

International Sock Sort Championship

Ladies and Gentlemen! Welcome to the *International Sock Sort Championship!* Contestants compete to match as many pairs of socks as they can before time runs out. They're not just going against the *clock*. No! They're competing against *each other*, even going so far as to add socks to an opponent's **Sock Basket** to slow them down! ***Oh, the excitement!***

Each contestant is given a basket of socks (*draw pile*) which sits directly in front of them on the playing surface.

Shuffle the deck extra-thoroughly, then for 2 players, each player is dealt 30 cards.

For 3, each player is dealt 20.

For 4, each player is dealt 15.

For 5 or 6, each player is dealt 11.

When the game begins, all contestants toss 1 sock face-up into the middle of the **Sorting Area** (*central playing area*) from their **Sock Basket**. These are the first socks able to be matched with their pair. Contestants now draw one sock out of their **Basket** and decide if it can match any of the socks in the **Sorting Area**. If there's a match, the contestant takes both socks and stores them away for now, adding one point to their score for each matched pair. If they cannot match that sock, they may either toss it in the **Sorting Area** or they may toss it into an opponent's **Sock Basket** (*it goes on the bottom of the draw pile*). Contestants may only toss socks into another **Basket** if they have *already matched at least two pairs*. If you haven't matched two pairs, yet, you may only toss socks into the **Sorting Area**.

The game is over when one contestant's **Sock Basket** is empty. The "timer" runs out. The contestant who has the *most points* wins the game!

If you're playing a game with bigger little kids (talking to you, adults), contestants draw 3 socks and must use all 3 before drawing 3 more. *You may not match socks from this pull* - each of the 3 socks must be matched to a sock already in play, sent to the **Sorting Area**, or sent to an opponent's **Basket**.

Notes:

*You don't want to just run out of Basket cards and finish the game quickly unless you have enough points to win. Running out of cards doesn't mean you win.

*For a longer game, additional decks can be purchased, then multiply **Basket** cards dealt by 2.

*This game was designed for young players who are learning about patterns and colors, or even those who cannot yet read. It can be utilized by educators and parents to help children of different ages and development stages interpret patterns and colors.

*Parents, you can play this with real socks on laundry day to add some fun to the chore of sorting socks.

**Thanks for playing, and we hope you enjoy the
*International Sock Sort Championship!***