



A game for 2-5 players aged 10 and up from Friedemann Fries

Overview:

The south sea, AD 1777! Three years after James Cook visited the islands, the islands are embroiled in a contest for possession of legendary shrunken heads. The players' only desire is to acquire these »head attractions« for shipment to museums in Europe. Although the islanders are very interested in trading their treasures with the Europeans for the glass beads they offer, their traditions require that such exchanges be done during a special KAWA ritual.

Thus, the players must submit to this ritual by playing against each other using their beads to acquire the prized shrunken heads. The winner will leave the island with the treasure. The losers may remain to provide further treasures.

Contents:

5 screens



40 shrunken heads



84 glass beads (30 green, 24 red, 18 yellow, and 12 blue)



37 cards: 16 condition cards (yellow) 16 effect cards (green) 4 goal cards (rose) 1 goal indicator (rose)



1 rule booklet

The following are the rules for 3–5 players. The changes for playing with 2 players are on page 7 of these rules.

Preparation:

Each player takes a screen. Lay the shrunken heads in the middle of the table. Shuffle the condition and effect cards separately and place them face-down in separate stacks on the table.

Playing the game:

The game is played over 4 rounds. Each round has the following 5 phases:

1. distribute glass beads
2. determine exchange conditions
3. determine goal conditions
4. the exchange
5. distribute shrunken heads

The 5 phases in detail:

1. distribute glass beads:

At the beginning of **each round**, each player takes a **complete set** of glass beads: **5 green, 4 red, 3 yellow**, and **2 blue**, placing them behind his screen to hide them from the other players. In the first round only, place another **complete set** of glass beads as a **supply** in the middle of the table and place all remaining glass beads back in the box - they will not be needed in this game.

2. determine exchange conditions:

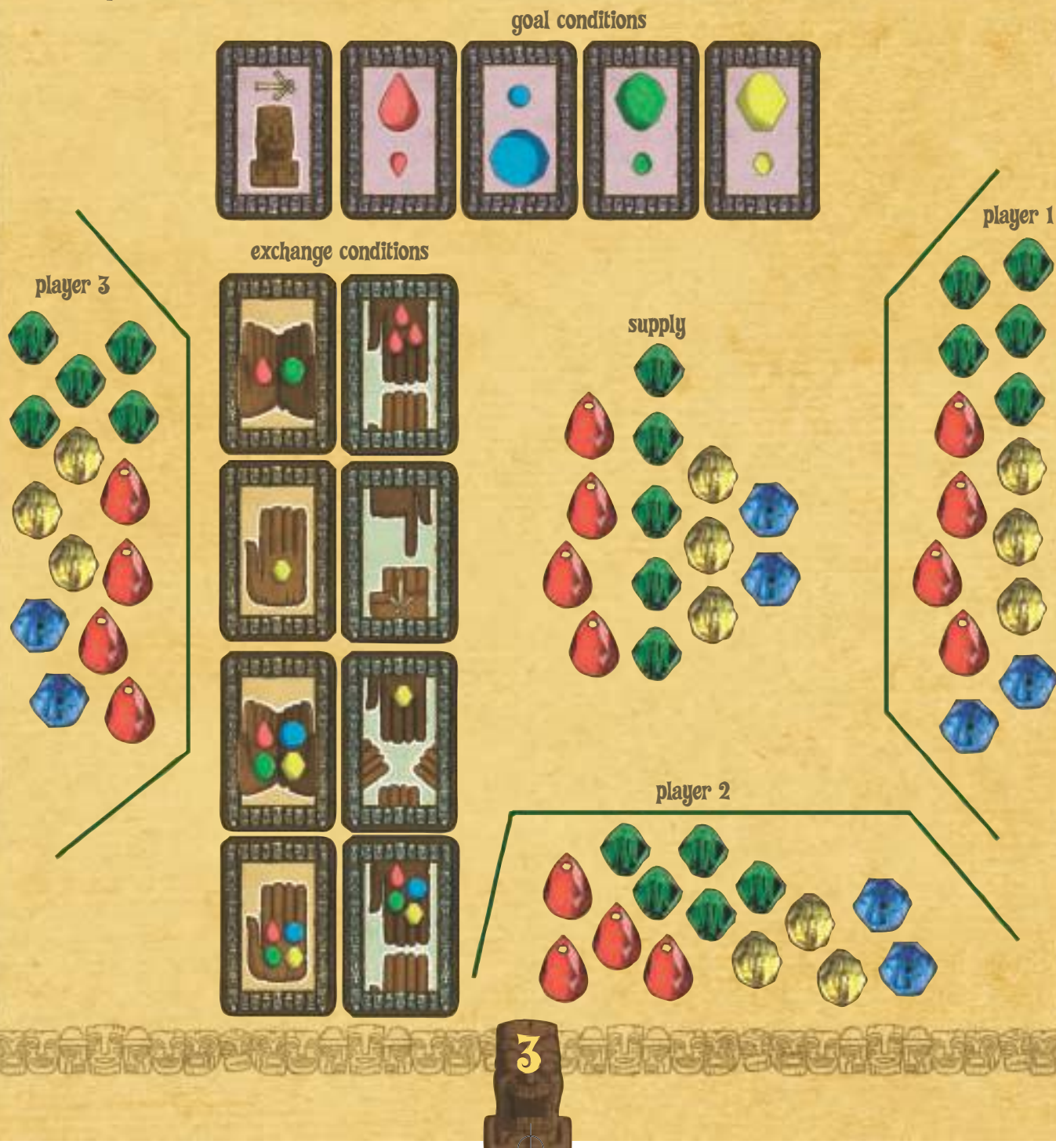
The players draw the top 4 condition cards from the stack and place them face up in a column in the middle of the table. Next, the players draw 4 effect cards from the stack and place them in a column next to the condition column. This double column gives the conditions and effects for exchanges for this round (see figure on page 3).

