

The Zombies at Friedey's Restaurant have a funny way of making sandwiches. They throw all the ingredients into a big bowl, and when a sandwich forms, they grab it.

Lunch Rush was inspired by the Lord of the Fries deck. But of course you can play it with any Pairs deck.

Players: 2 to 7
You Need: A Pairs deck and a way to keep score
Note: This game can be played cutthroat (with everyone playing alone). But with more than three players, we prefer playing in teams. See Team Play with Odd Numbers below.

Definintions: A sandwich is a sequence of cards in which one or more smaller cards appear between two matching larger cards.

The smaller cards in the middle are called the "meat" of the sandwich, and the large cards at both ends are the "bread."

For example, 9-8-3-9 is a "nine sandwich," made from two 9's surrounding an 8 and 3 .

However, $\mathbf{9 - 8 - 1 0 - 9}$ is not a nine sandwich, because the 10 is not smaller than the 9's. Playing another 10 into this sequence would create a ten sandwich: 9-8-10-9-10

Here is an example of a seven sandwich. If you play the last 7, you pick up these four cards and score them. (See below.)


Note: Two matching cards in a row is not a sandwich, because there must be at least some meat between the bread.

Game Structure: Lunch Rush is played in several rounds. In each round, players will take turns playing cards into the center row, and trying to complete sandwiches.

To Begin Each Round: Shuffle the deck and deal a hand of cards to each player. The number of cards, and the total number of rounds in the game, depends on the number of players:

| Players: | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cards: | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Rounds: | 6 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Sequence of Play: Starting on the dealer's left, each player in turn plays one card from their hand into the sequence in the middle of the table. If you complete a sandwich, you pick up those cards and score them.

Scoring: "Bread," the large cards that bracket the sandwich, is worth just one point per card. The "meat," the smaller cards inside the sandwich, are worth their face value.

For example, a 7-4-7 would be worth 6 points: 4 points for the meat, and 2 for the bread.

Keep your collected cards aside, turning the bread cards face down (to show that they are 1 point each), and the meat cards face up. This will make everyone's score easy to count.

Scoring: The round is over when all players' hands are empty. Record your scores for the round, and pass the deal to the left. After a number of rounds listed above, the high total score wins.

## Team Play with Odd Numbers

With five or seven players, you can use a process of rotating teams. The dealer plays alone, and the other players divide into two teams. With five players, the teams are $\mathbf{A}-\mathbf{B}-\mathbf{A}-\mathbf{B}-\mathbf{D}$, where D is the dealer. With seven, they are A-B-A-B-A-B-D. In a full game, each player deals once.

Because these teams are temporary, each player has a separate score. Both of the players on a team score all of that team's points.

