

People Watching Bingo™ is a cooperative game and is designed to spark conversation, not competitiveness. The nature of the game requires that players have thick skins, a good sense of humor, and the ability to laugh at themselves. Some people will be offended at some of the items listed on the cards, don't be. We do not people watch to judge or ridicule any ONE trend, culture, or lifestyle. Take a look at the sample Bingo card to see the types of items or people we have on our list.

The game is a variation of the standard Bingo rules where you try to get or mark off five blocks in a row- either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. Unlike Bingo, however, you are not looking for numbers, but rather searching for people dressed in a particular way or with certain items.

The game is played with each player having one card with the same 25 items in a different order. The 25 items are drawn randomly from a list of over 100 items from the People Watching Bingo master list. The players are all looking for the same items so they will be more likely to see or agree to having seen an item another spots. When a person sees an item from a card, they will point it out to the other players (discreetly) and have at least one other player verify that they also saw that item. You cannot use the same person to mark off more than one item. For example, if you saw a person with pink hair wearing a baby sling you could mark off 'colored hair' OR 'baby-sling' but not both.

The game is played in a mall or other high traffic public location and the object is for us to watch them, not have them watching us. Therefore, each group can only have a maximum of 4 players in order to minimize the chance of being spotted playing. The players will split into multiple groups if there are more than 4 players. The groups can be in the same or different areas of a given location. Example: two tables of three side-by-side in the food court OR one table at one end of the food court while the other table is at the opposite end. The group can change locations during a session, but only after the current card or round is completed. This is a game to be played in a single location, not walking around. You must remain seated during game play.

The ideal location to play will have a seating area with tables and an open view of the public (ex. a mall food court). Tables are not required, but make game play easier. Avoid isolated seating areas as this will draw attention to your group.

Bingo normally has a 'Free Space' in the center square; we have "The WTF Rule"™. The "WTF" is a Wild Card type item that a player can use to mark any one square of their choice. The "WTF" can be any number of WTF inducing things that may or may not be listed in the master list of items, but it cannot be something already listed on the current card. A player calls their "WTF" to the group and announces which square they are using it for. The "WTF" item must also be agreed to by at least one other player who sees the item being called a "WTF". The "WTF" item must be unique and cannot have been used to mark off any other blocks on the card, nor can another player use the same item as their "WTF". This move CANNOT be a Bingo-winning move. It can be used for an item a player believes is less common or the least common on a row that they are close to getting Bingo on.

These rules will flex some as the nature of the games includes some subjectiveness. Organizers are cautioned that there are no prizes in the official rules at this time so as to maintain the cooperative spirit of this fun social-driven event. Each organizer can choose to implement prizes if they wish. Either way, there will be winners and they will walk away with bragging rights and the knowledge that a good time was had by all.

These rules are current as of December 14, 2012 and are subject to change.

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