Cheater's Table - How to Play

🎯 Goal

Cheater's Table is a bluffing card game for up to 4 players.

Each player starts with a certain number of lives. The first player to empty their hand makes every other player at the table lose 1 life. Players with no lives are eliminated. The last player standing wins the match.

Dynamites, Cadillac, and similar effects can also make players lose lives. So simply focusing on emptying your hand is not enough.

🎮 Modes

Classic: Standard rules with cheating disabled.

Cheater's Table: Cheat and Bad Apple systems are active.

LAB: The host controls all parameters, including card types, round time, starting lives, dynamite density, and more.

🃏 Basic Gameplay

At the start, each player gets 7 cards. One card is face-up in the center of the table, and the game starts from there.

On your turn, you can do one of the following:

- Play a card that matches the center card by color, number, or symbol.
- If you cannot play a card, draw from the deck or pass.
- Reach for your hidden cheat cards. We call this cheating.

Milk card: When a player empties their hand, they must also pick up and finish the final card that was placed face down on the table at the start of the game. This card is the Milk card.

😈 Cheat System

At the start of the game, you receive powerful cheat cards. You hide them in 5 different spots on your character. Other players cannot see these cards.

To cheat:

1. Press the **Cheat** button on your turn.
2. Choose one of your hidden cards or play Bad Apple.
3. If no opponent challenges, you take the card into your hand and can play it whenever you want.
4. If an opponent challenges, they interrogate you and open one of your spots.

If you get caught:

• You lose 1 life.
• You lose the selected card from the opened spot.
• You lose your turn.

If the opponent cannot find it:

• The opponent receives a penalty. By default, they draw 2 penalty cards. The penalty type can be changed in the host settings.
• You take the cheat card and can use it.

Even if the challenging opponent opens the wrong spot, that spot remains open and gets marked. In later cheats, the number of safe spots decreases and your chance of getting caught increases.

🍎 Bad Apple - Trap System

Bad Apple is the twist in the cheat system. It lets you pretend to cheat and bait your opponent into a trap.

When you press the Cheat button, instead of choosing a real cheat card, you can play Bad Apple.

• If the opponent challenges: They fall into the trap, receive a penalty, and you come out ahead.
• If the opponent does not challenge: The trap backfires on you, you receive a penalty, and you lose your turn.

Bad Apple makes opponents wonder, "Is this really a cheat this time?" You have a limited number of uses, so be careful. You can track your remaining Bad Apples by the icons next to your life icon.

⚡ Cards

🔢 Color and Number Cards

These are standard gameplay cards. They are played by matching color or number.

🎴 Special Cards

+4 and similar draw cards:
Makes the next player draw cards. If an opponent plays a +4, +13, or similar draw card against you, you can play another draw card to pass the penalty to the next player. If you cannot do this, you must draw the cards.

Card Shield:
Cancels the draw effect used against you. It is used as a defense against draw cards.

Acid:
Removes cards of the same color from your hand. It does not affect colorless special cards.

Acid King:
Removes cards of the chosen color from your hand. It does not affect colorless special cards.
For example: Cadillac, Swap, Color Change, Gift, Pass All Dynamite.

Reverse:
Reverses the turn order.

Color Change:
Lets you choose a new active color.

Stop:
Skips the next player for one turn.

💣 Powerful and Dangerous Cards

Gift:
Gives a red dynamite to the selected opponent. If the opponent already has a red dynamite, its countdown speeds up.

Pass All Dynamite:
Moves all dynamites on the table to the next player.

Cadillac:
Falls on the selected opponent's head and makes them lose 1 life.

Paint Can:
Turns all cards in your hand into a single color. It does not affect colorless special cards.
For example: Acid King, Cadillac, Swap, Color Change, Gift, Pass All Dynamite.

Swap:
Swaps your hand with the selected opponent's hand.

Note:
These cards can also be found in the main deck, but only in small amounts. Cheating lets you reach them faster.

💥 Dynamites

There are two types of dynamites in Cheater's Table:

Red Dynamite: Has a countdown. When it reaches zero, the player it is in front of loses 1 life. Gift increases the countdown speed.

Blue Dynamite: Enters the table when the match timer runs out. When it explodes, the player it is in front of loses all remaining lives. Gift also increases its countdown speed.

🖥️ UI

At the bottom of the screen, you can see your remaining lives, Bad Apple uses, hidden cheat card locations, and the number of available spots.

F1: Quick guide
TAB: Remaining time and game info

Hint panel: When you hover over a card or button, its explanation appears at the bottom.

Playable cards: Cards in your hand that can be played have a white outline.

Group by color: Click the ring on your finger, or press G, to group your cards by color.

⌨️ Controls

🎥 Movement and Camera

- **W A S D:** Move
- **Space:** Switch camera
- **Z:** Toggle camera lock
- **F:** Zoom
- **K:** Ghost Mode. Used to move around the room. Press Space to sit back down.

🖐️ Hand and Cards

- **Hold Right Click:** Move your hand
- **Mouse Wheel:** Move your hand forward/back

• **Shift + Mouse Wheel:** Increase/decrease card size
• **G:** Group cards by color

🎮 Game Actions

• **E:** Play card
• **Q:** Draw card
• **X:** Pass
• **C:** Cheat

💬 Communication

• **V:** Voice chat
• **Enter:** Text chat

🧠 Tips

Do not focus only on emptying your own hand. Keep track of how many cards your opponents have, what they play, and what they might be hiding.

Cheating is powerful, but it is not free. A player who cheats repeatedly becomes an easy target.

Paint Can, Acid, and Cadillac can change the balance of the table in an instant. Wait for the right moment.

Do not waste Bad Apple too early. It is strongest when an opponent is already convinced you are cheating.

In Lab mode, adjust the parameters to match your own style. Shorter rounds, more dynamites, fewer lives - every setting creates a different game.

The Q and X shortcuts can be life-saving when blue dynamites appear and the final seconds are ticking down.