



The board game for playing cards
on a land of wooden shards



Video tutorial
& translations

GREETINGS

Hear ye, glorious messengers,

An auspicious quest is in order:
the Order of Messenger Rabbits of
the Citadel hereby orders a race to
procure royals for the ordinance of a
Council of Thirds—the highest order
ever issued to a rabbit of this Order.

Visit the noble houses, acquire
the cards of three royals, and bring
them to the citadel, in that order:

Note that I wrote “that order”
not in reference to any other order
of messenger rabbits, nor the order
that drives this letter, but the order
of the steps you must take in order
to fully restore the realms order.

So, hoppity hop, in orderly fashion.
Our rabbits don't evade rules.

The White Herald

OVERVIEW

Visit houses turn by turn,
bringing numbered cards in hand.
Claim their royals and return,
holding three to rule the land.

To fulfill THE ACQUISITION,
add ten points that fit their suit.
On your turns along the mission,
you'll be drawing cards as loot.



Make THE JOURNEY hex to hex—
every road is free to course.
Only pay for trailway treks,
or to ride a boat or horse.

Rest upon a hex-shaped tile,
if you're standing on the board.
Draw the card atop the pile—
that's THE INCREMENT reward.

OBJECTIVE

Reach this place where you begin,
with three royal cards in hand.
You must be the first to win,
hailed as champion of the land.



But before the quest may start,
choose a challenge for the mission.

Set its circle as a mark,
for the trio's win condition:

SIMPLE: any royal cards.

- Or DIVERSE: distinct in suits.
- Or MONARCHIC: King-Queen-Jack.
- Or DIVERSE-MONARCHIC too.
- Or the TRIBAL, which is hard:
royals in one suit pursuit.

1

BUILD THE BOARD

At the start of every match,
you must first complete a board.
Map it randomly from scratch,
or revisit one explored.

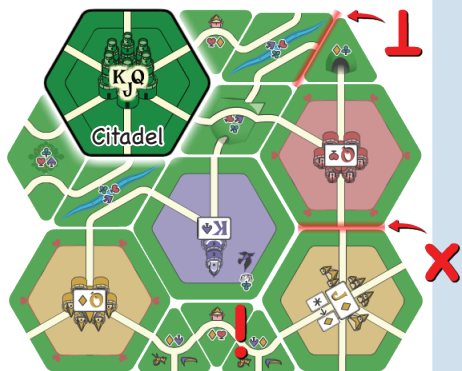
Link the houses from each throne,
which are hexes in this spread.
BUILD A NEW BOARD of your own,
or the sample right ahead.

If there're children under nine,
only play to build the land.
Then explore what they design—
with a rabbit in their hand.
Bring the cards in down the line,
and the rules they understand.

BUILD A NEW BOARD

Place the Citadel hex first.
Leave aside the underground.
Shuffle all the tiles that rest:
twelve of all three shapes facedown.
Deal by shape to every guest,
each will get the same amount.

