



# BEES

*the secret kingdom*



**GAME RULES**



**VAN  
RYDER  
GAMES**

## About the game

*Bees: The Secret Kingdom* is a card game for **2-6** players. During the game, you will gather different types of pollen and deliver them to your beehive. To become the busiest Busy Bee, produce honey from your pollen and collect the most **Victory Points (VP)**! But, first things first. Let's start by getting you familiar with your box content.

### Game components

- **Gathering Cards** x 22
- **Honey Cards** x 48
- **Beehive Cards** x 5
- **Pollen Gems** x 80 (20 in each color)

## Set up the game

1. Take the **Gathering Cards** and shuffle them together. This is your **Gathering Deck**.
2. Shuffle the **Honey Cards** and create a **Honey Deck** of **5** cards per player plus **5** additional cards. Remove the remaining Honey Cards, they will not be needed.

**EXAMPLE:** for a 2-player game, you need **15** cards, for a 3-player game you need **20** cards, etc.

3. Place the Honey Deck in the middle of the play area. Draw **4** cards from the top of the deck and place them face up on the table.

**ADVANCED MODE:** take **3** random **Beehive Cards** and place them face up next to your play area.

4. Place the **Pollen Gems** within easy reach of each player.
5. The youngest participant becomes the starting player.
6. The Starting player chooses **1** Pollen Gem of any color. Going clock-wise, each other player chooses **2** Pollen Gems of any colors.

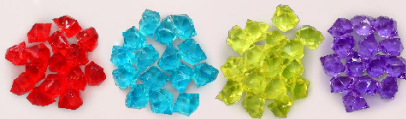


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### GATHERING DECK



### AVAILABLE POLLEN GEMS POOL



### HONEY DECK



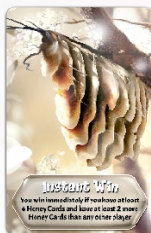
5 CARDS PER PLAYER  
PLUS 5 EXTRA CARDS

**NO CARDS IN THE GATHERING DECK:**  
if there are no more cards in the Gathering Deck, shuffle the discard pile into a new Gathering Deck.

### 4 AVAILABLE HONEY CARDS



### ADVANCED MODE



### 3 BEEHIVE CARDS

3

## HONEY CARD

VICTORY POINTS (VP)



ANY COLOR POLLEN SYMBOL



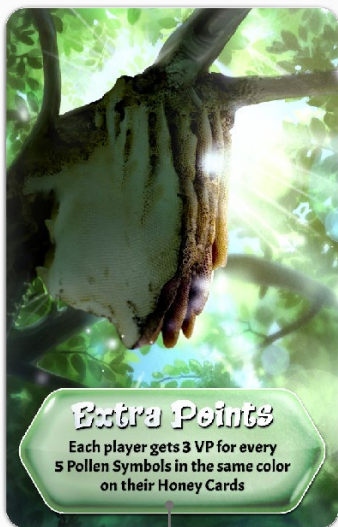
POLLEN SYMBOLS

ACTION TEXT

## BEEHIVE CARDS (ADVANCED MODE)



VICTORY CONDITIONS



SPECIAL RULES



## Playing the game

*Bees* is played over a number of turns and begins with the starting player. On your turn, you will take one of the two possible actions: **Gather Pollen** or **Produce Honey**. After you are done performing your selected action and resolving any additional card effects, the turn is passed to the player to your left.

### **ACTION: GATHER POLLEN**

On your turn, draw **2** Gathering Cards from the top of the deck. Choose **1** card to play, and discard the other. Place the discarded card **face up** near the Gathering Deck. Take Pollen Gems corresponding to the **Pollen Symbols** in the **upper right** corner of the card. After you have taken your Gems, each other player may take **1** Pollen Gem corresponding to any of the symbols in **lower left** corner of the card. Then, discard the played Gathering Card.

Whenever **Gathering Deck** is empty, take all discarded **Gathering Cards**, shuffle them and create a new one.

