

WESTERN EMPIRES

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RULEBOOK

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1. INTRODUCTION

Western Empires is a game of skill for 5 to 9 players covering the historical development of ancient civilizations from just after the last Ice Age to the dawn of the new era at the end of the Iron Age - a time span of almost 8000 years. Each player leads his own civilization as it tries to expand its culture over a map board that stretches across the Mediterranean Sea from Iberia to the Middle East.

Although battles and territorial strategy are important, Western Empires is not a wargame as you might expect when looking at the map board. Instead, the objective of play is to gain a level of overall advancement involving cultural, economic, scientific, political, civic, and religious factors. The player who most effectively balances these various goals will achieve the best score and win the game.

THE GOAL

The objective of Western Empires is to score the highest number of Victory Points by building cities and developing Civilization Advances. This is done over various phases and turns, some of which are performed simultaneously by the players. After each turn, a check is made for each player to move forward on the Archeological Succession Table (A.S.T.). Each step on this timeline represents a certain period of time in history reaching from the Stone Age to the Late Iron Age. Advancement there will provide even more Victory Points. The winner will not necessarily be the first player to reach the end of the A.S.T. or the player with the highest number of cities or Civilization Advances, although these are the key factors in determining the winner.

DESCRIPTION OF PLAY

Each civilization begins with a single population token and every turn each player increases his population by adding tokens to each area he occupies. These tokens can be moved over the map board by land, or by sea using ships. Since each area has a population limit, a good strategic overview will give players an advantage in occupying more and more areas. If players manage to move sufficient tokens into areas, they can build a city there. These cities generate trade cards which will eventually lead to knowledge and wealth.

During trade sessions, players receive not only the commodities they need to complete sets; they might also encounter calamities which will remove population or cities. Specific Civilization Advances will protect the players from natural or civic calamities. The development of these Civilization Advances is symbolized by turning in sets of trading goods, as wealthier civilizations will acquire more Civilization Advances.

As civilizations develop, it will be harder for their rulers to find the right balance between population growth, maintaining enough support for their cities and increasing their treasury. If they fail to manage their token population, their cities might eventually revolt during the Tax collection phase. The civilizations with the strongest economy traditionally score the highest.

LENGTH OF A GAME

A game of Western Empires can take 8-12 hours to complete, depending on the number of players and their experience. The game also includes the beginner-scenario 'The First Game', which will take only 1-2 hours. Another scenario, 'The Short Game', provides the same excitement as the full game, although the game starts in a later age. This way games can be played in 'just' 5-8 hours.

DEVELOPMENT

At the start of this century, both John Rodriguez, living in Texas, and Flo de Haan and Gerart de Haan, living in the Netherlands, picked up the idea to expand and develop their favorite game by Francis Tresham: Civilization. Maps grew bigger, accommodating more players, and more development was done. As soon as Flo and John met through a forum, they decided to work together to develop Mega Civilization, each on either side of the ocean. A new approach with new original rules. It took about ten years of development and testing, as 18 players is not a team you gather every week. In 2015 the game was actually published in a wooden case. The product is an astounding achievement, weighing no less than 11 kilos, a map board stretching over 2 meters, containing over 2000 tokens and 1500 playing cards. A limited edition of 3000 numbered copies found their way into the gaming world. In 2019 the game was renamed 'Mega Empires'.



What's the difference between Mega Empires, and this version Western Empires?

Rather than developing a game for 18 players straight, Mega Empires was initially designed as two equally divisible games, Western Empires and Eastern Empires. Both games could be played standalone with 5-9 players, or - big fun - be combined into a single big game: the full Mega Empires. It took a lot of effort to make either side equally balanced, as the maps are completely different. When playing the combined game, both sides may appear separated to start with, but as the game evolves civilizations will mix up and players may find their population scattered around the full map.

This standalone edition, Western Empires, is obviously the Western part of the full Mega Empires.

We would like to thank: Martin Brodén, Jeffrey Brent McBeth, Judith van der Molen, Miquel Schumacher, Michael Bruinsma, Jacob Boersma, Jochem van Dijk, Mirjam Molenkamp, David van Nederveen Meerkerk, Johannes van der Horst, Bob Feis, Ronald Engeringh, Mike Droog, Marcel Remijn, Tony Lemmers, Bill Kohler, Florian Buhr, Christophe Dubreuil, Oriel Maxime, Matthew Smith, JR Honeycutt, and all the play-testers and the contributors of the Civproject forum.

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2. GAME COMPONENTS

2 Map boards



1 Rulebook



1 'The First Game' scenario booklet



1080 Tokens

9 civilizations, each consisting of:



55 population tokens
(+1 spare)



9 cities

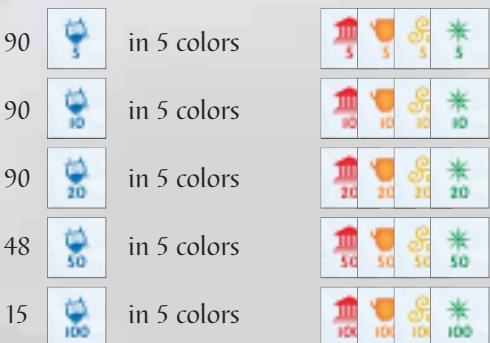


4 AST / Census markers



4 ships

Credit tokens



Barbarians



9 Pirate cities



27 Barbarian tokens

Turn markers

1 turn marker
(+1 spare)



Out of play tokens



9 double sided player mats



224 Small cards



195 Commodity cards



5 Spare cards

6 Trade cards holders



24 Calamities

9 Player sequence tokens



9 'The Short Game' scenario tokens



462 Large cards



459 Civilization Advances

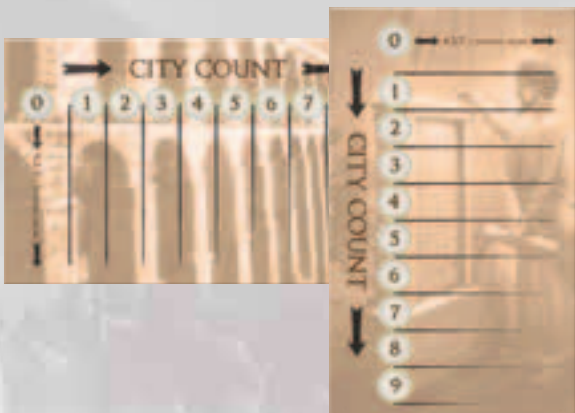


1 Bonus VP card



2 Spare cards

1 double sided City Count board



1 double sided A.S.T. 9 players



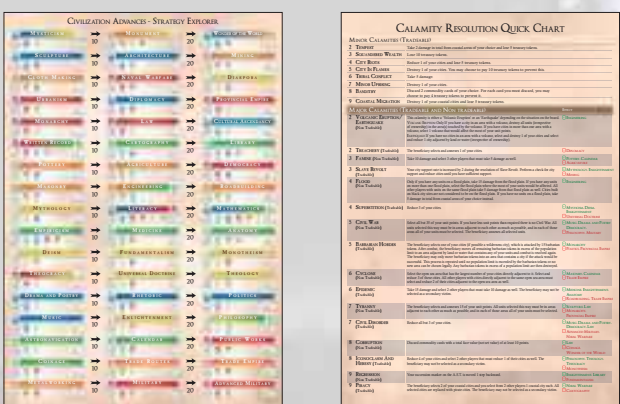
Basic side

Expert side

1 Census Track board / A.S.T. 18 players*



5 double sided player aids



Strategy Explorer

Calamity Resolution Quick Chart

* The census track is used for 'Western Empires'. The backside; the A.S.T. for 18 players is only used in combination with 'Eastern Empires'.

3. GENERAL RULES AND DEFINITIONS

THE PLAYING PIECES



THE PLAYER MATS

Each player uses a player mat to store his playing pieces. The player mat is divided into two sections: treasury and stock, divided by the 'sequence of play'-section. During the game it is important to keep the tokens in these two areas separate. A player has 55 population tokens, 9 cities and 4 ships. The 55 tokens are two-sided: one side serves as population, while the other serves as treasury. So each of his 55 tokens is either on the board, in stock or in treasury. Ships and cities are either on the board or in stock, but never in treasury. Place the nine cities on the numbers 1-9, and the four ships on their four slots on the right of the player mat.

STOCK

By default, each player's playing pieces are placed in the stock-area with the colored side up and are considered to be 'in stock'. If a playing piece is destroyed or removed from the board, it is returned to stock. Tokens that are placed on the board are always taken from stock and, unless specified otherwise, placed with the colored side up. The 9 cities and 4 ships are considered to be in stock.

TREASURY

Some rules force or allow players to transfer tokens to the treasury-area. These tokens are then referred to as 'treasury tokens' or 'in treasury'. Any tokens in treasury must be flipped upside down to show the white side. The amphorae are the symbol for a player's treasury. Tokens in treasury are not considered to be population tokens. If a player pays treasury, the treasury tokens are turned over and moved back to stock.