3. determine goal conditions

Shuffle the 4 goal cards each round so that any of the cards may be chosen in each round. It is also important to shuffle their orientation, as that is also important in the determination of the victory conditions. Next, place the 4 goal cards in a row above the exchange conditions. Place the goal indicator card to the left of the row of goal cards. The goal cards lie in hierarchical order: the card **closest** to the goal indicator is the **most important** and the one **furthest away** is the **least important**. At the end of a round, **the winner** of the round is **the player who best fulfills the first goal**. If there is a tie for this, the winner of the round is the player among those ties who has best fulfilled the second goal, and so on.

The **orientation** of the goal cards determines whether a player should try to collect the most of a color or the fewest.

The setup on the table should look as follows:



4. the exchange

The players execute the exchange **three times**, one after another in this phase.
Each of the three exchanges is divided into **a) offer** and **b) analysis**.

a) offer

Each player takes **1–4 of his glass beads** (from behind his screen) in any mixture he chooses and puts them in his closed fist.
This is his offer for all 4 exchange conditions. When all players are ready, each places his offer in front of his screen.

b) analysis

(see example on the last page)

Beginning with the top-most condition card, the players look to see which of them, if any, fulfill that condition. The condition cards always specify the most or least glass beads of one or more colors of beads.

When a condition card shows just **one hand**, this represents a **least condition**, but when the condition card shown **two hands**, this represents a **most condition**.



examples: When a player offers the fewest green beads.
When a player offers the most green and red beads.
When a player offers the most beads.

Important: when analyzing an offer, an **offer of 0** beads of a color would count as a **least offer** (but there must always be a total offer of 1–4 beads). See also the example on the last page.

The player who offered the most (or least) beads shown on the condition card must now execute the corresponding effect. Each **effect card** applies to **one player**! If two (or more) players **tie** with the best offer for a condition card, they **cancel each other out**. This means that the player with the second best offer must execute the corresponding effect card. It is possible for there to be a tie for second best, as well. These players would also cancel each other out. If **all players are canceled out**, the effect card is **not executed**.

The glass bead offers are compared to **each** of the 4 condition cards. The exchange conditions are executed one at a time from top to bottom. After the fourth exchange condition is completed, players **place** all beads offered **in the supply** in the middle of the table.

