artifact
- ▶ Creature
- ▶ Enchantment



# What can be a spell

- ▶ Artifact
- ▶ Creature
- ▶ Enchantment
- ▶ Instant



# What can be a spell

- ▶ Artifact
- ▶ Creature
- ▶ Enchantment
- ▶ Instant
- ▶ Planeswalker





# What can be a spell

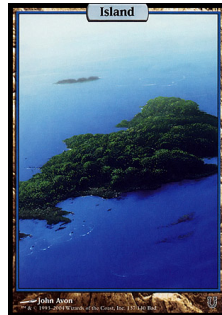
- ▶ Artifact
- ▶ Creature
- ▶ Enchantment
- ▶ Instant
- ▶ Planeswalker
- ▶ Sorcery.



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What is a spell?  
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# What can not be a spell

## ► LAND



# What can not be a spell

## ► LAND



# What can not be a spell

- ▶ LAND
- ▶ Conspiracy



# What can not be a spell

- ▶ LAND
- ▶ Conspiracy
- ▶ Phenomenon



# What can not be a spell

- ▶ LAND
- ▶ Conspiracy
- ▶ Phenomenon
- ▶ Plane



## What can not be a spell

- ▶ LAND
- ▶ Conspiracy
- ▶ Phenomenon
- ▶ Plane
- ▶ Scheme



## What can not be a spell

- ▶ LAND
- ▶ Conspiracy
- ▶ Phenomenon
- ▶ Plane
- ▶ Scheme
- ▶ Vanguard.



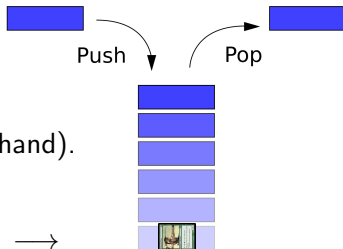


## Steps of Casting a Spell

- ▶ Announce Spell
- ▶ Choices
- ▶ Targets
- ▶ Distribute
- ▶ Determine Cost
- ▶ Mana Abilities
- ▶ Payment

# Announce Spell

- ▶ Announce “I am casting this spell”
- ▶ Move to top of stack (usually from hand).



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## Choices

### ► Modes



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## Choices

- ▶ Modes
- ▶ Splice



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## Choices

- ▶ Modes
- ▶ Splice
- ▶ Additional Costs



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## Choices

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- ▶ Additional Costs
- ▶ Alternative Costs



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## Choices

- ▶ Modes
- ▶ Splice
- ▶ Additional Costs
- ▶ Alternative Costs
- ▶ Choose X





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## Choices

- ▶ Modes
- ▶ Splice
- ▶ Additional Costs
- ▶ Alternative Costs
- ▶ Choose X
- ▶ Hybrid/Phyrexian Mana.



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# Targets

- Choose number of targets, if variable



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# Targets

- ▶ Choose number of targets, if variable
- ▶ Must choose all legal targets



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# Targets

- ▶ Choose number of targets, if variable
- ▶ Must choose all legal targets
- ▶ Target same object once per instance of word “target”.



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# Targets

- ▶ Choose number of targets, if variable
- ▶ Must choose all legal targets
- ▶ Target same object once per instance of word “target”.



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## Distribute

- ▶ Divide/Distribute
- ▶ At least 1 per target.



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## Determine Cost

- ▶ Start with mana/alternative cost
- ▶ Apply cost additions





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## Determine Cost

- ▶ Start with mana/alternative cost
- ▶ Apply cost additions
- ▶ Then, apply cost reductions



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## Determine Cost

- ▶ Start with mana/alternative cost
- ▶ Apply cost additions
- ▶ Then, apply cost reductions
- ▶ Finally, apply effects on total costs.



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## Determine Cost

- Calculated cost becomes locked in

## Determine Cost

- ▶ Calculated cost becomes locked in
- ▶ Even if objects modifying the cost stop modifying the cost.

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## Mana Abilities

- ▶ Activate mana abilities

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## Mana Abilities

- ▶ Activate mana abilities (only if mana required for payment).

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# Mana Abilities



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## Payment

Pay costs in any order.





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## Payment



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## Spell is cast

- ▶ Spell becomes cast
- ▶ Trigger triggers.



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## Spell is cast

- ▶ Spell becomes cast
- ▶ Trigger triggers.



## Review Steps of Casting a Spell

- ▶ Announce Spell
- ▶ Choices
- ▶ Targets
- ▶ Distribute
- ▶ Determine Cost
- ▶ Mana Abilities
- ▶ Payment

# Activating Abilities

[*Cost*] : [*Effect*] [Activation instructions (if any)]

## Activating Abilities

Return a Forest you control  
to its owner's hand:  
Untap target creature.  
Activate this ability only once each turn.



## Similarity to Casting Spells

Same steps as casting spells

Outline  
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Similarity to Casting Spells  
Differences from Casting Spells

## Similarity to Casting Spells





## Differences from Casting Spells



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## Differences from Casting Spells



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