MEEPLE CIRCUS

GOAL OF THE GAME

Welcome to MEEPLE CIRCUS! The acrobats are waiting for your instructions for the next show. On the program for tonight, 3 numbers with 2 rehearsals and a main performance in front of a crowded audience! Shine on the circus ring and receive the most applause in order to win the game!

SETUP

- Place the game board in the center of the table ①.
- Each player starts with:
  - A circus ring in the color of his choice ②.
  - A score token of the same color that they place next to the clap-o-meter ③.
  - 2 acrobats: 1 blue and 1 yellow ④.
- Shuffle the public demands cards by color and place them face down in the place indicated by the board. Flip the first card of each pile face up ⑤.
- Shuffle the Component tiles, draw the first 6 and place them face up in the places indicated by the board ⑥.
- Shuffle the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Act tiles by color and place them in three stacks. Then draw as many tiles as the number of players plus one from the 1st Act tile and place them at the places indicated by the board. *Note: For your first game, we advise you not to play with the Fun & Technical extension described at the end of the game rules (page 4)* ⑦.
- Place the measuring ruler and the «speed bonus» tokens next to the clap-o-meter ⑧.
- Acrobat meeples, Guest Star meeples and accessories (balloons, beams, barrels, elephants and horses) form a reserve of components available to all players ⑨.
- Stack the 3 Score tiles at the place indicated by the board, in order 3, then 2, then 1 ⑩.
- The last player to have seen a circus act becomes the first player for the first act and takes the first player token ①.

NOTE: Male pronouns have been used for simplicity and readability.



*The music of the game is available on the website: **www.matagot.com/meeplecircus** and in the **mobile applications "Meeple Circus"**. It is important to get the music for a complete gaming experience; It acts as a timew keeper.*

CONTENTS



1 game board:
The clap-o-meter



3 Scoring tiles



1 measuring ruler



32 Public demands cards



5 Circus rings (front / back)



5 Score tokens



38 Circus act tiles
6 1st Act tiles, 10 2nd Act tiles, 22 3rd Act tiles



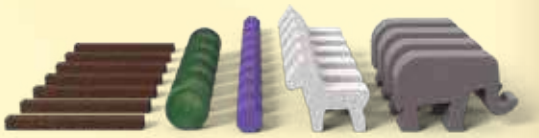
32 Acrobat meeples
12 beginners, 13 intermediates et 7 experts



18 Component tiles



10 Guest Star meeples + 2 sticker boards (front / back)
the Sea lion - the Camel - the Elephant rider - Tarzan - the Tightrope artist the Ringmaster - Mr. Muscle - the Extreme horse rider - the Clown - the Tiger



32 accessories : *7 beams (brown), 6 balloons (green), 9 barrels (purple), 6 horses (white), 4 elephants (grey)*



1 First player token



2 Speed bonus tokens

HOW TO PLAY

A game of Meeple Circus is played in 3 Circus acts:

- The first rehearsal
- The second rehearsal
- The great performance

Each Circus act has 4 phases:

- Preparation
- Presentation
- Evaluation
- End



Matthew is the first player and begins by choosing a Component tile.



He places his tile in front of himself and takes the corresponding components from the reserve. Then the other players do the same in a clockwise direction.



Matthew having already chosen his element tile, must now choose a 1st Act tile.



Once the components of the second tile are recovered, the players are ready to go to the presentation of their circus act!

THE FIRST REHEARSAL

Preparation

During the preparation of a circus act, players add new acrobats and accessories to their circus.

Starting with the first player and proceeding in a clockwise direction, players must perform following two actions in the order of their choosing : take any one Component tile and tahe one 1st Act tile.
The players then retrieves the components corresponding to their tiles from the reserve and place them next to their circus ring.
NOTE: The term "component" used here in the rules and on certain game tiles refers to any accessories, Acrobat or Guest Star.

Presentation

During the presentation of the circus act, the players assemble their components in order to answer as much of the public demands as possible by using the expertise of their acrobats.

Before beginning the presentation of their circus act, players must have all their components outside of their circus ring and have no right to manipulate them.
When all players are ready, the first player starts the music via the Meeple Circus application (or from the Matagot website).
When the music begins, all players will construct their circus act **at the same time**.
The players are not obliged to use all their components during their circus act.The laying of a component is completely up to the player to choose, as long as it respects the following rules:



All components must be placed inside your circus ring.



All components must be placed on their side except for beams and barrels.



All components on the ground must carry at least one other component.

Components that do not follow ALL of these rules will not be counted in the evaluation of the circus act.

When a player finishes his circus act, he must spread his hands and say, «**Tadaaaa!**»

The first and second players who end their circus act (before the music ends) take the Speed Token and the Speed Token , respectively.

If a player has not finished by the end of the music, he must immediately stop adding to his circus act.