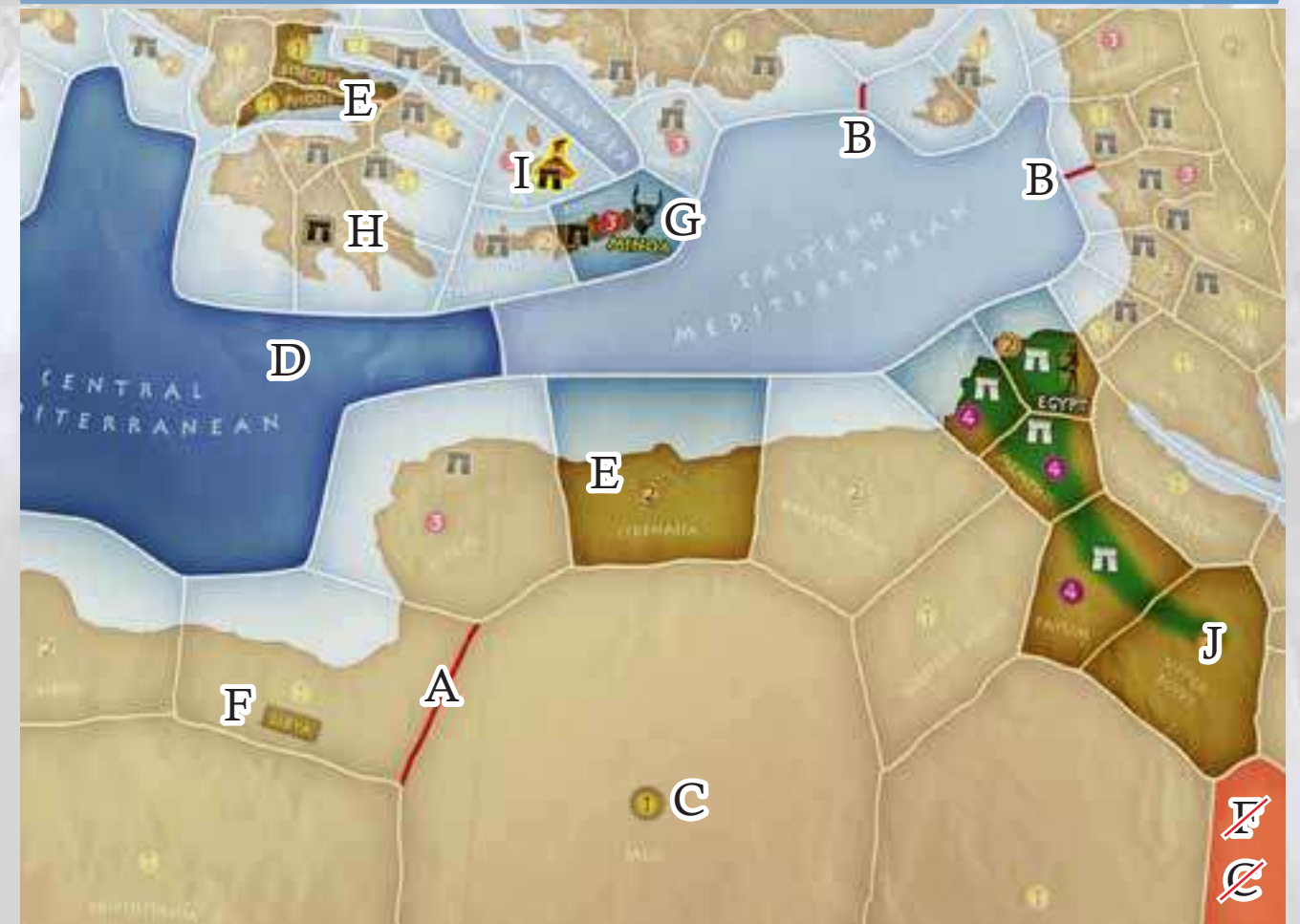
UNITS

Population tokens and cities are further referred to as 'Units'. A population token counts as 1 unit point. A city counts as 5 unit points (or 5 units). Ships do not count as units.

BARBARIANS AND PIRATES

As the game evolves, barbarian tokens and pirate cities will appear on the board as a result of calamities.

MAP BOARD DEFINITIONS



Adjacent areas

Unless specified otherwise, 'an adjacent area' means 'sharing a border'.

- A. **Areas adjacent by land**; share at least one land border.
- B. **Areas adjacent by water**; share at least one water border.

Markings in areas

- C. **Population limit**; a circle containing a number from 0 to 4. This defines the limit of population tokens allowed in an area during specific moments in a game turn.
- D. **Open Sea area**; an area that contains only water and has no population limit.
- E. **Coastal area**; an area that contains land and water (indirectly) connected to an open sea area. Areas containing inland seas such as 'Anatolia' (map board 2) are not considered 'Coastal Areas'.
- F. **Area-name**; if an area has no name, it is considered to be out of play.
- G. **Starting location**; an area containing a Civilization's name and symbol.

H. **City site**; a black or white stone gate-symbol in an area.

I. **Volcano**; a volcano symbol in an area or on the border of 2 areas. A volcano on the border of 2 areas is considered to be in both areas.

J. **Flood plain**; a dark green stretch of land extending over parts of 1 or more areas. All areas fully or partly covered by a single flood plain are considered to be 'on the flood plain'. City sites on a flood plain show a white color. Black city sites in an area with a flood plain are considered to be **not** on that flood plain and thus safe.

Additional notes

- Open sea areas are considered to be always in play, even though their area name is printed on a different map board piece.
- The areas 'Sinai' and 'Eastern Desert' are considered coastal areas only when combined with Eastern Empires.
- The area Chalcis is not considered adjacent to Athens. The same is true for Boeotia and Eretria.

CIVILIZATION ADVANCES

Group color & symbol

Name of the Civilization Advance

Group color & symbol (in case of a dual group)

Victory Points

Cost price

Color credits

Attributes

Additional credits, if present, specified as attributes

Western Empires edition symbol

Specific credits to a single card

GROUPS / COLORS

The cards are divided in 5 groups represented by colors as well as symbols: Science (green star), Arts (blue harp), Crafts (orange vase), Civics (red temple) and Religion (yellow tribal). Some Civilization Advances belong to 2 groups rather than just 1.

VICTORY POINTS

On the right top side of each card, it shows either 1, 3 or 6 Victory Points in a banner symbol. The points are counted at the end of the game to determine the winner.

ATTRIBUTES

Most Civilization Advances show one or more attributes that apply to the holder of the card exclusively. These attributes typically provide calamity protection or benefits in play, however, sometimes they might aggravate certain calamity effects in addition to these benefits. Special abilities can be used once a turn during a specific phase called Special abilities phase.

CREDITS AND CREDIT SYMBOLS

Once a player acquires a Civilization Advance, he receives the credit tokens printed on the left side of the card. These credits give a bonus when purchasing other Civilization Advances of the same group. Some Civilization Advances provide additional credit tokens marked with a ; these credits are then mentioned in the attributes. Most of the Civilization Advances provide additional credits to a specific card.

TRADE CARDS

The trade cards are divided into 2 groups: 'Commodities' and 'Calamities'.

- Commodities show trading goods with a face value of 0-9.
- Calamities show an illustration and either the indication 'Minor Calamity', 'Major Calamity' or 'Major Calamity (Non Tradeable)'.

Trade cards have either a 'W' or 'E' in the top left corner. These can be ignored when playing Western Empires with 5-9 players. When combining this game with Eastern Empires, these markings are used for a different division of trade cards.

The black star in the top right corner indicates that a card belong to the Western Empires edition.

Western Empires edition symbol

Commodities

Calamities

ARCHEOLOGICAL SUCCESSION TABLE (A.S.T.)

The Archeological Succession Table (further called A.S.T.) has two sides. One side shows the 'Basic A.S.T.', the other side is the 'Expert A.S.T.' for experienced players. We suggest to start your first games using the 'Basic A.S.T.'. The A.S.T. is divided into 6 epochs: Stone age, Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age and Late Iron Age. Players start placing their succession marker covering the arrow on the left and after each turn, if players meet the requirements specified on the top of the A.S.T., they move their succession marker 1 space to the right. These rows vary per player and each civilization must stick to his own requirements per step on the A.S.T.

A.S.T.-RANKING / A.S.T.-POSITION

- 'A.S.T.-ranking' is specified as the vertical position on the list of civilizations as printed on the A.S.T., from the top to the bottom (Civilization #), irrespective of the horizontal position of succession markers. Smaller Civilization numbers take priority over larger Civilization numbers.
- 'A.S.T.-position' is specified as the horizontal position of the actual succession markers. The marker furthest to the right is considered to be highest in position order. A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties.

At any time, if a tie occurs between players' activities and it is not clearly specified how to break the tie, it is broken by A.S.T.-ranking.

A **turn marker** is used to show the number of game turns played.



4. SETTING UP THE GAME

Western Empires is a game that can be played from 5 up to 9 players.

There are some differences in the setup rules when playing with 5-8 players or with 9 players. When starting a game, you should follow these adjustments accordingly if mentioned.

If this is your first game, it is recommended that you use the scenario 'The First Game' which is designed to explain the rules to any new group of preferably 5 players. 'The First Game'-scenario will take 1-2 hours.

Once you have finished 'The First Game' you are ready to start a full game.

SETTING GAME LIMITS FOR THE FULL GAME

The Census track board has an 18-player A.S.T. on the backside. This is only used when combining this game with Eastern Empires and playing with more than 9 players. Use the A.S.T. for 9 players for a game of Western Empires only. You can choose between either side of the A.S.T. These show the **Basic** or **Expert** version. The basic A.S.T. is recommended for beginners and casual players, whereas the Expert version is aimed towards more experienced groups of players. The Expert version will take 1-2 more game turns and thus 1-2 hours more than the Basic version. The Expert version has some added rules which will be explained later.

You may consider setting your own time limit. If no specific game limit is set, by default the game ends if the succession marker of 1 or more players has entered the 'Late Iron Age' epoch on the A.S.T. A full game of Western Empires will take approximately 8-12 hours to complete, depending on the number of players and their experience. Consider the additional time needed for taking breaks during the game.

If you want a shorter game (5-8 hours), follow the rules for setting up 'The Short Game' (page 40). This scenario is not a beginners scenario, but a shorter version of the game for experienced players.

SELECTING THE MAP BOARD

Depending on the number of players, use the appropriate setup instructions given in Chapter 5, Map board setups (page 12-13).

CIVILIZATIONS

Take the playing pieces for only the civilizations mentioned in this setup and leave the others in the box. You will also need the set of black barbarian tokens and pirate cities for later in the game.

Randomly deal the player sequence tokens after which, in order, each player may choose a civilization to play. Each player receives a player mat and places all 55 population tokens, 9 cities, and 4 ships on the 'stock' area of his player mat (colored side up). Each player takes 1 token from stock and places it on the corresponding starting location on the map board.

Each civilization is associated with a 'region'; a group of areas which are most commonly occupied by that civilization. However, this does not mean that players should not try to occupy areas assigned to another civilization's region. In fact, to win the game, players will have to expand their boundaries. The regions are specified in the map board section at page 14-15.

Take the City Count board. You can choose which side, either portrait or landscape orientation, depending on how this fits best on your table. For each civilization, place one of the A.S.T.-markers in the 0-section.

For each player, place a census marker on the Census track (in the large empty area above '1-12') and a succession marker covering the arrow on the A.S.T.

Place a turn marker on turn 1 on the A.S.T.

CIVILIZATION ADVANCES

Sort out all Civilization Advances and create stacks, face up, sorted in ascending cost price order. Sort out the Credit tokens and place them next to the Civilization Advances. It is not necessary to place the 51 stacks directly within reach.

SELECTING TRADE CARDS

This is an important part of setting up the game.

For each number of players a specific selection of trade cards is used. For example, when playing with 7 players, the only cards used are the ones that say 5-18 at the top of the card. Leave all other trade cards (that say 9-11, 15-18) in the box. Any mentions of more than 9 players refer to the combination with the Eastern Empires edition, however these cards **are** used in a 9-player game. Water commodities are always available.

PRESHUFFLING TRADE CARDS

At the start of the game, the trade cards are not just randomly piled in stacks, but are prepared in a defined order. To do this, follow the specific instructions depending on the number of players. All water-commodities are placed in a stack face-up. It may occur these cards are not used. This depends on how the game evolves.

SETTING UP THE GAME FOR 5-8 PLAYERS

Make sure the following cards are present:

9 ochre, 9 clay, 8 papyri, 8 iron, 8 fish, 9 fruit, 7 wool, 8 oil, 6 wine, 7 textiles, 5 tin, 6 copper, 5 resin, 6 incense, 4 marble, 5 gemstones, 4 ivory, 5 gold, 8 Major Calamities (Non Tradeable) and 8 Major Calamities (Tradeable).

