

RULES

The first player takes the top card from the deck and chooses one of the titles on it – it could be the name of a movie, TV show, book, play or song.

Once the timer's flipped, the player acts out the title with actions alone – no speaking allowed. The others have just a minute to guess correctly, or the player has to put the card to the bottom of the pack, choose another one and play again. The person who guesses correctly gets to keep the card and decide who goes next. Play continues until all the cards have gone. The player with the most cards is the winner.

Charades

instructions

SET UP

Split into teams. Shuffle the pack and place face down in the middle. Decide who goes first and familiarise yourselves with the classic mime tips explained on the right. →

AIM OF THE GAME

To be the player or team with the most cards when the pack's run out.

CLASSIC MIME TIPS

NUMBERS

Count up the number of words in the title, then hold up that many fingers. Next, indicate which of these words you're acting – first, second, third etc – by holding up that number of fingers.

If you're going to act out 'the whole thing', just draw a big circle in the air.

CATEGORIES

Use these actions to indicate the category you've chosen:

Movie: Pretend to crank an old-fashioned movie camera.

TV show: Draw a rectangle in the air to signify a TV screen.

Book: Put your hands together then unfold, palms upwards, as though you're opening a book.

Play: Place your palms together, then draw them apart like a theatre curtain opening.

Song: Throw your arms wide open like you're singing an opera.