

tiny epic WESTERN™

RULEBOOK

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GAMELYN GAMES

Components



4 Location Mats



1 Town Hall Mat



1 Sheriff's Office Mat



8 Boss Cards



30 Building Cards



20 Poker Cards



12 Posse Tokens



2 Gunslinger Dice



1 Dealer Token



1 Wanted Card



12 Influence Tokens



3 Industry Tokens

Prologue

In *Tiny Epic Western*, ***you*** are the boss! Round up your posse, range the town, and even play poker in this rootin'-tootin' race to buy buildings and establish yourself as the meanest boss in the ***Wild West***!

Overview

Tiny Epic Western offers a clever combination of poker and worker-placement. The game lasts six rounds; and each round has players placing their posse at different thematic locations like the Saloon, the Hideout, and even the Sheriff's Office. Here they will compete with other players, or even against the house, known as the "Rival", in hands of three-card poker. The winner gains influence that can later be leveraged for acquiring buildings or winning duels. But be careful; this is the ***Wild West***! To keep your horse hitched around here, you'll need to be good with a gun.

Objective

Players compete to have the most **VP (victory points)** by the end of six rounds. VP are earned by acquiring Building Cards, having the Wanted Card, and winning industry points. These points are determined by the final ranking of the Industry Tokens on the Town Hall Mat.



Setup

1. Give each player a **Boss Card** (randomly or by choice), and 1 of each of the **3 Influence Tokens**.

   A. To gain initial influence, each player places their **3 Influence Tokens** on the spot marked "1" on the "ammo belt" along the bottom of their Boss Card.

   B. Any unused Boss Cards can be flipped over and used as player aids. Any unused Influence Tokens remain in the box.

2. Give each player the **3 Posse Tokens** in the color of their choice. Unused colors remain in the box.

   A. Your **first 2 Posse Tokens** should start standing up on the top two spaces in the upper-left of the Boss card.

   B. Your **third Posse Token** starts, laying down, on the large bottom space under the two other Posse Tokens.

3. Place the **Town Hall Mat** near the top of the play area. *Note: for 1-2 player games, use the watermarked side of the Mat.*

4. Stack the **3 Industry Tokens** on the top-left area of the Town Hall Mat.

5. Place the **Sheriff's Office Mat** opposite the Town Hall Mat, and distribute the rest of the **Location Mats** to form a circle (*see the example on the next page*).

   A. Players should sit in front of, or near, the Location Mat that matches the color of the Posse Tokens they will be playing with.

   B. For 4 player games, all the Location Mats are placed colored side up. For games with three players or fewer, flip all Location Mats matching the color of any unused Posse Tokens to their **reverse "grayed-out" side**.

   C. Be sure to keep enough space between each Location Mat so that **Poker Cards** can fit in between.

6. Give the **Dealer Token** to the person who has most recently seen a horse, or choose a player randomly.

7. Shuffle the **Building Cards** (*with blue backs*) to form a deck and then:

   A. Deal **5 face-up Building Cards** to the "*buy slots*" of each of the Location Mats, plus the Sheriff's Office, *however, not to the Town Hall.*

   B. Deal **1 face-up Building Card** to the empty "*porch slot*" on the Sheriff's Office. For 1-3 player games, deal 1 face-up Building Card in the empty porch slot on each Location Mat of the unused player colors. These buildings are considered "usable" from the start.

   C. Place the deck of Building Cards within reach.

8. Shuffle the **Poker Cards** (*with red backs*) into a deck and place within reach of the Dealer.

9. Place the **Wanted Card**, with the **2 Gunslinger Dice** on top of it, in the center of the circle.


7C
3 Industry Tokens
Building Cards
4
Town Hall
3
8
Poker Cards
Rival's Card Space
7A
9
WANTED
5B
5C
Poker Card Space
3 Posse Tokens
2A
2B
5
Sheriff's Office
7B
6
DEALER
BANKER
1
CHIEF
Boss Card
1A
3 Influence Tokens, each at "1"

Boss Ability

Each Boss Card has a special ability that is available to just that player for the entire game. Before play starts, players should read their abilities aloud to all the other players.



"The Banker's" Ability Example

Gameplay

The game is played over exactly six rounds. Each round has **four phases**:

1. Shuffle and Deal

Shuffle and deal Poker Cards to the spaces in between Mats, the Rival space, and to each player.



