# **smôl tôk** TOOLKIT FOR FACILITATORS

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### WHY SMOL TOK?

smol tok creates **opportunities** for **meaningful conversations**, **face-to-face**.

OPPORTUNITY

Every card is a question that gives you the opportunity - or excuse - to ask someone something personal.

#### MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

Questions are the essence of smol tok. Every question is a shortcut to meaningful conversations.

#### FACE-TO-FACE

smol tok is meant to be played in person, without digital interruptions. The focus is on being present and listening to the people you're playing with.



### WHAT IS FACILITATION

smol tok is designed to be self-facilitated. Facilitation means making something easier for someone.

In smol tok, your role is to help conversations flow openly and meaningfully. This means helping and encouraging players to express themselves openly and authentically.

Facilitation also involves clarifying what is said to minimise confusion where necessary.



### THE ROLE OF FACILITATORS

When playing smol tok with people who're playing for the first time, it's helpful for someone to play the role of a facilitator to bring about meaningful conversations.

There's no better way to practice facilitation than by doing it. Facilitators set the tone of the game by:

- explaining the rules clearly
- ensuring all players have adequate opportunities to participate
- prompting players where necessary
- holding space in a non-judgemental way
- building a deck that's tailored to who's playing



#### FACILITATOR TIPS

- 1. A facilitator is a player. Participate in the game fully but with a special sensitivity towards the quality of conversation.
- 2. A facilitator is an explorer. Be open to surprises. Whoever you're playing with, assume that you're meeting them for the first time.
- 3. A facilitator is a relay-runner. Players pick up on how you play. Encourage others to step up and facilitate. Pass the baton.
- 4. A facilitator is a builder. Don't obsess over the rules but build a conducive space for meaningful conversations to occur.
- 5. A facilitator is a play-maker. The ball's in their court. You don't need to figure out why people are the way they are or help them to resolve their issues.
- 6. A facilitator is an open book. Be authentic. There's no need to play a character or assume a persona to create meaningful conversations.



### **BUILDING YOUR DECK**

There are 60 cards each in **smol tok** and **dun tok cok**, and 72 in **breadcrumbs**. The different categories focus on:



Build your deck by identifying who's playing and pre-selecting cards that are meaningful to them. You may choose to mix-and-match cards from **these** editions to build your deck. Adapt the rules to meet your needs.



### PLAYING WITH MEANING

Play smol tok in small groups of 4-6. For ideas on other opportunities for playing, download **How to smol tok**.

#### HOUSE RULES

State the house rules before a game begins to set the space:

- 1. Be open-minded, open-hearted, and open-handed
- 2. Respect everyone as you would like to be respected
- 3. Maintain confidentiality between players
- 4. Follow up questions from everyone are encouraged

#### AIM OF THE GAME

For starters, share why you think it's a good idea to play smol tok together. Although smol tok comes with rules, you're free to make up your own rules to suit the available time and space.



### CHOOSE DIFFERENT WAYS TO PLAY

Drawing and Dealing:

- shuffle cards into a single draw pile
- divide cards according to categories or difficulty levels
- evenly distribute all the cards to all players

Order of Play:

- go in a clockwise direction
- let the last player who answered go next

Directing Questions:

- to a specific player
- to all players
- let players decide who should answer it

You read the rules. You know the players. Get creative! You can choose to follow the rules, adapt them, or ignore them.



#### ENDING AND DEBRIEFING

Take some time at the end to bring the conversations to a close.

Ask players what left an impression on them, or what was the most significant question or answer they heard. This will help them to:

- reflect on how they were impacted
- interpret and internalise what was meaningful for them
- get feedback from everyone about what was shared

You could also end with a self-call-to-action by playing the Make Haste card, "What are you procrastinating now?" Get players to verbalise what they want to do and when they'll do it.



## SOME SUGGESTIONS

Journal with smol tok. Pick one question a week to reflect on.

Good conversations go with good food and drink. Play smol tok during meals by seating players in groups of 4-6.

Don't churn through all the cards at one go. Be selective. It may be helpful to focus on a handful of questions to drill deep with players.

Set a time/point limit before starting.

Every experience of playing smol tok will be unique. The answers that players give will change over time as their priorities and preferences evolve.

Consider what follow-ups may be required after the game to address players' needs.



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