Preshuffling the trade cards

Sort all trade cards into 9 stacks by number (the large number in the center, or in the upper left corner).

Each stack contains 2 different sets of commodities and, with the exception of the first stack, 2 different calamities.

For each of the 9 stacks take all of the following steps in turn (with the cards face down):

1. Shuffle the combination of both sets of commodities (without the calamities).
2. From this stack, set aside an amount of cards equal to the number of players.
3. Shuffle the Tradeable Major Calamity into the stack of remaining commodities (stack 1 does not contain calamities).
4. Place the Non Tradeable Calamity at the bottom of the stack.
5. Place the cards previously set aside on top of the stack.

For each stack



Shuffle:
Set-aside commodities, equal to the number of players

Shuffle:
All remaining commodities and the Tradeable Major Calamty

Non Tradeable Calamity

Place all 9 stacks in their stack holders and use the same number of holders for discard piles.

Additional rules for 5 and 6 players

For a 5-player game only, each player collects 1 credit token worth 10 of each color at the start of the game. For a 6-player game only, each player collects 1 credit token worth 5 of each color at the start of the game. These credits are not collected when playing 'The Short Game'.

SETTING UP THE GAME FOR 9 PLAYERS

Make sure the following cards are present:

9 ochre, 9 clay, 8 bone, 8 papyri, 8 iron, 8 wax, 8 fish, 9 fruit, 8 ceramics, 7 wool, 8 oil, 8 grain, 6 wine, 7 textiles, 6 glass, 5 tin, 6 copper, 6 lead, 5 resin, 6 incense, 6 herbs, 4 marble, 5 gemstones, 4 obsidian, 4 ivory, 5 gold, 4 amber, 8 Major Calamities (Non Tradeable), 8 Major Calamities (Tradeable), and 8 Minor Calamities.

Preshuffling the trade cards

Sort all trade cards into 9 stacks by number (the large number in the center, or in the upper left corner).

Each stack contains 3 different sets of commodities and, with the exception of the first stack, 3 different calamities. From these sets of commodities, for each stack a single set is referred to as 'The additional set of commodities' (only for the purpose of setting up the game). These are the commodities that show '9-11, 15-18' at the top.

These are **bone (1) - wax (2) - ceramics (3) - grain (4) - glass (5) - lead (6) - herbs (7) - obsidian (8) - amber (9)**. This additional set must first be separated from the rest. For each of the 9 stacks take all of the following steps in turn (with the cards face down):

1. Shuffle the combination of the 2 regular sets of commodities and only the Minor Calamity (stack 1 does not contain calamities).
2. Shuffle the combination of 'the additional set' and the Tradeable Major Calamity and place this underneath the previously shuffled set of cards.
3. Place the Non Tradeable Calamity underneath this stack.

For each stack



Shuffle:
The two regular sets of commodities and the Minor Calamity

Shuffle:
The additional commodity set and the Tradeable Major Calamity

Non Tradeable Calamity

Place all 9 stacks in their stack holders and use the same number of holders for discard piles.

5. MAP BOARD SETUPS

The civilizations mentioned and the colored parts are the areas being used. Place 'out of play' tokens on the population limit of each area that is grayed out in the map board setup.

Map board with 5 players.



Map board with 6 players.



Map board with 8 players.



Map board with 7 players.



Map board with 9 players.





AN ORANGE BOX DESCRIBES GENERAL RULES.

A GRAY BOX DESCRIBES SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS USED.

6. SEQUENCE OF PLAY

TURN-BY-TURN PROCEDURE

The game turn

The game is played in game turns, divided into phases, which may be divided into several steps. During each phase most activities are resolved simultaneously by all players or sometimes in a specific order. At the end of each game turn, players check whether goals are reached and start a new game turn or determine victory.

A.S.T.-ranking order and breaking ties

At any time, if a tie occurs between players' activities, unless specified otherwise, ties are broken by A.S.T.-ranking. Players do not necessarily need to stick to this order and may act before their turn to speed up play. However, players may insist on waiting for their turn. In all other cases, players must follow the right order as specified. Players may never proceed to a new phase before their turn.

The Beneficiary

At several points, the rules speak of 'the beneficiary'. This is a player that often acts as the controller of an event and is often immune to certain negative effects. A player may or may not directly benefit from being the 'beneficiary'.

The beneficiary is usually defined as:

The player with the most cities in stock. In case of a tie, from these players, the player with the most tokens in stock becomes the beneficiary. Next, from these players, A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties. In the case of calamity resolution there is a more specific definition described in chapter 8. Card-specific rules - Calamities (page 28).

Note: At some points the game rules or components refer to 'he' or 'his'. These phrasings are used for readability purposes, but should be interpreted as 'he/she', 'his/her', 'they' or 'their'.

THE ORDER OF PHASES

1. Tax collection
2. Population expansion (and Census)
3. Movement
4. Conflict
5. City construction (and Remove surplus population and Check for city support)
6. Trade cards acquisition
7. Trade
8. Calamity selection
9. Calamity resolution
10. Special abilities
11. Remove surplus population (and Check for city support)
12. Civilization Advances acquisition
13. A.S.T.-alteration

1. TAX COLLECTION

Order: Simultaneous

1A. TAX COLLECTION

All players must transfer a number of population tokens from stock to treasury equal to their tax rate for each of their cities on the map board and flip them upside down in the treasury box. **The default 'tax rate' is 2.** This may be adjusted later in the game through specific Civilization Advances. Only players holding these Advances may set a new tax rate for themselves each turn. Players cannot choose to refrain from collecting tax. If any players do not have sufficient tokens in stock to comply, proceed to step 1b (otherwise step 1b can be skipped).

Example: John has 5 cities on the board. He must transfer 10 tokens from stock to treasury.

1B. TAX REVOLTS

It might occur that 1 or more players do not have sufficient tokens in stock to collect their taxes. If this occurs, all other players must first finish their tax collection as usual. Players that had insufficient tokens in stock move all their tokens in stock to treasury.

Annexation: To annex a city (and/or tokens) means to replace an enemy's city and/or tokens with one of your own. The enemy's units are returned to the owner's stock.

A tax revolt occurs when a player could not fully collect tax from all of his cities. For each city the player could not fully collect tax from, the beneficiary may choose and annex 1 of his cities. This beneficiary does not collect taxes for any cities gained this way in the same game turn. In this phase no check for city support (see 5c., page 20) is made. As soon as a beneficiary of a tax revolt has insufficient cities to replace a city with, a next beneficiary is selected for the remaining cities. If all players have 9 cities on the board, any remaining cities affected by tax revolt are destroyed instead.

Example: Michael has 5 cities on the board. He must transfer 10 tokens from stock to treasury, but he has only 7 tokens in stock. He must transfer all 7 tokens to treasury and 2 of his cities revolt. Frank has the most cities in stock and becomes the beneficiary. He may choose 2 of Michael's cities and replace them with his own, from stock.

If 2 or more players are victims of a tax revolt, the tax revolts are resolved in A.S.T.-ranking order. A victim of a tax revolt cannot be the beneficiary of his own or any other player's tax revolt during the same game turn.

2. POPULATION EXPANSION

Order: Simultaneous, but may be resolved in A.S.T.-ranking order if desired.

2A. POPULATION EXPANSION

Each player must place population tokens from stock in each area containing his tokens:

1 token in each area containing 1 of his tokens and 2 tokens in each area containing 2 or more of his tokens (so an area containing 3 or 4 tokens only gets an additional 2; not 3 or 4).

If an area contains tokens belonging to more than 1 player, all of these players may expand population in this area as usual. It is very common that tokens are added to an area in excess of its population limit.



Tip: It is preferable to place each expanded token upside down so that each player can clearly see which tokens were originally situated in the area and which are expanded. Flip all tokens back to the colored side when finished.

If a player does not have sufficient tokens in stock to complete his population expansion, he may choose where to add available tokens from stock taking into account the above guidelines. This may include redistributing his previously placed tokens this game turn. Players cannot choose to expand fewer tokens than possible. Adding tokens during the Population expansion phase is not considered attacking. Barbarian tokens do not expand.

2B. CENSUS

Make sure all census markers are flipped to the colored side. Next, all players count their number of tokens on the board and adjust their Census markers accordingly on the Census track (cities and ships are not counted).

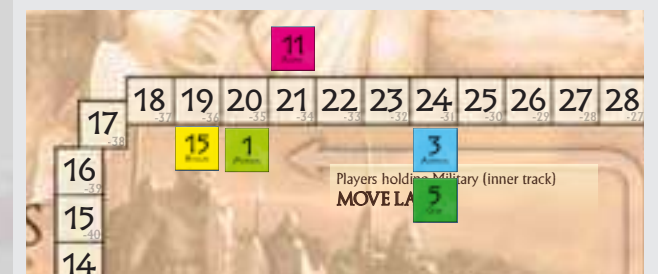
The boxes for 1-12 and 50-55 are combined, since these are rarely used.

Tip: Since each player has exactly 55 tokens, sometimes it may be easier to count the tokens in stock and treasury combined and subtract this number from 55. Use the small number in the lower right corner of the boxes this way.



Place the Census-markers alongside the numbers rather than on top of them.

Use the numbers on the Census-markers to indicate their mutual A.S.T.-ranking order, pointing away from the track.



Use the inside of the track for players holding 'Military'. Their mutual order is again defined by A.S.T.-ranking, indicated by the numbers on the Census-markers.

3. MOVEMENT

This phase is resolved in Census order. The player with the highest census takes all of the actions in turn. After he has finished all steps in this phase, the player with the next highest census-count takes all of these steps and so on, until all players have done so. A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties (see page 9). However, it is preferable that players move simultaneously if possible as this speeds up game play. All players may take their movement action as soon as they like, but players may insist on waiting for their turn. Players may move a part of all of their tokens, and wait for the remainder of their tokens for players that move before them. As long as a player is busy moving, that player may revert any of his moved tokens if he changes his mind. However, once the player declares his movement has ended, by flipping his census marker to the white side, he cannot revert any of his movement decisions. Barbarian tokens do not move. If all players have flipped their census token to the white side, Movement phase has ended, and all tokens must be flipped back to the colored side.

Players may move each of their tokens on the board either 1 step to an area adjacent by land or onto a ship, and may move each of their ships 4 steps.

Ship construction

At any time during his Movement phase, before, during or after moving his tokens, until the moment he declares his movement has ended, a player may choose to build ships. This can only be done in coastal areas containing 1 or more of his tokens. A player can build no more than 4 ships per game turn. There are 3 ways to build a ship:

1. Pay 2 treasury tokens.
2. Pay 1 treasury token and destroy 1 population token from the ship area.
3. Destroy 2 tokens from the board, at least 1 of which is from the ship area.

A ship can be used the turn it is built.

