

### Setup:

Scoundrel is played with a standard deck of playing cards.

Search through the deck and remove all Jokers, Red Face Cards and Red Aces. Place them off to the side, they are not used in this game.

Shuffle the remaining cards and place the pile face down on your left. This deck is called the **Dungeon**.

Take out a piece of paper and pen (or use your memory). Mark down 20 on the piece of paper, this is your starting **Health**.

### Rules:

The 26 **Clubs** and **Spades** in the deck are **Monsters**. Their damage is equal to their ordered value, (e.g, 10 is 10, Jack is 11, Queen is 12, King is 13, and Ace is 14)

The 9 **Diamonds** in the deck are **Weapons**. Each weapon does as much damage as its value. All weapons in *Scoundrel* are *binding*, meaning if you pick one up, you *must equip* it, and discard your previous weapon.

The 9 **Hearts** in the deck are **Health Potions**. You may only use one health potion each turn, even if you pull two. The second potion you pull is simply discarded. You may not restore your life beyond your starting 20 health.

You may locate the discard deck (any discarded cards) anywhere you wish, though I recommend to the right of the **Room**. Cards are discarded face down.

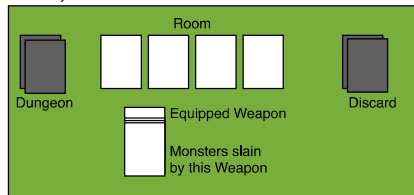
The Game ends when either your life reaches 0 or you make your way through the entire **Dungeon**.

#### Scoring

- If your **life** has reached zero, find all the remaining monsters in the **Dungeon**, and subtract their values from your life, this negative value is your score.

- If you have made your way through the entire dungeon, your score is your positive life, or if your life is 20, and your last card was a health potion, your life + the value of that potion.

#### Table layout



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### Gameplay:

On your first and every turn, flip over cards off the top of the deck, one by one, until you have 4 cards face up in front of you to make an **Room**.

You may avoid the **Room** if you wish. If you chose to do so, scoop up all four cards in one motion and place them at the bottom of the **Dungeon**. While you may avoid as many **Rooms** as you want, you may not avoid two **Rooms** in a row.

If you choose not to avoid the **Room**, one by one, you must face 3 of the four cards it contains.

Take them one at a time.

#### If you chose a **Weapon**...

You must *equip* it. Do this by placing it face up between you and the remaining **Room** cards. If you had a previous **Weapon** equipped, move it and any **Monsters** on it to the discard deck.

#### If you chose a **Health Potion**...

Add its number to your **health**, and then discard it. Your **health** may not exceed 20, and you may not use more than one **Health Potion** per turn. If you take two **Health Potions** on a single turn, the second is simply discarded, adding nothing to your **health**.

#### If you chose a **Monster**...

You may either fight it *barehanded* or with an equipped **Weapon**.

#### Combat

- If you choose to fight the **Monster** *barehanded*, subtract its full value from your **Health**, and move the **Monster** to the discard deck.

- If you choose to fight the **Monster** with your equipped **Weapon**, place the monster face up on top of the weapon (and on top of any other **Monsters** on the **Weapon**. Be sure to stagger the placement of the **Monster** so that the **Weapon's** number is still showing, subtract the **Weapon's** value from the **Monster's** value and subtract any remaining value from your **health**.

*For example, if your **Weapon** is a 5, and you place a 3 **Monster** on it, you take no damage. (3-5 < 0)  
If your **Weapon** is a 5 and you place a Jack **Monster** on it, you take 6 damage. (11 - 5 = 6 dmg)*

It is important to note that although you retain your weapons until they are replaced, once a **Weapon** is used on a monster, the **Weapon** can then only be used to **slay Monsters** of a **lower value** (less than equal) than the previous **Monster** it had slain.

*For example, if your 5 **Weapon** has killed a Queen **Monster** and you then choose a 6 **Monster**, you may use your **Weapon** on the 6 **Monster**, as 6 is less than 12.*

*But, if you have used your 5 **Weapon** on a **Monster**, and you then choose a Queen **Monster**, you must fight the Queen *barehanded* as Queen 12, is greater than 6. Despite this, the **Weapon** is not discarded, as it could still be used against **Monsters** weaker than a 6.*

Once you have chosen 3 cards (such that **only** one remains), your turn is complete. Leave the fourth card face up in front of you as part of the next **Room**.

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