Now, the players participate in a **second exchange**, using the beads left (including any added) behind their screens, using the same rules as for the first exchange. Each takes **1–4 glass beads** in his hand, shows them simultaneously, and they are then all analyzed with the 4 condition cards, from top to bottom.

After the second exchange, the players participate likewise in a **third exchange**.

The effect cards:



the player takes: »4 green glass beads«; »3 red glass beads«; »2 yellow glass beads«; »1 blue glass bead«; »one glass bead of each color«

For these effects, the player takes the corresponding glass beads from the supply. If there are **not enough** beads in the supply to complete the effect, the **player takes nothing!**

For these effects, or any that result in a player or players taking beads from the supply, the newly acquired beads are placed behind the players' screens.



the player takes half (rounded down) of the corresponding glass beads from the supply.



all other players take 1 corresponding glass bead from the supply. If there are **not enough** beads in the supply to complete the effect, the players **all take nothing!**



no loss of offer.

After all 4 exchange conditions are completed, the player **does not** place any glass beads from his offer in the supply. He may not choose to place some and not others - he keeps them all.



rotate goal card.

The player **must** rotate one of the goal cards 180 degrees, thus changing its orientation and effect (it remains in the same position relative to the other goal cards).



swap 2 goal cards.

The player swaps two of the goal cards with each other (without rotating them), thus changing the effect of the goal cards.

5. distribute shrunken heads:

After the three exchanges, the players distribute the shrunken heads.

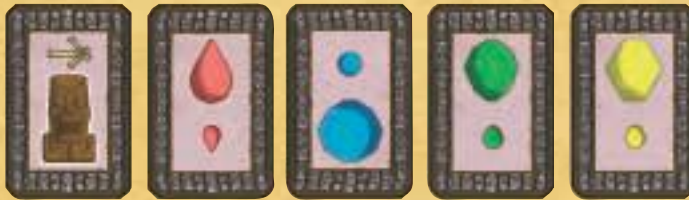
First the player sequence is determined in accordance with the goal cards. All players set aside their screens to **show their personal supplies** of glass beads.

The **first goal card** (next to the goal indicator card) is **analyzed**. Depending on its orientation, the players needed to collect the most

(or fewest) of this color of glass beads. If **two or more** players tie for most (or fewest) of the glass beads of this color, those tied look at the **second card** to resolve the tie. If there is still a tie, they move to the **third card** and, finally, the **fourth**. After the first player is determined, the players determine a second player and third player and so on, using the same methods until all players are placed in sequence.

Now all shrunken heads are distributed depending on the number of players in the game. The **first player** takes **1 fewer shrunken heads than the number of players in the game**. The second player takes 2 fewer and so on. The last player takes no shrunken heads.

If two or more players tie for the same place, each takes shrunken heads based on the next lower rank.



Example: The goal cards show that players are ranked first with the most red beads, then the fewest blue beads, then the most green beads, and, finally, the most yellow beads.

Henry has 2 red, 3 blue, 3 green, and 4 yellow glass beads.

Mary has 2 red, 3 blue, 3 green, and 3 yellow glass beads.

Chris has 3 red, 0 blue, 1 green, and 2 yellow glass beads.

Anna has 3 red, 0 blue, 2 green, and 0 yellow glass beads.

Anna and Chris are in places 1 and 2, as they both have 3 red beads (more than Henry and Mary). Also, they both have the same number of blue beads (0 each). Anna has one more green bead than Chris, so she wins 1st place with the third goal card. Chris claims 2nd place.

Now, the players must decide how Henry and Mary place. They are tied on the first three goal cards with 2 red beads, 3 blue beads, and 3 green beads each. As Henry has more yellow beads than Mary, he wins 3rd place and she is last. Thus, the players in this round are: 1 - Anna, 2 - Chris, 3 - Henry, and 4 - Mary.

Thus, as the game has 4 players, Anna takes 3 shrunken heads (4-1), Chris takes 2 shrunken heads, Henry takes 1 shrunken head, and Mary gets none.

Now the players place all their glass beads in the supply and begin the next round with the distribution of glass beads.