Evaluation

When evaluating the circus act, players win applause based on different criteria.

When a player wins applause, he advances his score marker as many spaces on the clap-o-meter board.
A player wins applause through:

- Public demands
- Acrobat meeples
- Speed bonus tokens

1) Public demands

The player scores as much applause as indicated on each of the Public demands cards whose conditions are fulfilled.
It is possible to make the same card several times if at least one of the elements is different.
The same component can count for different public demands cards.
The figures must be taken in the direction indicated by the card.
The meeples illustrated in gray can be Acrobat meeples of any color or Guest Star meeples of the same form (the Extreme horse rider, Tarzan, the Elephant trainer or the tightrope artist).

2) Acrobat meeples



Beginners
Each blue acrobat touching the ground brings you 1 applause.

Intermediates
Each yellow acrobat that does NOT touch the ground brings you 1 applause.

Experts
Every red acrobat that carries no element brings you as much applause as its height in the circus act. To do this, use the measuring ruler, the highest zone touched by the acrobat tells you how many applause you win.

3) Speed bonus

Each player in possession of a speed token adds the number of applause indicated.

End

At the end of each circus act:
Each player keeps all his acquired components and places them next to his circus ring.
The player with the smallest score (in the case of a tie: the youngest) becomes the first player and takes the token
The new first player discards a Public demands card of his choice from the game and then returns the next Public demands card of the corresponding pick.
The first player puts the remaining tiles and number 1 tiles in the box.
Then he draws 6 new Component tiles and as many 2nd Act tiles as the number of player plus one.
Finally, the first player returns the First scoring tile back to the box, to show the first act has passed.



Examples of Public demands cards



In her circus act, Madison made 2 of the 4 Public demands cards. She met the first demand once and met the second demand twice for a total of 3 + 3 + 3 = 9 applause!



Thanks to this magnificent pyramid, Matthew scores 1 applause for his beginner meeple, 1 applause for his intermediate meeple and 3 applause with his expert meeple.

TECHNICAL & FUN EXTENSION

Using this extension allows you to give a theme to your Meeple Circus for even more delusional parties.

However, it requires the agreement of **all players** before the start of the game, because some of the challenges can be particularly difficult to achieve.

Once you decide to use this extension, you can mix challenges however you want.

You can for example choose to use only Fun challenges for your next Meeple Circus party or instead mix some Technical challenges in with the basic challenges.

NOTE: In order to facilitate their storage, Fun challenges are represented by the Icon and the Technical Challenges by the Icon .



Examples of Fun & Technical challenge tiles

Thanks from the author :

"I would like to thank all the people who contributed to the Meeple Circus adventure, and particulary: Myriam for her support of my passion, Hugo and Pierric for their bravery to wipe the first tests ;-); Laurent and Yaël for introducing me to modern board game; Laure, Marc and Philippe for their unshakeable faith in Meeple Circus; Grégory and Hervé; My IFJ super-fans off 2015; The players of Pondy: Bruno, Fabien, Natacha, Nathanaël, Patrick, Sandrine, Thierry; The Minstrels, Ludo, and of course Matagot Editions for having trusted me for this first game!".

THE SECOND REHEARSAL

The second rehearsal introduces the Guest Star, who are each unique and allow players to realize even more fantastic numbers!

This second act is played in the same way as the first with the following differences:

Preparation

When preparing, players now use the 2nd Act tiles.

IMPORTANT: When a player retrieves the items corresponding to his Guest Star tile, he only retrieves the corresponding Guest Star, the other components present on the tile are used to indicate the conditions in which his Guest Star will bring him applause.

Evaluation

During the evaluation, the players will also add applause won from Guest Star.
Each Guest Star will win applause if it is used in the right way.



Examples of Guest Star tiles

End

The first player now places the remaining Component tiles and 2nd Act tiles back in the box. He returns the second Scoring tile back to the box, and draws 6 new Component tiles along with as many 3rd Act tiles as the number of players plus one.

THE GREAT PERFORMANCE

The great performance takes place in the spotlight of the other players and demand they complete challenges ranging from incredible dexterity to absurd situations!

The great performance is played in the same way as the previous act with the following differences:

Preparation

When preparing, players use the 3rd Act tiles.

Presentation

The great performance is enacted player after player. Starting with the player with the least applause score and then continuing in a clockwise direction.
NOTE: Some 3rd Act tiles require specific music that you will recognize by the music symbol ♫

Evaluation

The final evaluation has the following changes:
1) Speed tokens are not used
2) The applause won by Guest Stars is doubled
3) Each Challenge will win applause if it is successfully achieved

END OF THE GAME

After the evaluation of the 3rd Act is completed, the game ends.
The player with the most applause is the winner! In the case of a tie, the victory is shared.