Ship maintenance

As soon as a player wants to use a ship that was built during a **previous game turn**, he must first either pay 1 treasury token or destroy one of his tokens from anywhere on the board for that ship. This can be done at any time during his movement action before using the ship, and this may be decided for each ship independently at different times during his movement action. He may also choose to maintain a ship this way and choose to not move it,

or possibly move it later during his movement action. A player can only pay maintenance once per ship per game turn this way. A player may choose not to maintain a ship this way and destroy it in order to rebuild it in the same turn. A player cannot voluntarily destroy a ship that was built in the current turn or was maintained from a previous turn in order to build it again in the same turn.

Ship movement

Players may move each of their ships **4 areas by water** per turn. By default, ships cannot be moved through open sea areas. At any time during ship movement, the ship may embark or disembark any number of tokens, but a ship can only **carry up to 5 tokens at the same time** by default. After the ship's last step any tokens on it are automatically disembarked in the area. Tokens cannot stay on ships after movement. Tokens may move either by ship or by land (not both). Ships may move through an area containing an 'out of play' token, but cannot end movement or disembark tokens there. Ships cannot block or engage in conflict with other player's ships.

Tip: Once a token or ship has moved or if you have decided to not move it, flip it. At the end of Movement phase, flip all your tokens and ships back to the colored side.

End of movement

As soon as a player declares his movement has ended, he must flip his census marker to the white side. Next, he must destroy all of his ships that were not built this turn and not maintained this turn.

City building

Cities are only built in the City construction phase. In order to build a city, players must have at least 6 tokens in an area containing a city site during the Movement-phase. If, after a conflict, a player still has **6 or more tokens** in an area, he may build a city there in the appropriate phase. Players can also attempt to build a **'wilderness city'** in an area **without** a city site, but in this case at least 12 tokens are required. Wilderness cities can never be built in areas with a population limit of '0', regardless of the effects of any Civilization Advances held by the player.

Causing a conflict situation

As soon as a player enters an area that contains 1 or more tokens belonging to other player(s) or barbarian tokens and as a result the population limit is exceeded (ships are not counted), or the area contains an enemy city or a pirate city, this is considered 'causing conflict' and in this case 'a conflict situation' occurs. This conflict situation may be voided if the enemy player moves later and moves tokens out of the area

afterward. In that case there is no longer a conflict situation in that area. If a player moves before his turn, and he causes a conflict situation, he cannot revert his choice for that token, even if the enemy player voids the conflict situation afterward. The conflict itself, if occurring, is only resolved during the Conflict-phase. 'Entering an area' is defined as either moving a token into the area by land, or disembarking a token from a ship into the area. The movement of a ship itself into an area is **not** considered as entering the area, attacking, or causing conflict. If players share an area with only population tokens and the population limit of the area is not exceeded, all tokens coexist and no conflict situation occurs in this area.

Attacking a city

As soon as a player enters an area containing an enemy city or a pirate city, this is considered 'attacking the city', regardless of the number of tokens used (even if it is 1). To successfully attack a city a player must move at least 7 tokens into the city area or the attack fails. 'Attacking' only applies to attacking a city; tokens can not be attacked.

Defending a city

A city under attack can be defended by moving tokens into the area, either before or after the attack. The defending player should of course take into account the order of movement. Any token conflict involving a city will be resolved during the Conflict phase. It is not possible for two or more players to combine in attack, for this will result in a token conflict between all players involved. Any remaining tokens are considered to be attacking the city, even if the number of tokens proves insufficient.

4. CONFLICT

Order of resolution in a Conflict phase

There are 2 different types of conflict. Conflict between tokens of a single player and a city is defined as 'city attack'. A conflict between tokens of two or more players in an area, regardless of whether or not that area contains a city, is considered a 'token conflict'.

- 4a. *All token conflicts are resolved before any city attacks are resolved. It is preferable to resolve all token conflicts simultaneously. Unsuccessful city attacks are not considered token conflicts and these tokens are only removed during the resolution of city attacks. Any foreseen surplus population may **not** be removed during the Conflict-phase.*

- 4b. *Only after all token conflicts have been resolved, all city attacks must be resolved one at a time, in A.S.T.-ranking order of the defending players. Attacks on pirate cities are always resolved before any other city attacks. If more than 1 city belonging to a single player is attacked, he may choose the order.*

The barbarians

For the purpose of the Conflict phase only, unless specified otherwise, all barbarian tokens and pirate cities are considered as if they would belong to a single player defined as 'The Barbarians'. If a rule refers to players, this rule may apply to 'The Barbarians' as well. 'The Barbarians' do not benefit from any Civilization Advances.

4A. RESOLUTION OF TOKEN CONFLICTS

Token conflicts are resolved in 'rounds of token removal'. For each area in which a token conflict occurs, players must count all tokens involved (ships are not involved). In each round, the player having the minority must first remove 1 of his tokens.

If the conflict has not ended, the next player in minority order must remove 1 of his tokens from the area, and so on, until all players involved have done so, or until the token conflict has ended. If players have an equal number of tokens to start with, they must remove 1 token simultaneously. It may occur that by removing tokens simultaneously the area ends up depopulated or occupied by fewer tokens than the population limit.

After each round of token removal, the check for token majority is done again and a new round of token removal starts, and so forth, until the conflict ends.

End of conflict

The conflict in an area immediately ends if at any time the population limit is no longer exceeded or if a single player is the only player occupying the area with tokens (even if he exceeds the population limit). A conflict might end before a full round of token removal is completed. Any excess tokens remain in the area.

If a token conflict occurs in an area that also contains a city, the conflict ends as soon as only a single player has tokens left in the area. Removed tokens are returned to stock. Any remaining enemy tokens this way are considered to be attacking the city, which is resolved in phase 4b. Friendly tokens remain in the area until phase 5b.

4B. RESOLUTION OF CITY ATTACKS

For each city attack, first determine whether the attack is successful or not. By default, an attack is successful if, after the resolution of all token conflicts, the attacker has at least 7 tokens in the area containing the enemy city. If the attack is unsuccessful, all tokens from the attacking player in the city area are not removed now, but rather during phase 5b.

Resolution of a successful city attack

A successful city attack is divided into 4 steps. Each city attack must be resolved completely, one at a time, in the following order:

1. The defending player replaces his city with 6 of his tokens from stock. If he has insufficient tokens, he replaces it with whatever tokens he has left in stock, even if it is 0. Only if a defender has insufficient tokens to replace his cities with **and** he is attacking another city in the same turn, he may wait for this other city attack to be resolved first. He may do this once per turn.
2. A token conflict is resolved following the exact same rules as a normal token conflict.
3. After a successful city attack, the attacking player may choose to draw a trade card at random from the defending player's hand. If the defending player does not hold any trade cards *at this point*, the attacking player cannot draw a card and this option is canceled.
4. After a successful city attack, the attacking player may also choose to gain up to 3 treasury tokens from his stock. The defending player's treasury is unaffected.

Attacking a pirate city

If a pirate city is successfully attacked, the city is replaced with 6 barbarian tokens, and a token conflict is resolved. The attacker cannot draw a trade card, but may still gain up to 3 treasury tokens.

5. CITY CONSTRUCTION

This phase is divided into 3 steps:

- 5a. City Construction.
- 5b. Surplus Population Removal.
- 5c. Check for support and unsupported city reduction.

All players must take all 3 steps in this specific order. All players take their actions simultaneously, but players may choose to take their actions in A.S.T.-ranking order.

5A. CITY CONSTRUCTION

Players may choose to build any number of cities per turn in areas that meet the following requirements:

- At least 6 tokens in an area with a city site.
- At least 12 tokens in an area without a city site (referred to as **'wilderness city'**). Cities cannot be built in an area with population limit '0', regardless of the effects of any Civilization Advances held by the player.

Each area can only contain 1 city. For each city built, the player removes all tokens from the area (irrespective of ownership) and places a city in the area from stock. All removed tokens are returned to stock. The maximum number of cities in play for any player is 9.

Note: The map board contains white and black city sites. For the purpose of city construction they are treated in the same way.

5B. SURPLUS POPULATION REMOVAL

When building a city, all population in that area is removed. Once an area contains a city, it can no longer support population tokens. Remove all tokens exceeding population limits from all areas. Ships do not count towards population limits.

Note: 'Agriculture' and 'Public Works' may create exceptions to this rule.

5C. CITY SUPPORT AND REDUCTION

After the player has removed all of his surplus population he must check for city support. By default a player's **city support rate is 2**. This means that a player should have at least 2 tokens on the board for each of his cities on the board. For each city that he cannot support he should remove one city of his choice and replace it with tokens equal to the population limit of that area, repeating this process until he has sufficient city support. This is referred to as **'Reducing a city'**. If a player has built any cities this turn he must reduce these cities first. Any tokens newly gained through city reduction immediately count for city support for other cities.

6. TRADE CARDS ACQUISITION

IMPORTANT:

Before drawing or dealing any cards for the first time, make sure the stacks are set up in the right way as defined in chapter 4. Setting up the game (page 10). For any other game turn do not forget to check carefully to be sure that all cards discarded in the previous turn are shuffled correctly and placed under the appropriate stacks, as mentioned in phase 13b.

Tip: Have a single player deal all the cards.

Players are not allowed to conceal the number of trade cards they have.

6A. DRAWING TRADE CARDS

For each player, count the number of cities he has on the board, and move the A.S.T.-markers on the City Count board accordingly, placing them in A.S.T.-ranking order for each row/column (depending on the side used). The numbers on the tokens represent their vertical position on the A.S.T. If all players still have zero cities (Stone Age), skip to phase 13.

All players draw trade cards equal to their number of cities on the board. First the player with the lowest number of cities on the board draws trade cards. Then the player with the next lowest number of cities on the board draws trade cards. A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties. Use the City Count board for this purpose. Players with no cities draw no trade cards. Each player draws one trade card per stack, starting with stack #1 and in ascending order, until they reach the stack number that equals their number of cities on the board.

Players may look at the cards they draw but are not allowed to inform other players about what they drew (it may be a commodity or a calamity). If at any point a stack is empty, a player does not draw a substitute card from another stack. Instead he draws a 'water' card, which can be used as a trade card worth '0'.



Example: Ronald (Minoa) has 3 cities, so he draws first. He draws from stack 1, 2 and 3. Judith (Hellas) and Tony (Egypt) both have 5 cities, but Hellas (#15) is higher on the A.S.T. than Egypt (#17), so Hellas draws first. Judith draws from stack 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (card 4 turns out to be a calamity). Tony would draw from stack 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, but stack 2 is empty, so he draws from stack 1, receives a 'water' card and draws from stack 3, 4 and 5.