Game end and winner:

After 4 rounds, the player who has collected the **most shrunken** heads leaves the island and is **the winner** of the game! If players tie with the most heads, they rejoice in their shared victory.

The game for 2 players:

The game is the same as for 3–5 players except for the following changes.

Preparation:

Each player takes 2 screens.

The 5 phases:

1. distribute glass beads:

At the beginning of each round, each player takes a complete set of glass beads: **6 green, 5 red, 4 yellow, and 3 blue**, placing them behind one of his screens to hide them from the other player. In the first round only, place a normal set of glass beads (5 green, 4 red, 3 yellow, and 2 blue) as a supply in the middle of the table and place all remaining glass beads back in the box - they will not be needed in this game.

2. determine exchange conditions: no change

3. determine goal conditions:

After the goal cards are placed in the normal way, each player secretly moves **4 glass beads** from behind their screen with beads to behind their other screen. These beads are not used in the exchange nor do they participate in the distribution of shrunken heads.

4. the exchange: no change

5. distribute shrunken heads:

The players analyze the goal cards in the normal way, but only individually, not as a group. The player who **wins the first goal card** takes **4 shrunken heads**. The player who wins the **second goal card** takes **3 shrunken heads**. The player who wins the **third goal card** takes **2 shrunken heads**, and the player who wins the **fourth goal card** takes **1 shrunken head**. If there is a tie for a goal card, neither player takes shrunken heads for that card.

Game end and winner:

After 4 rounds, the player who has collected the most shrunken heads leaves the island and is the winner of the game! If players tie with the most heads, they rejoice in their shared victory.

Thanks to all those who have helped with the development of this game:

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This game earned the 2nd place award for »**Game of the Afternoon**« in 2005 at the »**Gathering of Friends XVI**« in Columbus, Ohio.

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Detailed exchange example.

the offers

Henry



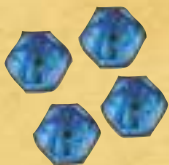
Chris



Anna



Mary



The offers are all correct, as each player has offered 1–4 glass beads.

1 For this condition card, only the **red and green** beads are counted: Henry 2, Chris 2, Anna 1, and Mary 0. Because of the two hands, we are looking for the most. Anna executes the effect card. As Henry and Chris tie for the most, they cancel each other. Anna **takes 3 red glass beads**, placing them behind her screen. The supply now has 5 green, 1 red, 3 yellow, and 2 blue glass beads.

2 For this condition card, only the **yellow** beads are counted: Henry 1, Chris 0, Anna 1, and Mary 0. Because of the single hand, we are looking for the fewest. Both Chris and Mary tie with the fewest and cancel each other out. But, Henry and Anna also tie and cancel each other out. As all are cancelled, no player executes the effect, so **all players** will place their offers **in the supply** after the exchange.

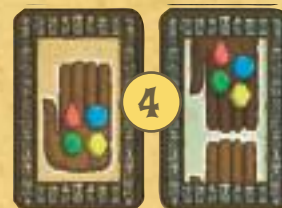
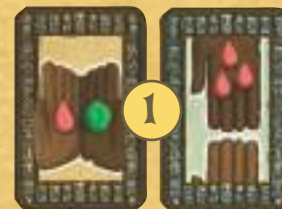
3 For this condition card, **all glass beads** are counted: Henry 3, Chris 2, Anna 2, and Mary 4. Because of the two hands, we are looking for the most. Mary alone has the most with 4 beads. Thus, **each other player** must take **1 yellow bead** from the supply. The supply now has 5 green, 1 red, 0 yellow, and 2 blue glass beads.

4 Again, for this condition card, **all glass beads are counted**: Henry 3, Chris 2, Anna 2, and Mary 4. Because of the single hand, we are looking for the fewest. As Chris and Anna tie for the fewest, they cancel each other out and Henry wins and must execute the effect. But, as the supply now has **no yellow beads**, he cannot execute the effect completely and, **takes no beads from the supply!**



Supply
(in the middle)

the exchange conditions



After the analysis, the players place their offers in the supply. It now contains 7 green, 4 red, 2 yellow, and 6 blue glass beads.

The players now move to the second exchange...