

## About the Deck

## What are the cards and what do they do?

## Summary:

Before you start any games it's good to know how the deck is built so you can plan your strategies. The King's Keys deck has 64 playing cards plus 4 Jokers and 4 "Kingdom" cards.

## The three "Parts" in a $4 \times 4 \times 4$ Deck:

Each of the playing cards can be divided into Parts. Most playing cards have two parts: a Rank and a Suit. By contrast the King's Keys deck has three Parts: a Number, an Item, and a Color or "Kingdom". The Numbers go from 1 to 4, the four Items are Keys, Axes, Shields and Coins, and the four Colors are Yellow, Red, Green and Blue.
Since there are 4 Numbers, 4 Items and 4 Colors I call this a $4 \times 4 \times 4$ deck.
The four Colors represent four different Kingdoms: Yellow is the Sun Kingdom, Red is the Mountain Kingdom, Green is the Forest Kingdom and Blue is the Ocean Kingdom.
The names of the cards below are: One Ocean Coin, Two Forest Shields, Three Mountain Axes, and Four Sun Keys. Since the colors and Kingdoms are interchangeable you can also call the cards One Blue Coin, Two Green Shields, and so forth.


# \}TKing's Keys 

## About the Deck

## www.JankenDeck.com/Kings

## What are the cards and what do they do?



## The Items of the Kingdom:

The Items represent the most valued treasures of any adventure game: Coins to replenish supplies, Shields to defend your kingdom, Axes for a strong attack and the Keys to unlock the unknown.
Each Kingdom has four cards (numbered from 1 to 4) of each item, so when added together there are a total of ten of each item for each Kingdom.

For example, the four cards below show all ten of the Forest Coins.


Page 2 of 6
www.JankenDeck.com
© Copyright 2019

## About the Deck

## www.JankenDeck.com/Kings

## What are the cards and what do they do?

## Grouping and Matching Cards:

Sometimes you will match cards with one Part in common (Number, Item or Color):


Or with two Parts in common (Number and Item, Number and Color, or Item and Color):


Or sometimes you group cards where they have no Parts in common with each other like these:


# King's Keys 

## About the Deck

## What are the cards and what do they do?

www.JankenDeck.com/Kings

## The Kingdom Cards and Jokers:

In addition to the 64 playing cards there are also 4 Kingdom cards and 4 Jokers.
The Kingdom cards show banners of each Kingdom's color and symbol. They can be used to show which Kingdom you are playing for or to choose one of the colors at random. If you don't see colors well, notice that the symbols on each banner can be found on the Items from each Kingdom.


The Jokers represent the four different items and can be chosen at random to highlight a special Item during a game or they can be used as wild cards. Each Joker also has a different color which is used in some games.

Key Joker

Axe Joker

Shield Joker

Coin Joker

# King9s Keys 

## About the Deck

## www.JankenDeck.com/Kings

## What are the cards and what do they do?

## High and Low Cards:

In some games you will need to determine which cards are high or low when compared to others.
First, look at the Number
4 s are high and 1 s are low. Every 4 is a higher card than any 3 no matter what item or color they are.
Next, look at the item
If the numbers are the same, then look at the items. Keys are the highest ranked item, then Axes, Shields, and Coins are the lowest. So the 2 Forest Axes are higher than the 2 Sun Shields, but 3 Sun Shields will still beat the 2 Forest Axes.

Finally, look at the Kingdom color
If both the number and Item are the same, then look at the Kingdom. Sun is the highest ranked Kingdom, then Mountain, Forest and Ocean is the lowest. If you need to remember just look on the back of any card to see how the Kingdoms are arranged from top to bottom.

The highest card in the deck is the 4 Sun Keys and the lowest card in the deck is the 1 Ocean Coin.

| Order of <br> Importance | Number <br> First | Item <br> Next | Kingdom <br> Last |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Highest | $\mathbf{4}$ | Key | Sun |
|  | $\mathbf{3}$ | Axe | IVountain |
|  | 2 | Shield | Forest |
| Lowest | $\mathbf{1}$ | Coin | Ocean |

# King's Keys 

## About the Deck

## www.JankenDeck.com/Kings

## What are the cards and what do they do?

## Playing the Games:

The King's Keys deck is made for playing a lot of different games for different types of players. Play a strategy game with friends, enjoy a quiet game of solitaire, or spend time with the kids sorting cards by shape and color.
Visit JankenDeck.com/Kings to discover rules for more games and watch "How to Play" videos.