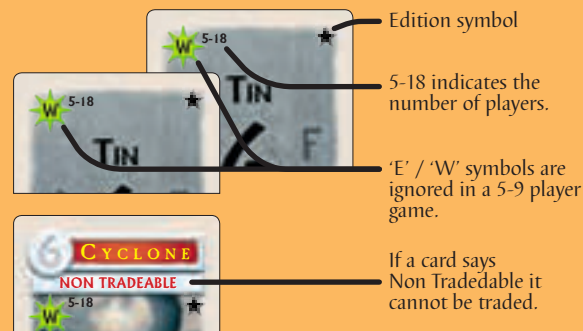
6B. ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After all players have drawn their regular trade cards, in the exact same order as step 6a, each player may choose to purchase any number of additional trade cards and/or pass. A player may look at the card he just purchased before deciding to purchase another card or pass. **By default, players can only purchase a trade card from stack 9 for 15 treasury tokens.** Players are not allowed to count the number of cards left on a particular stack (unless the stack is empty). A player must pay treasury tokens before receiving the card. If at any moment a stack is empty, players may still choose that stack but receive a 'water' card instead and pay the same number of treasury tokens as the initial trade card. After a player receives cards or passes, he cannot revert his choice. A player is not allowed to inform other players what he drew and the player cannot return a card if he does not like the result, for instance if it turns out to be a calamity.

7. TRADE

Time limit

It is recommended to set a time limit of 10 minutes for this phase, using a timer that is visible to all players. Some groups prefer longer or shorter trading times – use what works best for your group.



Face value and the value of commodity cards

A single card of a specific commodity is worth its face value (the large number in the center), which is equal to the number printed in the first box at the bottom of the card. Two equal cards of a specific commodity are worth the amount equal to the number printed in the second box at the bottom of the card, 3 equal cards of a specific commodity are worth the third box, and so on.

In other words: $\text{set value} = (\text{number of identical commodity cards})^2 \times (\text{face value of the commodity})$. Commodities of the same face value but with different names are worth only their individual face values combined.



Value: 3

Value: 12

Value: 18



Total value: 6

Total Value: 256

Calamities

Except for Non Tradeable Calamities, which may never be traded, all other calamities may be included in a trade transaction but cannot be mentioned in a trade offer.

During the Trade phase, calamities do not have any effect, other than acting as trade cards, though during the Calamity resolution phase, any calamities held by a player at that point will resolve eventually.

Trade

The objective of the Trade phase is to try to gather sets of trading cards of the same commodity to increase their total set value as described above. For each commodity type there are exactly enough cards to complete 1 set of trading cards, which is equal to the number of boxes shown on the commodity. It may turn out that a set cannot be completed during a single game turn.

Simultaneously, all players may make trade negotiations with any other player.

Trades cannot involve more than 2 players at a time and each trade must include **at least 3 trade cards** per player.

For each trade offer (per player) both players must truthfully inform each other on the identity of 2 commodity cards, as well as the total number of cards involved in their offer. Both players may choose to mention the names of the other commodities involved in the deal this way, though this additional information does not need to be true. If more than 2 commodities are mentioned, the first 2 mentioned must be true. Players are not allowed to speak about calamities held or involved in a trade, though players may promise a calamity-free trade offer, but this promise is not binding. Treasury or Civilization Advances cannot be involved, though any other (non-binding) promises such as peace-treaties are allowed.

Once both players agree on a trade, the trade transaction is resolved and all trade cards involved are transferred simultaneously. Other players are not allowed to see which cards are traded. A trade transaction cannot be reverted except when a player receives a Non Tradeable Calamity, a different number of cards than specified, or does not receive the first 2 commodities specified, which were required to be truthful. In this case all cards involved are reverted and the players may make new negotiations. Players are not allowed to conduct trade deals in bad faith simply to gain information and revert a deal.

End of trade

Once all players have finished trading or if the time limit is reached the trade session ends.

8. CALAMITY SELECTION

Calamity limit per player

After this phase players are not allowed to hold more than 2 Major Calamities (either Non Tradeable or Tradeable).

In a game of 9 players, there are Minor Calamities involved. In this case the rule is:

Players are not allowed to hold more than 3 calamities, 2 of which may be Major Calamities (either Non Tradeable or Tradeable), 3 of which may be Minor Calamities.

All players must truthfully reveal the number (but not the identity) of the calamities they hold by placing the calamities face down in front of them, so that every player can see who holds what number of calamities. These cards are considered to be still held by the player. If at this point nobody holds a calamity, this phase can be skipped.

If the number of calamities held by a player exceeds the limits described above, he must discard the excess cards at random until the limit is no longer exceeded.

All discarded calamities must be placed, face up, on their appropriate discard piles, 1 stack for each number.

Example 1: David holds 3 calamities in an 8-player game: 'Famine', 'Treachery' and 'Barbarian Hordes'. In this phase he has to discard 1 of the cards. He shuffles them face down and his neighbor picks one. He reveals 'Treachery'. This calamity is discarded. David will be the victim of 'Famine' and 'Barbarian Hordes' in the next phase.

Example 2: Jacob holds 4 calamities in a 9-player game: 'Superstition', 'Tyranny', 'Squandered Wealth' and 'Coastal Migration'. That is 2 Major Calamities and 2 Minor Calamities, so he starts by discarding 1 card randomly. This could possibly be 'Tyranny', the one he wishes to get rid of most, but also the considerably less harmful 'Squandered Wealth'.

9. CALAMITY RESOLUTION

This phase is divided into 2 steps, where first all Minor Calamities are resolved simultaneously, and then, in a specific order, all Major Calamities.

When resolving any calamity, the rules as described in chapter 8 'Card-specific rules - Calamities' (page 28) must be respected. The Calamity Resolution Quick Chart may be used as a guide, however, it does not specify all details, tiebreakers and possible exceptions.

If a player is the primary victim of a calamity that requires damage to be assigned to secondary victims, he first selects these players before deciding where to take his own losses. For each calamity, preferably all victims of this calamity resolve this simultaneously, but players may insist on waiting for their turn in A.S.T.-ranking order if this might influence their choices. This may result in a primary victim taking his losses after a secondary victim.

9A. MINOR CALAMITIES

Simultaneously all players must reveal all Minor Calamities that they hold and resolve them simultaneously.

Players may wait for players with a higher A.S.T.-ranking, before resolving their own Minor Calamities, if this influences their decisions. If a player is the victim of more than 1 Minor Calamity, his Minor Calamities must be resolved in ascending stack number order. Civilization Advances do not directly influence the effects of Minor Calamities.

9B. MAJOR CALAMITIES

One player (or the game master) calls all calamities, one at a time, in order of ascending stack number. There are 2 Major Calamities per stack and the Non Tradeable of the two is always called and resolved before the Tradeable is (thus always starting with 'Volcanic Eruption/Earthquake').

If a player holds a calamity that is called, he must reveal it and resolve it, before the next calamity is called, until all calamities are revealed and resolved. After all calamities are resolved, the calamity cards (and possibly any commodity cards discarded) must be placed on their appropriate discard piles, 1 stack for each number.

A large number of Civilization Advances have an impact on the resolution of calamities. Unless specified as 'you may choose to', all attributes (both positive and negative) are applied automatically.

At this point no checks are made for surplus population, city support or conflict.

10. SPECIAL ABILITIES

This phase is resolved in A.S.T.-position order (the player progressed furthest on the A.S.T. is first). Each player that wants to use special abilities must wait for his turn.

Special abilities

The attributes on specific Civilization Advances that say 'SPECIAL ABILITY' are referred to as special abilities: 'Diaspora', 'Fundamentalism', 'Monotheism', 'Politics', 'Provincial Empire', 'Trade Routes' and 'Universal Doctrine'.

- The effects of these Advances are described in chapter 9 'Card-specific rules - Civilization Advances' (page 34-40).
- Special abilities may be used either entirely or not at all.
- Special abilities that refer to units refer to cities and/or population tokens, not ships.
- Placing, destroying or annexing units is not considered attacking or causing conflict.
- In between any special abilities, no check is made for surplus population, city support or conflict.

Protection against special abilities

If a player holds a Civilization Advance that says 'protects against X', this player cannot be the target of another player's special ability with name X and his units are unaffected if involved.

In A.S.T.-position order, players may choose to use any of their special abilities in any desired order. Players are not allowed to take their actions before their turn, as this may influence other player's decisions.

11. REMOVE SURPLUS POPULATION

Order: simultaneously

Each player must check for and remove any surplus population and subsequently do a check for city support. If needed, cities should be reduced in accordance with the rules described in phases 5b and 5c.

In those rare occasions that there is a conflict situation at this point, it is resolved as if it were a conflict in accordance with the rules described in phase 4, before doing a check for surplus population and city support.

12. CIVILIZATION ADVANCES ACQUISITION

Order: This phase is resolved in A.S.T.-position order (the player progressed furthest on the A.S.T. purchases first), with A.S.T.-ranking as a tiebreaker (the higher player purchases first). If desired, players may make purchases simultaneously, to speed up game-play, but any player may choose to wait for his turn.

Hand limit

After this phase, each player must discard any commodity cards in excess of the hand limit of 8 commodity cards, regardless of whether he purchased any Civilization Advances or not.

The attributes and clarifications of each advance are described in chapter 9 'Card-specific rules - Civilization Advances' (page 34).

Each player may choose to purchase any number of Civilization Advances. Players can spend the trade cards (set value) in any combination with treasury tokens (worth 1 point each). Keep in mind the hand limit of trade cards that is mentioned above, which must be taken into account at the end of this phase. Players that do not purchase anything or still exceed the hand limit after acquisition must discard excess trade cards of their choice to meet the hand limit mentioned.

Credit tokens and discount

Once a player purchases a Civilization Advance he immediately receives the credit tokens printed on it. Credit tokens are not used as a single-use credit; players keep any credit tokens obtained for the remainder of the game. Players cannot use credit tokens during the same turn that they receive them.

Civilization Advances are acquired in a single transaction. Credit tokens count for each Civilization Advance of the same color/group acquired during the same turn.

The default price of a Civilization Advance is printed on the card. This price may be reduced in the following ways:

- Credit tokens a player has received in **previous** turns;
- Additional credits printed on other Civilization Advances players have bought in **previous** turns.

If a Civilization Advance belongs to 2 groups/colors, the discount from the color with the highest value of credit tokens applies. The credit value of the 2 colors is never combined.



Credit tokens held by a player may be counted for purchasing more than 1 Civilization Advance during a single transaction.

Example 1: John has bought 'Music' (80 - blue - arts) in the **previous** turn. He now has 10 credits to all blue cards (arts) and 5 credits to all yellow cards (religion). If he purchases 'Drama and Poetry' (80 - blue - arts) this turn, he may subtract 10, and buy it for 70. If he would buy 'Mysticism' (50 dual yellow/blue - dual religion/arts) during the same turn, he may subtract 10 from that as well and buy it for 40. Even though 'Mysticism' is both blue and yellow and he also holds 5 yellow credits, he cannot add this to the blue credits, as he should only count the highest color credits.