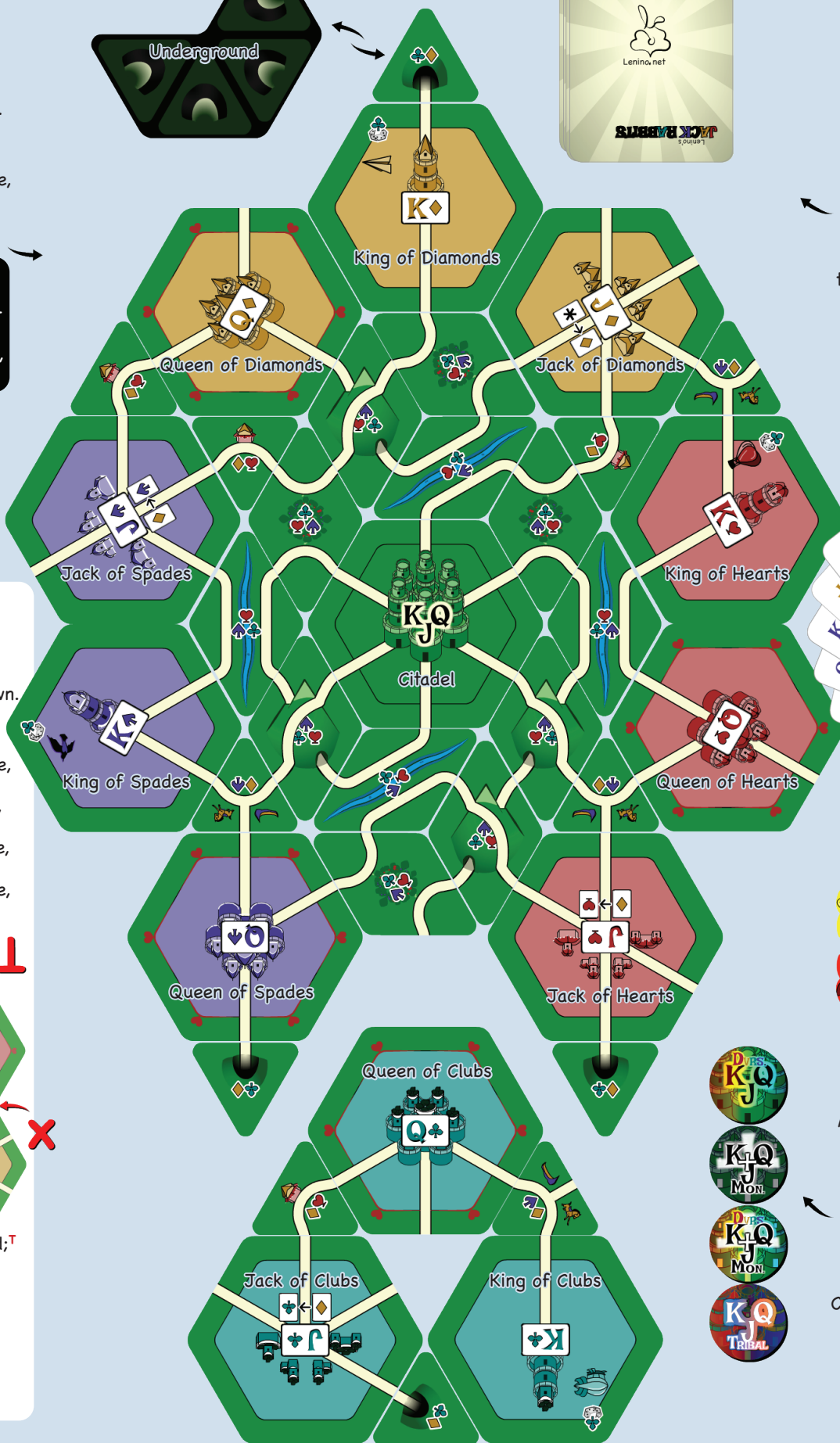
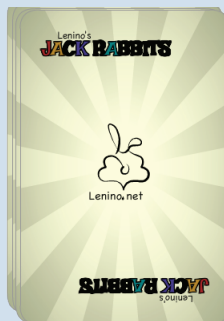
You may choose a placement style,
either strict or free in pace.
Strict with turns to place a tile,
pick a tile to flip and place.
Free with turns in loose freestyle,
flip all tiles to see their face.
These suggestions are worthwhile,
loosely meant in either case:



Don't make dead-ends on the road;^T
don't link roads if its two hexes.^X
Place triangles scattered broad,
so they don't end up connected.[!]
Hexes may be placed abroad,
starting islands disconnected.
But the underground is odd—
only rabbit holes connect it.

SETUP

Up to four players



2

DEAL THE CARDS

Lay the court in any order,
after placing every tile.

These are royal cards and jokers,
and will form a faceup aisle.
What remains are pips in number,
and the aces of each style.
Give a shuffle as in poker—
set a facedown drawing pile.

