

## Greed

You can play greed with any number of people, and this game is usually talked about long after the party is over. If you have a large crowd, this game could potentially take hours.

Note in your party invitation that everyone should bring a wrapped gift, and give a dollar amount limit for the gift. Tell guests not to put any names on the gifts. If you'd like, you can ask that they fit a particular theme.

1. At game time, count the number of guests present, and ask each one if he or she brought a gift. Tally the number of gift-bringers and put that many numbers into a hat or bowl.
2. Have each person participating draw a number and hold on to it.
3. Place all the gifts in the middle of a table or on the floor, with the guests surrounding so that everyone can see.
4. Have the person with number one pick a gift and open it, showing the gift to everyone else.
5. After person one leaves the circle, find out who has number two. This person has the option to either steal person one's gift or take a new gift out of the center.
6. If the person takes one from the center, play continues to the person with number three. If the person steals player one's gift, player one takes a new one out of the center.
7. Player three can either take one from the center or take player one or player two's gifts. If players one or two have their gifts stolen at this point, they can take gifts from the middle or from the other players who have already opened gifts.
8. Play continues in numeric sequence until the last gift is opened. Each player can steal from any of the previous players or take from the middle, but taking from the middle is the only way to truly progress the game. This is why it can take hours.

It's a good idea to set some ground rules before you play, or this game can get ugly. For example, most hosts will put limits on the number of times a popular gift can be "stolen" or it will simply progress around the circle in perpetuity. Also, it's a good idea to state that you can't steal back something that's stolen from you or you could end up with a tug of war.