Example 2: (see image) Flo has bought 'Pottery' (60 - orange - crafts) and 'Masonry' (60 - orange - crafts) in a **previous** turn. He now holds 20 orange credits, 5 green credits and 5 blue credits. He wants to buy 'Agriculture' (120 - orange - crafts). He may subtract the 20 orange credits and 'Pottery' provides 10 additional credits to 'Agriculture' alone. Therefore he may buy it for 90 rather than 120. It will provide him with an additional 10 orange credit tokens, so **next turn** he could subtract 30 from all orange cards.

Example 3: (see image) Michael has bought 'Agriculture' in a **previous** turn. This turn he wants to buy 'Democracy'. 'Agriculture' provides 20 credits to 'Democracy'. Therefore for him 'Democracy' now costs 200 instead of 220.

As long as players have enough trade points, they can purchase any card they like. They do not have to hold any prerequisite cards. A player can only buy 1 copy of each Civilization Advance. If a player spends trade points, the combined total of trade cards and treasury used is counted. If he spends more points than required he will not receive any 'change', neither in treasury tokens, nor in trade cards.

If players forget to subtract credit points, they will not receive any change in a later phase or turn.

It may occur that a player can get a card for free if he has built up sufficient value in credit tokens. The purchase price can never be lower than zero.

A player cannot spend more treasury tokens than required.

Civilization Advances and credit tokens held by players are open for all other players to see. They cannot be exchanged or lost. The attributes on each Civilization Advance only apply to the holder of the card and go into effect as soon as the transaction is completed. All effects and credits are cumulative.

Strategy Explorer

When buying Civilization Advances players may use this to define their strategy. It gives an overview of how the system of all 51 Civilization Advances is organized in 3 groups of 17 cards. Each card in the low range gives 10 credits to a specific card in the midrange, which in turn gives 20 credits to a specific card in the high range. Also, it shows the color of each card and the number of credits it provides.



13. A.S.T.- ALTERATION

This phase is divided into 4 steps which are resolved in A.S.T.-ranking order.

For the **Basic** A.S.T., the 6 different epochs and their requirements are:

- Stone Age: no requirements.
- Early Bronze Age: at least 2 cities.
- Middle Bronze Age: at least 3 cities and 3 Civilization Advances.
- Late Bronze Age: at least 3 cities and 3 Civilization Advances with a minimal cost price of 100 each.
- Early Iron Age: at least 4 cities and 2 Civilization Advances with a minimal cost price of 200 each.
- Late Iron Age: at least 5 cities and 3 Civilization Advances with a minimal cost price of 200 each.

For the **Expert** A.S.T., the 6 different epochs and their requirements are:

- Stone Age: no requirements.
- Early Bronze Age: at least 3 cities.
- Middle Bronze Age: at least 3 cities and 5 Victory Points in Civilization Advances.
- Late Bronze Age: at least 4 cities and 12 Civilization Advances.
- Early Iron Age: at least 5 cities and 10 Civilization Advances with a cost price of less than 100 each and a total of 38 Victory Points in Civilization Advances.
- Late Iron Age: at least 6 cities and 17 Civilization Advances with a cost price of less than 100 each plus 56 Victory Points in Civilization Advances.

Requirements count for both entering and moving through an epoch. The calamity effect of ‘Regression’ does not prevent a player from advancing in the same turn, providing that he fulfills all epoch requirements.

IMPORTANT:

After the A.S.T. has been altered:

- Check that all trade cards discarded or used this game turn have been turned in.
- Check that all cards are on the right discard pile.
- Follow the right procedure when shuffling all piles.

13A. SUCCESSION MARKERS

In A.S.T.-ranking order, each player checks for the requirements of the next space on his track and takes either of the following actions:

- If he meets the requirements, his succession marker is moved 1 space forward.
- If he does not meet the requirements, his succession marker stays in place this turn.

Additional rules: Only if the Expert version of the A.S.T. is used, if a player has no cities on the board at this point, his succession marker is moved 1 space backward (except for markers in the Stone Age, where there is no requirement).

After all players have checked/moved their succession markers, also move the turn marker one space to the right.

13B. CHECK FOR GAME TO END

The game ends when the succession marker of 1 or more players enters the final (colored) space. In that case skip to 13d: Victory Determination, otherwise move to phase 13c.

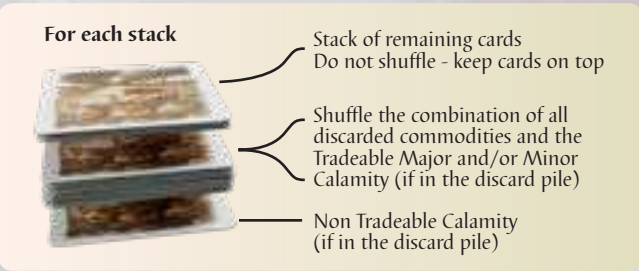
Additional rules: Only if the Expert version of the A.S.T. is used, the game runs for 1 additional game turn after 1 or more players have entered the first of 2 final (colored spaces). In this final turn, player’s markers may advance, stay in place or move back, even out of the colored zone, but in any case the game ends after this final turn. After this second turn, skip to 13d: Victory Determination.

13C. RESHUFFLING TRADE CARDS

All trade cards discarded or used this game turn must be placed on their appropriate discard piles, divided in separate stacks, 1 for each number.

Cards are **not** shuffled into the remaining stacks; the undrawn cards are unaffected. Instead, for each of the 9 discard piles, all cards except for the Non Tradeable Calamity are first shuffled and then placed face down under the remaining stack of trade cards of the appropriate number.

Next, all Non Tradeable Calamities that were drawn this turn are placed under each stack accordingly. This way, the remaining undrawn cards are still on top of each stack and all cards discarded this turn are at the bottom.



13D. VICTORY DETERMINATION

At the end of the game, each player is granted the following Victory Points (VP):

- Cities:**
 - 1 VP for the number of his cities in play.
- Civilization Advances:**
 - 1 VP for each Civilization Advance he owns that has a cost price of less than 100.
 - 3 VP for each Civilization Advance he owns that has a cost price between 100 and 200.
 - 6 VP for each Civilization Advance he owns that has a cost price of more than 200.
- A.S.T.-position:**
 - 5 VP for every step he has taken on the A.S.T. These values are printed at the bottom.
- A.S.T.-bonus:**
 - Only if a single player moves his succession marker into the ‘Late Iron Age’ epoch he receives the 5 Victory Points bonus card. If more than 1 player did so, this bonus card is not granted to anyone.

When using the Expert A.S.T.: As soon as that player moves his succession marker into the first of two ‘Late Iron Age’ epoch columns, he is granted the 5 Victory Points bonus card, regardless of what happens in the additional (final) game turn.

The player with the highest number of Victory Points is the winner!

If two or more players have the same number of points, ties are broken in the following order:

- I. The position of their succession marker on the A.S.T. At this point, in the case of equal positions, A.S.T.-ranking does not break ties.
- II. The player with the single largest number of Civilization Advances (in order):
 - worth 6 VP.
 - worth 3 VP.
- III. The total price of all Civilization Advances the player holds.
- IV. The highest total value of credit tokens of a single color.
- V. The highest total value of all of credit tokens.
- VI. The number of cities the player has on the board.
- VII. The number of tokens the player has on the board.
- VIII. A.S.T.-ranking.

7. LEAVING THE GAME

It is very unlikely that a player is eliminated from the game. Even if that occurs, he is still considered to be in the game, and will return to the board as a beneficiary to Civil War or Tyranny.

Whenever during the game any player decides to leave the game, the remaining players can agree to continue playing following the rules below.

Before the player quits, finish the current phase. If possible, finish the current turn until just after altering the A.S.T. and before shuffling the trade cards.

The player’s cards and census/A.S.T.-markers

- All Civilization Advances purchased by the leaving player and his credit tokens are discarded.
- All trade cards held by the leaving player are discarded, shuffled and placed under in the appropriate stacks during ‘Reshuffling Trade Cards’ in the A.S.T.-alteration phase. It is important that these cards are returned to the stacks, otherwise some commodity sets will be left incomplete!

The player’s appearance on the map board

- Remove all of his remaining ships.
- Place an ‘out of play’ token in each area associated with the region of the leaving player (as mentioned in chapter 5, ‘Map board setups’, page 14-15) and remove all of the player’s playing pieces, as well as all pirate cities and all barbarian tokens from these areas. All units belonging to other players remain in these areas.
- For all of the player’s remaining units on the board outside of the player’s associated region, replace his tokens with barbarian tokens and his cities with pirate cities. These are considered barbarian tokens and pirate cities and may be attacked as normal.

Units within ‘Out of Play’ areas

There may still be other player’s tokens or cities in areas containing an ‘out of play’ token. In A.S.T.-ranking order, players involved must do the following (applying to these areas only):

- Destroy all ships.
- Replace all cities with 5 population tokens. If a player has insufficient tokens in stock, he places as many tokens as possible following his choice.
- Any tokens left must be removed and placed elsewhere on the map board, providing that these areas already contain 1 of their tokens, or in any area within their own region, provided that in either case

no conflict situation occurs. Only if there are no sufficient options, he may exceed population limits this way by as few tokens as possible, only in areas where there are no other player's tokens.

This should result in no tokens occupying an area containing an 'out of play' token.

- All players must make an additional check for city support and reduce unsupported cities.

Continuing the game in the new situation.

The effect on the units of other players is considered to be happening between game turns, after A.S.T.-alteration phase, before Tax collection phase. The new situation does not remove trade cards from the game. A new game turn starts with the region of the player that has left now out of play.

Note: An area containing an 'out of play' token cannot be used. Exception: the water part of the area may be used to sail a ship through, but a player may neither end his ship-movement, nor disembark tokens in this area, nor enter the area by land.

(RE)JOINING THE GAME AT A LATER STAGE

The rules of Western Empires do not provide options for players (re)joining the game once it has already been started.

8. CARD-SPECIFIC RULES - CALAMITIES

Primary victim / Secondary victim

Each player holding a calamity is referred to as 'The primary victim' of this calamity. Unless clearly specified, the calamity only applies to the primary victim and his tokens, cities and trade cards. Ships and Civilization Advances are unaffected.

Some calamities force a primary victim to assign damage to other players, who are then referred to as 'secondary victims'. The primary victim cannot choose to refrain from doing so, except for where there are no (or insufficient) legal targets.

Barbarian tokens and pirate cities cannot be selected as secondary victims of a calamity and do not suffer secondary or collateral damage from calamities.