2. Posse Placement

Starting with the Dealer, and going clockwise around the table, each player places a single Posse Token. Continue placing one token at a time in order until all players have used all of their Posse. The third Posse Token is only used IF it is standing.



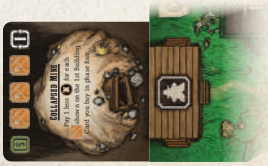
3. Resolution

Reveal Poker Cards and resolve locations by playing *Three-Card Poker* (*see the player aids for poker hand explanations*).



4. Buy

Resolve the Town Hall Mat, buy Building Cards, and advance an Industry Token.



Phase One – Shuffle and Deal

The player with the Dealer Token is the "Dealer" for the round and is in charge of shuffling and dealing. ALL Poker Cards from the previous round, including the one at the Rival space, should be collected and shuffled into the deck.



Then the Dealer:

1. Starting to the right of the Town Hall Mat, and going clockwise, deals six face-up Poker Cards, one to each space **in between** the Mats.



2. Deals one face-down Poker Card to the **Rival space** on the Town Hall Mat. This is considered the "*Rival's Card*."



3. Deals two face-down Poker Cards to each player. Each player should look at their cards and keep only one. Unused cards are put face-down in to a discard pile next to the draw pile.



Phase Two – Posse Placement



Starting with the Dealer and going clockwise, each player must place **one Posse Token at a time** onto a **placement spot** on any Location Mat or the Sheriff's Office Mat. Some placement spots offer a choice of two options, and you must only choose one. Despite having two options, these spots are still considered one for the sake of dueling (*see page 10*). This continues until all players have placed all their standing Posse Tokens.

Players cannot place a second Posse Token where they already have one, unless the Posse they already have there is wounded. Two standing Posse Tokens of the same color can never share a single placement spot.

Placing a Posse Token on a placement spot will cause **three things** to happen:

1. Players **gain the benefit** associated with that spot.

2. Players **use their Poker Card** at that location to win its influence during *Phase Three – Resolution*.

3. Allows players a chance to **buy the Building Card** at the *"buy slot"* of the Mat during *Phase Four – Buy Phase*.

Placement Spot Actions

Location Mat Influence Spot (2 options, choose 1):



CHOOSE:

Left Side - *Instantly!*

When you place your Posse here with one foot touching the , instantly **gain 1 of the influence** shown.

Right Side - *Resolution*

When you place your Posse here with one foot touching the , **gain 2 of the influence** shown, during *Resolution*, **if you win the hand**.

Note: If placing your Posse Token onto an Influence Spot will result in a duel, you must choose the Left or Right option before dueling.



Porch Slot

Use the (*top*) Building Card's ability that is connected to this porch. Posse here can perform the action as listed on the card (*noted with icons that show when the benefit is gained:* U / ⧗ / $). If the building used belongs to a player (*connected to the Location Mat in their color*) then that player **gains 1 Money** ($). *Note: This is not deducted from the influence of the player using the building.*

Sheriff's Office Actions:



Buy a "Leftover" Building Card

At the end of the round, if you have a Posse Token here, you may buy any one of the unpurchased Building Cards (*see Phase Four - Buy, pg 14*).



Change Number Value

When placing a Posse Token here, the numeric value of the Poker Card in your hand will be altered during **Phases Three and Four** by **+1 or -1**. A "1" can be reduced, and *wrapped-around*, into a "5" and vice versa. Choose by placing the foot of your token on one ⧗ or the other.



Change Suit Rank

When placing a Posse Token here, the "suit" of the Poker Card in your hand will be altered during **Phases Three and Four** by going up **one rank or down one rank**. The "*steer*" suit can be *wrapped-around* to become the "*hat*" suit by reducing it one rank, and vice versa. Choose by placing the foot of your token on one ⧗ or the other.

*Note: Card modifications do not take effect until **Phase Three,** and therefore, are not taken into consideration for dueling (see page 10).*

Dueling



If you want to use a placement spot that is already occupied by another player's Posse Token, you must start a duel. To duel, place your token on the occupied spot you desire to use. The token already on the spot is called the "*Defender*" and the intruding token is the "*Attacker.*" The winner of the duel will be the player with the **higher power**, with any ties going to the *Defender*.