#### GATHERING CARD



**POLLEN SYMBOLS**  
FOR THE PLAYER  
PERFORMING  
GATHER ACTION

CHOOSE FROM  
SYMBOL

**POLLEN SYMBOLS**  
OTHER PLAYERS  
CHOOSE FROM

**EXCEPTION:**

if you play the Gathering Card with all **4** Pollen Symbols, each other player also gains Pollen Gems of all **4** colors.

**POLLEN GEM LIMIT:**

each player may have a maximum of **3** Pollen Gems of the same color. If you were to gather a Gem above that limit, you simply don't take it.

**ACTION: PRODUCE HONEY**

Buy **1** Honey Card from the display. Pay by discarding Pollen Gems corresponding to the cost depicted on the card.



Gray Pollen Symbol means you can use any color Gem to pay for it.

After that resolve the **Action Text** on the Honey Card you just bought and place the card **face up** in front of you. Note that not every Honey Card has an Action Text. Refill the Available Honey Cards with the next card from the Honey Deck.

## End of game

Players continue taking their turns until the last Honey Card is drawn from the Honey Deck. After this happens, every other player takes **1** more turn. The player whose turn triggered the game end does not take another turn.

After that each player counts their **Victory Points** on their Honey Cards and then adds **1** point for every **3** Pollen Gems they still have. **Players with the most Victory Points are winners!**

**ADVANCED MODE:**

when counting **Victory Points**, also count the points awarded by Beehive Cards. If any of the Beehive Cards specify **Victory Conditions**, the game ends immediately after these conditions are met. The player who met the Victory Conditions is the winner.



# Examples of turn

TAKE AN ACTION:  
GATHER POLLEN OR PRODUCE POLLEN



TAKE 2  
GATHERING CARDS



BUY 1  
HONEY CARD



CHOOSE AND PLAY 1 CARD,  
THEN DISCARD BOTH OF THEM



PAY WITH YOUR  
POLLEN GEMS



RESOLVE ACTION TEXT:  
YOU HAVE NOW EARNED  
1 POLLEN GEM  
AND 2 VICTORY POINTS



**GATHER POLLEN:**  
YOU HAVE NOW EARNED  
2 POLLEN GEMS



OTHER PLAYERS EARNED  
1 POLLEN GEM EACH



KEEP YOUR HONEY CARD  
AND COLLECT MORE TO  
WIN THE GAME

THE TURN IS PASSED TO THE PLAYER TO YOUR LEFT

## FAQ



### HONEY CARDS

#### *Immediately take another turn*

After you take the Produce Honey action, the turn does not pass to the next player. Instead, take another action, then pass the turn to the next player.

#### *Discard all of your remaining Pollen Gems*



Even if you don't have any remaining Pollen Gems after buying this Honey Card (so you can't discard any of them), you still can buy this Honey Card.

### BEEHIVE CARDS

#### *Each player gets 2 VP for every set of Honey Cards with 1, 2 and 3 VP they have*

For example, if you have bought Honey Cards with **1, 1, 2, 3** and **3** Victory Points, you have only one set, so you get **2** extra Victory Points at the end of game.

#### *You win immediately if you have 12 or more combined Pollen Symbols and Pollen Gems of any one color*

For example, you win if you have **3**  and there are **9**  on your Honey Cards.

#### *Each player gets 3 VP for every 5 Pollen Symbols in the same color on their Honey Cards*

Remember that the gray Pollen Symbols don't count.

### TIE DURING THE END OF GAME

All players with the most Victory Points at the end of game are considered winners. If you want to determine the sole winner, you can use **Tie Breaker Rules**:

- *the player with the most Honey Cards wins*
- *if there is still a tie, the player with the most Pollen Symbols on their bought Honey Cards wins*

### POLLEN GEMS

There are more Pollen Gems in the box that you need to play with the maximum player count. The extra ones are there in case some of them are lost.