Definitions

- A **city** is worth 5 unit points, a **token** is worth 1 unit point. **Ships** never count as unit points.
- **X Damage** means that the player must remove his units from the board to stock, worth X unit points.
- **Reducing a city as taking damage:** players may choose to reduce a city when taking damage. Reducing a city this way means that a player removes a city and replaces it with any number of population tokens up to the population limit. For example, if a player replaces a city with 2 tokens, this counts as $5 - 2 = 3$ damage. If he has insufficient tokens in stock, he must replace it with whatever he has. If a player has to reduce a city, it may be any city he has on the board. If necessary, in order to take 1 damage, a player may reduce a city to 4 tokens, even exceeding the population limit, in which case the surplus is only removed during 'surplus population removal'.
- **Reducing a city as a calamity-effect:** apart from damage, some calamities just require the reduction of cities. In this case the cities are replaced with tokens up to the population limit.
- **Destroying a city** means that it is removed but not replaced with tokens (equal to 5 damage).
- **Annexing unit points** means that a player replaces other player's tokens or cities with his own.
- **Assigning X damage** means that a player must name another player to take X damage. Secondary victims may choose from where to remove their units.

- **Coastal cities** are defined as cities in coastal areas. Areas containing lakes do not count as coastal areas.
- **'To pay treasury'** means that the player may voluntarily transfer exactly this number of treasury tokens to stock in order to prevent a calamity effect. If the player cannot comply, he cannot use this ability and no treasury tokens are moved to stock this way.
- **'To lose treasury'** means that the player must transfer exactly this number of treasury tokens to stock. If he does not have sufficient treasury, he transfers all of his treasury to stock.
- Unless clearly specified, if a primary victim assigns damage to a secondary victim, the secondary victim may choose where to remove tokens and / or cities.
- Unless specified otherwise, a calamity has no beneficiary by default.
- If a calamity is canceled due to 'no legal target', this is only checked for during calamity resolution. The calamity still counts as a calamity during Calamity selection phase.

THE BENEFICIARY

If a calamity speaks of 'the beneficiary', for each new calamity, this is defined again. This is a player that often acts as the controller of an event and is often immune to certain negative effects. A player may or may not directly benefit from being the 'beneficiary'.

The beneficiary is defined (at the moment of resolution) as:

The last player who traded the calamity to the primary victim. If this appears to be untraceable or if the tradeable calamity was drawn and not traded, or in the case of Civil War and Tyranny, the beneficiary is the player with the most cities in stock. In case of a tie, from these players, the player with the most tokens in stock becomes the beneficiary. From these players, the A.S.T.-ranking breaks any ties. The primary victim itself cannot be selected.

THE EFFECT OF CIVILIZATION ADVANCES

If a player holds a Civilization Advance that increases damage, this applies to himself only. Also, if the Advance prevents damage, he may prevent this for himself only. This may result in the primary victim getting no damage while a secondary victim still does. The effects of Civilization Advances on a calamity are cumulative.

Unless clearly stated, the (cumulative) effects of the applicable Civilization Advances must be applied to the calamity before resolving the calamity.

Example: Bob has 2 cities and is the victim of Civil Disorder, and holds 'Advanced Military', which says "Reduce 1 additional city". He first applies the effect of 'Advanced Military' to Civil Disorder, to read "Reduce all but 2 of your cities" and then resolves it. This means there is no effect for him, because he already has no more than 2 cities.

During this phase no check is made for surplus population, conflict or city support, nor are these actions resolved, even if as result of a calamity one of these situations might occur or contradict a rule.

INSUFFICIENT UNITS, CITIES OR TREASURY

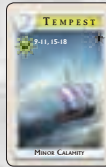
If for any reason, as a result of a calamity, a player has insufficient cities or tokens to remove, treasury tokens to lose, commodity cards to discard, or specific units where requested, he removes or uses whatever he has available to comply.

Example: Gerart has to reduce 3 cities but only has 2 on the map board, so he reduces both his cities.

On those occasions where a player can only comply if he exceeds the amount required, he must do so.

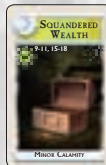
When resolving calamities the rules as described here must be taken into account. The Calamity Resolution Quick Chart does not specify all details, tiebreakers and possible exceptions; it only acts as a guide.

MINOR CALAMITIES



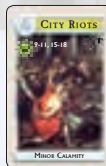
TEMPEST

Take 2 damage in total from coastal areas of your choice and lose 5 treasury tokens.



SQUANDERED WEALTH

Lose 10 treasury tokens.



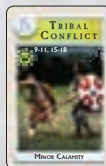
CITY RIOTS

Reduce 1 of your cities and lose 5 treasury tokens.



CITY IN FLAMES

Destroy 1 of your cities. You may choose to pay 10 treasury tokens to prevent this.



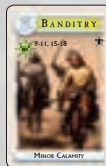
TRIBAL CONFLICT

Take 5 damage.



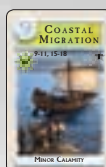
MINOR UPRISING

Destroy 1 of your cities.



BANDITRY

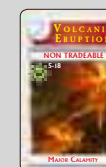
Discard 2 commodity cards of your choice. For each card you must discard, you may choose to pay 4 treasury tokens to prevent it.
- *Water commodity cards may be used.*



COASTAL MIGRATION

Destroy 1 of your coastal cities and lose 5 treasury tokens.

MAJOR CALAMITIES



VOLCANIC ERUPTION/ EARTHQUAKE

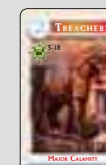
This calamity is either a 'Volcanic Eruption' or an 'Earthquake' depending on the situation on the board.

Volcanic Eruption: Only if you have a city in an area with a volcano, destroy all units (irrespective of ownership) in the area(s) touched by the volcano. If you have cities in more than 1 area with a volcano, select 1 volcano that would affect the most of your unit points.

Earthquake: If you have no cities in an area with a volcano, select and destroy 1 of your cities and select and reduce 1 city adjacent by land or water (irrespective of ownership).

+ In the case of an Earthquake, if you hold 'Engineering', your city is reduced rather than destroyed.

- *There are 3 volcanoes on the map board. Two of these volcanoes are located on the border of two areas, which are both affected.*
- *In case of an Earthquake, if the only option for the second city is one of your own, you must choose that one.*



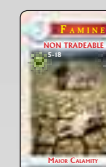
TREACHERY

The beneficiary selects and annexes 1 of your cities.

- If you hold 'Diplomacy', the beneficiary selects and annexes 1 additional city.

- *The beneficiary is the last player that traded the calamity to you. If you drew it yourself, or if it seems to be untraceable, the player with the most cities in stock (in case of a tie the most tokens in stock) is the beneficiary.*

- *For each city that cannot be annexed the beneficiary selects and destroys a city.*



FAMINE

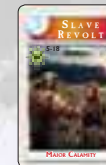
Take 10 damage and assign 5 damage to each of 3 players of your choice.

- If you are the primary victim and hold 'Agriculture', take 5 additional damage.

+ If you hold 'Pottery', prevent 5 damage.

+ If you hold 'Calendar', prevent 5 damage.

- *Even if a primary victim can prevent all of his damage, Famine is not canceled and players that can prevent their damage can still be selected as secondary victims.*



SLAVE REVOLT

Your city support rate is increased by 2 during the resolution of Slave Revolt. Perform a check for city support and reduce cities until you have sufficient support.

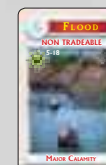
+ If you hold 'Mythology', your city support rate is decreased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.

+ If you hold 'Enlightenment', your city support rate is decreased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.

- If you hold 'Mining', your city support rate is increased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.

- *The default city support rate is 2. Any tokens newly gained by reducing a city this way, may immediately count for your city support.*

- *If you hold 'Cultural Ascendancy', your default city support rate is 3, and still is increased by 2 more during the resolution of Slave Revolt.*



FLOOD

Only if you have any units on a flood plain, take 15 damage from the flood plain. If you have any units on more than 1 flood plain, select the flood plain where the most of your

units would be affected. All other players with units on the same flood plain take 5 damage from that flood plain as well. Cities built on black city sites are not considered to be on the flood plain. If you have no units on a flood plain, take 5 damage in total from coastal areas of your choice instead.

+ If you hold 'Engineering', prevent 5 damage.

- *In flood plain areas any wilderness cities, cities on a white city site and tokens are considered to be on this flood plain.*



SUPERSTITION

Reduce 3 of your cities.

+ If you hold 'Mysticism', reduce 1 less city.

+ If you hold 'Deism', reduce 1 less city.

+ If you hold 'Enlightenment', reduce

1 less city.

- If you hold 'Universal Doctrine', reduce 1 additional city.



CIVIL WAR

Select all but 35 of your unit points. All units selected this way must be in areas adjacent to each other if possible. In each of those areas all of your units must be selected. The beneficiary annexes all selected units.

+ If you hold 'Music', select 5 less unit points.

+ If you hold 'Drama and Poetry', select 5 less unit points.

+ If you hold 'Democracy', select 10 less unit points.

- If you hold 'Philosophy', select 5 additional unit points.

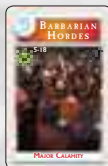
- If you hold 'Military', select 5 additional unit points.

- *The beneficiary is the player with the most cities in stock (in case of a tie, the most tokens in stock). This cannot be the primary victim itself.*

- *You must count all your unit points, and subtract 35. If you have fewer unit points than required (taking into account any Civilization Advances held) there is no Civil War.*

- *If the beneficiary has sufficient units in stock but not exactly the same number of cities or tokens, you must make such a choice in units that he can annex all selected units. If he has insufficient unit points in stock he chooses and annexes as many as possible taking into account the above rule, but replaces the remainder with barbarian tokens and/or pirate cities instead.*

- *If the primary victim cannot make the exact selection, the rule may be broken taking into account the following priority: 1.) In each area all units belonging to the primary victim must be selected. 2.) The areas selected must be adjacent to each other. 3.) The selected units must be exactly the number to comply. 4.) The beneficiary must be able to annex all units in the combination selected.*



BARBARIAN HORDES

The beneficiary selects 1 of your cities (if possible a wilderness city), which is attacked by 15 barbarian tokens. After combat, the beneficiary moves all remaining barbarian

tokens in excess of the population limit to an area adjacent by land or water containing your units and combat is resolved again. The beneficiary may only move barbarian tokens into an area containing a city if the attack would be successful. This process is repeated until no population limit is exceeded by the barbarian tokens or no area can legally be chosen. Any barbarian tokens in excess of a population limit are then destroyed.

☒ If you hold **'Monarchy'**, 5 less barbarian tokens are used.

☐ If you hold **'Politics'**, 5 additional barbarian tokens are used.

☐ If you hold **'Provincial Empire'**, 5 additional barbarian tokens are used.

- The beneficiary is the last player that traded the calamity to you. If you did not trade it after you drew it or if it seems to be untraceable, the player with the most cities in stock (in case of a tie, the most tokens in stock) is the beneficiary.

- If an area also contains tokens belonging to other players, these are involved in the conflict.

- Barbarians may move across sea borders, but not across open sea areas, and they cannot skip an area.

- Barbarians do not benefit from any of the attributes of Civilization Advances held by the beneficiary.

- Barbarian tokens are unaffected by 'Cultural Ascendancy' or 'Diplomacy'.

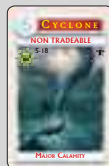
- No trade cards are drawn as a result of successful city attacks.

