



White Elephant * Yankee Swap



Gift Exchange

How to play:

1. Each guest brings a wrapped gift to contribute to the gift exchange

The gift topic or theme should be chosen beforehand by the host.

2. Guests draw numbers to determine gifting order

Draw numbers from a hat, and go in order from 1 to how many ever guests there are participating.

3. Guests should sit where they can see everyone else, and all the gifts

Everyone sitting within eye-shot of all gifts and participants make playing easier.

4. Guest who drew #1 selects a gift from the pool and opens it

Show the gift and tell everyone what it is! Guest #1 goes first, and gets to choose if they want to swap gifts last!

5. Sequential guests can choose to either pick an unwrapped gift or take a previous guest's gift

Guests who get their gift taken must must unwrap a new gift and can choose to keep that gift or trade it with another.

6. After all participants have had a turn, the first participant may swap the gift they are holding for any other gift

The first participant only needs to swap the gift if they wish.

A popular variation: Once all gifts are open, if and after guest #1 swaps with another, that guest may choose to swap the gift for another person and so on. The game stops when one sequential player states they will keep the gift they've just received in the final swap round.

Note: There are many variations, some variations can make the gift exchange last a very long time, while others aim to shorten the length of time the gift exchange takes. All variations are fun and entertaining – there's no one right way to play!