To duel:

1. Each player rolls one **Gunslinger Die**. The number rolled is considered that player's **power**. The "loser" (*the player with the least power, or the Attacker if tied*) may choose to do the following (*and may do both in any order*):



   - Pay **1 influence** to reroll their die (may repeat, paying one each time). This is now considered their new power and replaces their old power. The *Attacker* pays **Force** ( ) to reroll, and the *Defender* pays **Law** ( ) to reroll.
   - Reveal and **add the value of their Poker Card** to their power**.** If they have already revealed their card in an earlier duel this round, it cannot be added to their power again. This can only be done once a round. The card remains revealed until the end of the round.

2. After this, **the other player** (*if now the "loser"*) may choose to modify their power as described above. This may continue back and forth until both players finalize their power.

When the Gun Smoke Settles...



After the duelists finalize their powers, the player with the lower final power (*or the Attacker if tied)* must lay their Posse Token down on its side, indicating it is "wounded," and the winner places their token on top of it.

A wounded Posse **cannot**:

- Collect benefits from a [hourglass] or [S] placement spot it occupies.
- Duel.

A wounded Posse **can**:

- Retain the [U] benefit of the placement spot it occupies.
- Participate in the poker hand for the Winner's Pot at the location it is at (*see pg. 13*).
- Buy the Building Card at the location it is at, if it is available (*see pg. 14*).

Wanted



As soon as the first duel of the game has been decided, the **Wanted Card** enters play and goes to the winner of that duel. The Wanted Card remains in play until the end of the game. The Wanted Card is always held by the player who has won the most recent duel. As soon as another duel occurs, between any players, the winner of that duel must take the Wanted Card.

If a player holds the Wanted Card at the beginning of Phase Three, they immediately **gain 1 influence** of their choice at that time. If they hold it at the end of the game, they **gain 2 victory points** (*see Final Scoring, pg. 16*).

Phase Three – Resolution

After players have placed all their Posse Tokens, the *Resolution Phase begins*. Players now have a chance to **win influence** from the Mats their Posse Tokens occupy:

Posse Tokens at a Placement Spot



- "Standing" Posse Tokens with feet on the *side* of the spot are eligible to collect that type of influence.
- all Posse Tokens on a Mat are eligible to collect the **Winner's Pot** *(see next page)*.

*Players reveal: Yellow's **Straight Flush** beats Red's **Pair***



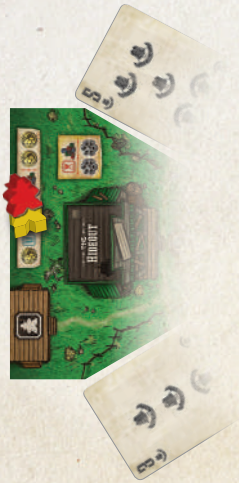
To *Resolve*:

1. All players now reveal their Poker Cards. If you have dueled, your Poker Card might already be revealed.

2. Reveal the Rival's Poker Card.

3. Going clockwise from the Town Hall Mat, resolve each Mat. Players who have placed Posse Tokens (*including those that are wounded*) on a Mat compare their hands using the two cards shouldering that Location Mat, plus their own hidden card, to form a **three-card poker** hand (*see the player aids for poker hand explanations*).

   The order of the cards adjacent to the location does not matter; players may consider any arrangement of these cards when making their poker hand.



Lone Posse vs. The Rival

If a player has the only Posse Token at a location, they then compare their hand to the **Rival's hand** (*the Rival Card with the two cards on either side of the location*). If the Rival's hand is better than the player's hand, the player does not win at that location. If a player has more than one Posse Token on a Mat and no other players have Posse Tokens there, they still must compare hands with the Rival but may only collect the **Winner's Pot** of a single location once a round.

Comparing Hands





When comparing hands to determine a winner, use the **Hand and Suit Rankings** on the Town Hall Mat. The higher the hand or suit is on the list, the higher the rank for winning.

Tie-Breaker

If there is a tie where multiple players, or the Rival, have the same poker hand, the player whose card has the higher value wins. If still tied, the player whose card has the higher suit wins. If still tied (*as a result of changing a card at the Sheriff's Office*) both players collect the Winner's Pot.

Winning the Hand

The winning player at a location gains the **Winner's Pot**, listed in the stand-alone box with the "poker chips" image. If the winning player's Posse is not wounded and is on the *Resolution* side of a spot, they receive that benefit as well.