Every player gets three cards,
that's their hand to start the chase.
These resources each one guards,
fund THE JOURNEY they will face.
And pay royals their regards,
per THE ACQUISITION phase.



3

SET THE TOKENS

Players choose their token rabbits,
set them on the Citadel.
And collect their matching carrots—
they get three of these as well.

For OBJECTIVE of the game,
choose the kind of quest you're on.
If a circle marks this aim,
set it on the hexagon.

Now select the starting player,
and the order of the turns.
Choose your ways for this endeavor—
none of these are my concerns.

This concludes the setup frame.
Now complete the INTRO GAME.




SETUP must precede this frame, which explains the **INTRO GAME**. Learn each phase's role and name—then attempt the **STANDARD GAME**.

THE 4 PHASES of each turn

1ST THE LOTTERY

Start your turns by rolling dice, so that two results unfold. You may draw a one-card prize—if you show a card you hold. Prove it matches value-wise, either number you just rolled.




Please discard if caught with ten. Bring your hand to nine again.*

Hold the outcome of the dice. Transfers use it as **THE PRICE**.

2ND THE JOURNEY

You may choose a path to exit, from the current hex you're on. Move along the road selected, let your rabbit venture on. Cross small tiles but stop at hexes—reach the nearest hexagon.




Move on closer to your goal. Or perhaps don't move at all.

There are other travel modes. See **THE TRANSFERS** off the roads.

3RD THE ACQUISITION

It's your goal to claim the card—claim the royal where you stood. Pay a visit and discard: ten or more in that card's suit. Place a carrot as your mark, and remove it from pursuit.




You may always be a guest. Make no claim and stop to rest.

Keep the royals in your hands. Get **THE INCREMENT** at once.

4TH THE INCREMENT

End your turns on a hex tile—if you don't fall off the shore.** Draw the card atop the pile, and your turn will be no more. You may need to first repile: shuffle what was spent before.



*Hands should not exceed nine cards. Anyone who's caught discards.

Off the board there's no reward. See the rules about **OFF-BOARD.

THE PRICE

For the transfers on the way, pay the total on the dice. But in case you overpay, then consider that the price. Use as many cards to pay, check each symbol qualifies.

Set aside the cards you spend—they're *discarded* once you're done. Royals may be spent as **10**, and the Aces are worth **1**. But when royal cards are spent, they go back where they begun. And remove your carrot then, since your claim has been undone.

THE TRANSFERS

If you venture on the paths, you'll move freely on your round. This includes the underpass, shown in mountains farther down. Other moves demand **THE PRICE**, paid in suits upon the ground. Pay the total on your dice—that's the minimum amount.

TRAILWAYS

See the mountains, rivers, woods—with two roads not far apart. You may hike between the two, cutting through the middle part. Pay with cards of proper suits: club or spade or even heart.

MERCHANTS

Stationed where the road is forked, there's a horse and boat to ride. Reach a place across the board, dashing over tiles in stride. Or select a road to port, gliding on the seas outside. Pay and move to your next post, choose the ride that you decide. Landlocked merchants have no boats, since they're not by the seaside.

JESTERS

When you pass by any tavern, you may buy a joker card. Keep it till you'd like to travel, and release it afterward.


RABBIT HOLES

Pay to travel cave to cave, use this trick to hop around. But if you prefer to save, pay a visit *underground*. Take this turn to wait and waive—hop on out the coming round.

OFF-BOARD

If you venture off the board, on a road that leads outbound, end your **JOURNEY** overboard, where no **INCREMENT** is found. Next your **LOTTERY**'s off-board, and you'll **JOURNEY** underground! There your **INCREMENT**'s restored, and you'll wait another round.

There are four sets of **ROAD TILES**.



Now the challenge is afoot—add these strategies per suit. Yet this **STANDARD GAME**'s pursued once the **INTRO**'s understood.

