

Speed is a two-person game that uses skip counting to teach multiplication. Speed is perfect for anyone (ages 3 to adult) who is learning about multiplication or wishes to learn to multiply faster.

How to Play a Game of Two Speed

Contents: 4 sets of identical cards numbering 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.

Object: To be the first player out of cards.

Play:

Deal all of the cards such that each player will have one half of the deck. Each player holds his stack of cards in one hand, and places 4 cards face-up in a line in front of himself. Now the race starts.

Each player flips one card face up between the two lines of cards. From his own line of 4 face-up cards, a player may play a card of the next lower or higher increment (but not the same number) on top of one of the two flipped-up cards. For example, if one of the cards in the middle is a 4, then a 2 or a 6 could be played on that card. If a 6 is played, then a 4 or an 8 may be played next. A 2 can be played on a 20 and a 20 can be played on a 2. After a face-up card is played, it is replaced

from player's in-hand stack in order to bring the total back to 4 cards. Both players continue playing and replacing cards as fast as they can until nobody can make a play. When this happens, each player simultaneously flips a new card from his stack and places it face-up on top of one of the middle stacks of cards. The play continues until someone runs out of cards, and that person is declared the winner. If only one person has cards in his hand and neither player can make a play, then the person with cards in hand flips up a new card and places it on one of the stacks in the middle. If neither player is holding a card and no one can make a play, the game is declared a tie.

If at any time during play the two numbers in the middle are the same, the first player to shout the word "speed" gets a lucky break. The other person must pick up both piles of cards in the center, shuffle them, and add them to their stack.

Speed Rules for the Other Numbers

The game is the same except the numbers change. Instead of using increments of 2, for 3's there are 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27 and 30, for 4's there are 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, and 40, and so on.

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What's Next

When familiar with all the increments in one set of Speed cards, it is time to try multiplication. Lay down one of each number from a deck in a line face up in numerical order from lowest to highest. Try these examples:

- What is the 1st number in Two Speed? (answer 2).
 $2 \text{ (Two Speed)} \times 1 \text{ (First Card)} = 2 \text{ (Number on the card)}$;
 $2 \times 1 = 2$

- What is the 6th number in Two Speed? (answer 12).
 $2 \text{ (Two Speed)} \times 6 \text{ (Sixth Card)} = 12 \text{ (Number on the card)}$;
 $2 \times 6 = 12$

Continue reviewing multiplication with the cards in a line and progress to reviewing without looking at the cards. Try these examples from other decks:

- What is the 4th number in Three Speed? (answer 12).
 $3 \text{ (Three Speed)} \times 4 \text{ (Fourth Card)} = 12 \text{ (Number on the card)}$;
 $3 \times 4 = 12$

- What is the 7th number in Six Speed? (answer 42).
 $6 \text{ (Six Speed)} \times 7 \text{ (Seventh Card)} = 42 \text{ (Number on the card)}$;
 $6 \times 7 = 42$