The Winner's Pot

Wild Influence



At the Saloon, through certain Building Cards, and the Wanted Card, players can gain . This is considered a "wild" influence and the player gaining it may choose which of the three influence types to increase.

Note: If multiple are displayed in pairs or as a set of three, they must all be taken as the same influence type.

Phase Four – Buy

All players compare their hands using their own Poker Card and the two cards adjacent to the Town Hall Mat. *Note: Poker Card modifications done at the Sheriff's Office apply when resolving the hand at the Town Hall unless there is a tie (see page 15).*

This will decide two things:

- The order in which players buy Building Cards.
- Which player will advance an Industry Token.

Starting with the winning hand, and proceeding in hand order from highest to lowest, each player has the option of **buying one Building Card** at a location where they have at least one Posse Token.



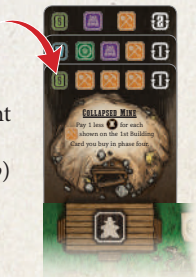
Green player can pay 2 and 1 to buy this Building.

Buying a Building Card

Players may only buy a Building Card at a Mat where they currently have a Posse Token. Listed on the porch of each Building Card is its cost, and players may pay for the Building Card by reducing the appropriate influence amounts on their Boss Card. A newly bought Building Card is placed underneath the porch slot on the Location Mat that matches the player color of the player who bought it. Regardless of when a Building Card is acquired, it does not replace the current Building Card in play until the end of *Phase Four*.

Stack Buildings at a Porch

Any new cards are placed over top of the previously bought Building Cards, but not covering up victory points and industry icons on the top of the card. Only the newest (*top*) Building Card in the "*porch slot"* can be used during *Phase Two – Posse Placement*.



Sheriff's Office: Buy a "Leftover" Building Card

If a player has a Posse Token at the "Leftover" spot, the player may buy one of any leftover Building Cards (*they can only purchase one even if there are multiple leftover cards*) at the end of the round. They do not need to have a Posse Token on that Building Card's Mat.

Advancing Industry Tokens

The player with the highest *three-card poker hand* at Town Hall **must choose an Industry Token to advance**. This is done at the end of the round, after the *Buy Phase* is complete. The player who won at Town Hall selects one Industry – Mining, Railway, or Wagon – and moves that Industry Token forward one rank.



3 Tokens *2 Tokens* *1 Token*

When moving Industry Tokens, only a certain number of tokens may occupy each rank: All 3 tokens can be at *Rank 3*, 2 tokens can be at *Rank 2*, and finally only 1 may occupy the *final rank*. Tokens may never move backward in rank. If a rank is filled to maximum capacity, no Industry Token can be advanced into it. After exactly six rounds all three Industry Tokens should be ranked.

Tie-Breakers at Town Hall

There cannot be a shared victory at the Town Hall. If there is a tie, where multiple players have the same poker hand, same card value, and same card suit (*as a result of changing a card at the Sheriff's Office*), disregard the modifications made from the Sheriff's Office to the tied players' Poker Cards. The player with the highest natural hand wins the tie.

Third Posse Benefit

If a player **DID NOT buy a Building Card** at any point in the round, they automatically gain the Third Posse Benefit in the next round. Players may also gain this benefit by winning the hand at the **Sheriff's Office** and choosing it instead of gaining the listed influence. The third Posse is usable in the following round only. This benefit must be gained again to be used again.



Round End

Players collect all of their Posse Tokens and place them back on their Boss Card. If players gained the **Third Posse Benefit** for the next round, stand it up now. If not, lay it down on your Boss Card.

Deal new Building Cards at locations bought from the previous round. If the "buy slot" Building Card at the Sheriff's Office Mat, or in 1-3 player games a Location Mat of an unused color, has been bought it is replaced by the Building Card at the "porch slot" from that Mat. A new Building Card is then dealt to the "porch slot" of that Mat. Finally, pass the **Dealer Token** clockwise, and begin the next round.

Game End

The game ends after exactly six rounds: when **all 3 Industry Tokens** have filled the ranks on the Town Hall Mat *OR* immediately if the Building Card deck has run out and any empty "buy slots" cannot be refilled.