CLOVERS (Clubs)

FLY FROM KING TOWERS

Show one card before you roll, cast **THE JOURNEY** to the skies. Pick a tower as a goal, if it beats the dice or ties. Or you'll miss the board and fall—play **THE LOTTERY** likewise. Off the board or standing tall, tumblers keep the card that tries. Land your flight and don't fall off, if you pay to reach the dice. Count how far your card was off: pay this shortfall to suffice. Note the hex where you took off, just the suit from there applies. You may trade the shown card off—where the clubs fulfill the price.

SPADES (Swords)

FIGHT OTHERS FOR CARDS

You may steal a card at random, kicking someone off the board. You must meet to seize their item, and attack them with a sword. Both go back and forth in tandem, adding spades to beat what's scored. When no cards are thrown to sum them, then the struggler's kicked off-board. Note that tying scores is barred, and discard the spades outpoured. If your target wins the war, they can't steal a card you hoard. If you steal a royal card, set **THE ACQUISITION** forth: place your carrot as the mark—give one up if it's your fourth.

HEARTS (Cups)

VET THE QUEEN PALACES

Any player may contest, as you reach a queenly throne: "Show six points to prove you're blest, adding hearts from cards you own." Or declare you're honored guest, if your carrot marks this zone. Off-board players can't request—they're not fit to cast a stone. Yet before they check your cards, they're obliged to show their own. Even standing far apart: let the proof they're blest be known. If you prove at least six hearts, they'll discard what hearts they've shown. Either one who's wrong departs—off the board the meddler's thrown.

DIAMONDS (Gold)

TRADE AT JACK PLAZAS

All spent cards are being sold, every Jack will sell its suit. Browse the lot their houses hold, where you may obtain this loot. Match or overpay with gold, see the markings underfoot. Note the asterisk in bold—any suit at all will suit. If agreed when setup starts, you may add the **DIAMONDS BOOST**†: player trades with diamond cards, done in turn where both set foot. Never show your hand's rewards—strike a deal beyond dispute. If what's traded proves a farce, swindlers get the off-board boot.

If your turn falls off the board, skip **THE INCREMENT** this round. When a turn begins off-board, end **THE JOURNEY** underground.

Try these **OPTIONAL ADDITIONS**. They'll refresh your future missions.

+ ADVANCED CITADEL

There are three depicted assets, on this flip-side tile reboot: question hearts to grant the access; buy with diamonds any loot; show your clubs for flying passes—shortfall's paid in any suit.

+ TIGHT SUITS

Have as many suits as players, and a set of road tiles too. If there's only three contenders, you'll remove a set and suit. Pick a fitting kind of ending: one that cards allow you to. Spades are often recommended—with tight suits they get a boost.

+ AMBIVALENT ACES

Choose to use them as **11**, any time you play an **Ace**. Or a **1** when it's deserving—lottery or marketplace.

+ CAPITAL ACES

Your first **Ace** is worth **11**, and the rest you'll use are **1s**. As a record that it's spent then, keep it laid before your hands.

+ ADDITIONAL CAPITAL

When you play **CAPITAL ACES**, add a stable bonus tip. At the suit-appropriate places, they will grant an extra pip.

+ CLOVERS BOOST

When you fly from any tower, find more places to touch down. Clubs expand their landing power—any hex above the ground.

+ HEARTS BOOST

If a guest comes where you rest, show your hearts to turn them down. Use their vetting to contest—anywhere but underground.

+ TRAILING CARROTS

Once your carrot's been in place, you won't need to wait around. Hexes claimed provide a trace—you may leave in the same round.

+ WINDFALL LOTTERY

Claim your prizes as a batch, give the lottery no limits. Honor all the cards that match, and when matching double digits.

+ OVERTAXED HANDS

Trim the cards you hold on to. Up to six you may accrue.

+ SEIZED SURPLUS

Don't get caught with cards abound. Your revealer robs you down.

+ PATRIARCHAL VALUES

Have unequal value levels: **Ace** then **King** then **Queen** then **Jack**—from **14** until **11**—contemplate why this is whack.

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