Final Scoring

When the game ends, players total up their victory points as follows:



Listed on their Building Cards

+



From Industry Rankings (*see next page*)

+



2 points if holding the Wanted Card

After all players have totaled their points, the player with the most victory points is the winner. In the event of a tie, check these tie breaking conditions in this order: first, most Building Cards purchased, and second, most total industry icons. If the tie remains, the game ends in a tie.

Industry Rankings



Each Industry, starting with the first and working down, is scored. For each Industry Token, each player adds together the number of industry "shares" (*icons*) that appear on their purchased Building Cards. The player with the most of that icon is the **Majority** shareholder. The player with the second most "shares" is the **Minority** shareholder. The Majority shareholder gains the larger number of victory points for that Industry rank; the Minority shareholder gains the smaller number. Tied players all gain the listed number of points, however if there is a tie for Majority, no points are rewarded to the Minority shareholder(s).

Note: When calculating the Industry Ranking points, you may find it useful to use Poker Cards to keep track of what VP each player has earned.

Below is an example of players' total shares and their bonuses:











Solo Variant Rules

Set up the game as if playing with 2 players, using an "automated" player who has its own 3 Posse Tokens and matching color Location Mat, but DOES NOT use a Boss Card. They are called the "Rival."

The Rival's Location Mat's "*porch slot*" may have random Buildings Cards, depending on the difficulty level of the game. Select the level you wish to play, and then add buildings according to the chart on the right:

Rival Mat's Porch Slot

Difficulty	*Buildings*
Learner	*0*
Beginner	*1*
Medium	*2*
Hard	*3*
Epic	*4*



Changes to Gameplay

Phase One: Shuffle and Deal – At the beginning of each round, the Rival space gets dealt 2 Poker Cards, 1 face-down, and 1 face-up (*it does not return 1, as the player does*).



Phase Two: Posse Placement – The player's turn always comes before the Rival's turn. The player places their Posse Token as normal. After each Posse Token the player places, the Rival will place one Posse Token at a random location:

- **Roll a die: 1-5**, place a Rival's Posse Token on a spot at that numbered mat. The Mats are numbered: "1" indicates the first clockwise Mat from the Town Hall and "5" indicates the Mat adjacent to the Town Hall, counter-clockwise, *see example on right*.



- The Rival prefers to place onto the **"Influence Spot" (right side)** at a Location Mat, if that placement spot is present. If it is not (*because the reverse "grayed-out" side of the Mat is being used*), the Rival will place its token onto the "*porch slot*". It does not gain the benefit of a Building, if one is attached. At the Sheriff's Office, the Rival places its token on the **"Leftover" spot**. If the Rival already has a Posse Token on a Mat, it places at the next clockwise Mat that does not have one of its Posse Tokens. If the player's Posse Token occupies the spot where the Rival is placing its token, they duel.
- **Roll a die: 6**, Place a Rival's Posse Token at the spot the player just placed a Posse Token and initiate a duel (*see below*).



Dueling – The Rival always rolls a Gunslinger Die and then adds the value from a random Poker Card drawn from the deck.

- After the duel, the Poker Card the Rival used in the duel is discarded to the discard pile.
- The Rival takes the **Wanted Card** if it wins a duel. While it does not gain the influence benefit from it, it **does gain the 2 VP** for being *Wanted* at the end of the game.
- During the duel, the player may pay **1** ✖ (*influence of any kind*) to force the Rival to reroll its die *OR* draw a new Poker Card to duel with (*may repeat either, paying 1* ✖ *each time*).

Phase Three: Resolution – The Rival competes at all locations, regardless of whether it has a Posse Token there or not. The Rival never gains influence or benefits from Buildings Cards; however, the Rival may stop the player from gaining them. The Rival has two Poker Cards and always selects the best card (*to make the highest ranking hand*) for each individual location. However, the Rival may only use one card from its hand at a time.

Phase Four: Buy – The Rival **can always buy a Building Card**. On the Rival's turn, it selects the **highest victory point Building Card** available from the Mats where it has Posse Tokens. In case of a tie between point values, the Rival selects by going clockwise from the Town Hall. If the Rival has the **"Leftover" spot**, it does not buy a second Building Card. If the Rival **must advance an industry**, note the *leftmost symbol* on the Building Card it bought first that round. Advance that industry. If that Industry Token cannot advance, use the next symbol list on the Building Card, moving to the next Building Card owned, if needed.

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