- To determine whether a city attack would be successful, potential strategic choices based on Civilization Advanced held by the victim should not be considered.

- Barbarian tokens remain on the board until destroyed in conflict or annexed using 'Universal Doctrine'.

Tip: The flipside of pirate cities say "Equals 6 Barbarian tokens".

In many cases the resolution of Barbarian Hordes may be sped up by using these substitutes.



CYCLONE

Select the open sea area that has the largest number of your cities in areas directly adjacent to it. Select 3 of these cities. All other players with cities in areas directly

adjacent to the same open sea area must select 2 of their cities in areas adjacent to the open sea area as well.

☐ If you hold **'Trade Empire'**, you must select 1 additional city in an area adjacent to the open sea area. After selecting:

☒ If you hold **'Masonry'**, deselect 1 of your selected cities.

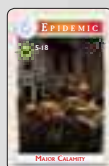
☒ If you hold **'Calendar'**, deselect 2 of your selected cities.

Reduce all selected cities.

- In case of a tie the primary victim chooses the Cyclone area.

- If, at the moment of resolving Cyclone, the primary victim has no coastal cities directly adjacent to any open sea area (before taking into account any prevention effects) then the calamity is canceled.

- Note that while 'Masonry' and 'Calendar' may prevent reduction, this does not prevent Cyclone from occurring, nor does it cancel the Cyclone for any secondary victims.



EPIDEMIC

Take 15 damage and select 2 other players that must take 10 damage as well. The beneficiary may not be selected as a secondary victim.

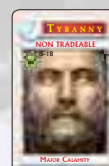
☒ If you hold **'Medicine'**, prevent 5 damage.

☒ If you are the primary victim and hold **'Enlightenment'**, prevent 5 damage.

☒ If you are a secondary victim and hold **'Anatomy'**, prevent 5 damage.

☐ If you are the primary victim and hold **'Roadbuilding'**, take 5 additional damage.

☐ If you are the primary victim and hold **'Trade Empire'**, take 5 additional damage.



TYRANNY

The beneficiary selects and annexes 15 of your unit points. All units selected this way must be in areas adjacent to each other as much as possible, and in each of those areas all of your units must be selected.

☒ If you hold **'Sculpture'**, the beneficiary selects and annexes 5 less unit points.

☒ If you hold **'Law'**, the beneficiary selects and annexes 5 less unit points.

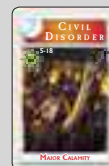
☐ If you hold **'Monarchy'**, the beneficiary selects and annexes 5 additional unit points.

☐ If you hold **'Provincial Empire'**, the beneficiary selects and annexes 5 additional unit points.

- The beneficiary is the player with the most cities in stock (in case of a tie, the most tokens in stock). This cannot be the primary victim itself.

- Only if the beneficiary has insufficient unit points in stock he chooses and annexes as many as possible taking into account the above rule, but replaces the remainder with barbarian tokens and/or pirate cities instead.

- If the beneficiary cannot make the exact selection, the rule may be broken taking into account the following priority: 1) In each area all units belonging to the primary victim must be selected. 2) The areas selected must be adjacent to each other. 3) The selected units must be exactly the number to comply. 4) The beneficiary must be able to annex all units in the combination selected.



CIVIL DISORDER

Reduce all but 3 of your cities.

☒ If you hold **'Music'**, reduce 1 less city.

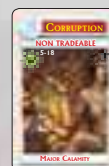
☒ If you hold **'Drama and Poetry'**, reduce 1 less city.

☒ If you hold **'Law'**, reduce 1 less city.

☒ If you hold **'Democracy'**, reduce 1 less city.

☐ If you hold **'Advanced Military'**, reduce 1 additional city.

☐ If you hold **'Naval Warfare'**, reduce 1 additional city.



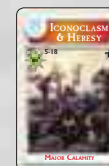
CORRUPTION

Discard commodity cards with a total face value (not set value) of at least 10 points.

☒ If you hold **'Law'**, discard 5 less points of face value.

☐ If you hold **'Coinage'**, discard 5 additional points of face value.

☐ If you hold **'Wonder of the World'**, discard 5 additional points of face value.



ICONOCLASM AND HERESY

Reduce 4 of your cities and select 2 other players that must reduce 1 of their cities as well. The beneficiary may not be selected as a secondary victim.

☒ If you hold **'Philosophy'**, reduce 2 less cities.

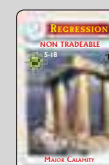
☒ If you hold **'Theology'**, reduce 3 less cities.

☐ If you hold **'Monotheism'**, reduce 1 additional city.

☒ If you hold **'Theocracy'**, you may choose to discard 2 commodity cards to prevent the city reduction effect for you.

- If, at the moment of resolving Iconoclasm and Heresy, the primary victim has no cities (before taking into account any prevention effects) then the calamity is canceled.

- Note that while 'Philosophy', 'Theology' and/or 'Theocracy' may prevent some or all city reduction for the primary victim, this does not prevent the effects for any secondary victims.



REGRESSION

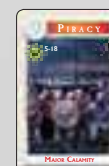
Your succession marker on the A.S.T. is moved 1 step backward.

☐ If you hold **'Fundamentalism'**, your marker is moved backward 1 additional step.

☒ If you hold **'Library'**, your marker is moved backward 1 less step.

☒ If you hold **'Enlightenment'**, for each step backward, you may choose to prevent the effect by destroying 2 of your cities (if possible non-coastal).

- Regression does not prevent you from advancing on the A.S.T. at the end of the game turn.



PIRACY

The beneficiary selects 2 of your coastal cities and you select 1 coastal city from each of 2 other players. All selected cities are replaced with pirate cities. The beneficiary may not be selected as a secondary victim.

☐ If you are the primary victim and hold **'Cartography'**, the beneficiary selects and replaces 1 additional coastal city.

☒ If you are the primary victim and hold

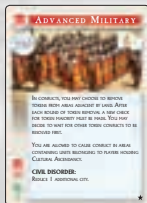
'Naval Warfare', the beneficiary selects and replaces 1 less coastal city.

☒ If you hold **'Naval Warfare'**, you may not be selected as a secondary victim.

- If, at the moment of resolving Piracy, the primary victim has no coastal cities (before taking into account any prevention effects) then the calamity is canceled.

- Pirate cities remain on the board until destroyed or annexed using 'Universal Doctrine'.

9. CARD-SPECIFIC RULES - CIVILIZATION ADVANCES



ADVANCED MILITARY

In conflicts, you may choose to remove tokens from areas adjacent by land. After each round of token removal a new check for token majority must be made. You may decide to wait for other token

conflicts to be resolved first.

You are allowed to cause conflict in areas containing units belonging to players holding Cultural Ascendancy.

☐ CIVIL DISORDER: Reduce 1 additional city.

- In conflict the token balance may change after every round of removal as you can remove tokens from different areas instead of the conflict area. A new check for token majority must be made each round.
- A player holding 'Advanced Military' may wait before resolving token conflicts in which he is involved, in order to choose where to remove his tokens (or ships, if he also holds 'Naval Warfare'). If more than 1 player involved holds 'Advanced Military', the player with the lowest A.S.T.-ranking (highest Civilization #) order may wait for players with a higher order (lowest #).
- Players are not allowed to reduce a city in order to provide themselves with more tokens in conflict.
- If you unsuccessfully attack a city, the tokens that are destroyed from the area may not be removed from an adjacent area instead.



AGRICULTURE

The population limit of '0', '1' and '2' areas on the board is increased by 1 for you as long as these areas do not contain any other player's units or barbarian tokens.

☐ FAMINE: If you are the primary victim, take 5 additional damage.

- 'Agriculture' does not allow you to build a city in an area with population limit '0'.
- When reducing a city, you may immediately use the effect and thus place the additional token.
- In conflict, as soon as you are the only player occupying the area (and the conflict ends), you may immediately use the effect and thus keep the additional token if present.
- The effect of 'Agriculture' does not apply to areas containing cities in combination with the effect of 'Public Works'.



ANATOMY

Upon purchase, you may choose to acquire 1 science card with an undiscounted cost price of less than 100 for free.

☐ EPIDEMIC: If you are a secondary victim, prevent 5 damage.



ARCHITECTURE

Once per turn, when constructing a city, you may choose to pay up to half of the required number of tokens from treasury.

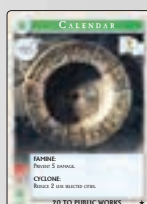
- You are allowed to use the ability when building a wilderness city.



ASTRONAVIGATION

Your ships are allowed to move through open sea areas.

- Your ships may not end in an open sea area.



CALENDAR

☐ FAMINE: Prevent 5 damage.

☐ CYCLONE: Reduce 2 less selected cities.

- If you are a victim of Cyclone, you must first select the required number of affected cities by

flipping the cities (either 1, 2 or 3). If you hold 'Trade Empire' this number is increased by 1. If you have insufficient cities directly adjacent to the affected open sea area, you select all of those cities. Calendar subsequently permits you to deselect up to 2 of your selected cities. Then you must reduce all your remaining selected cities (if any).



CARTOGRAPHY

During the Trade cards acquisition phase, you may acquire additional trade cards from stack 2 for 5 treasury tokens and/or from stack 7 for 13 treasury tokens per card.

☐ PIRACY: If you are the primary victim, the beneficiary selects and replaces 1 additional coastal city.



CLOTH MAKING

Your ships are allowed to move 5 steps.

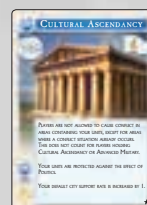


COINAGE

You may choose to increase or decrease your tax rate by 1.

☐ CORRUPTION: Discard 5 additional points of face value.

- You may only set a single tax rate for all of your cities.
- The tax rate effects of 'Coinage' and 'Monarchy' are cumulative.
- If an increase in tax rate would result in a tax revolt, you may still choose to do so.



CULTURAL ASCENDANCY

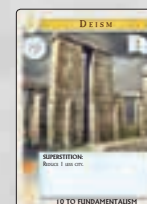
Players are not allowed to cause conflict in areas containing your units, except for areas where a conflict situation already occurs. This does not count for players holding Cultural Ascendancy or

Advanced Military.

Your units are protected against the effect of Politics.

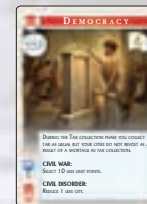
Your default city support rate is increased by 1.

- Barbarian tokens are unaffected by 'Cultural Ascendancy'.
- Placing tokens during population expansion, annexation, Special abilities phase or moving ships in an area without disembarking tokens is not considered attacking or causing conflict.
- An opponent moving a single token in an area that would result in conflict if it stays there is considered 'causing a conflict', even if in case of a city attack the attack would be unsuccessful.
- Attacking a city is considered 'causing conflict', even if the attack is performed by a single token.
- If a player holding 'Advanced Military' moves a single token into an area containing your city, this is considered 'attacking the city'. After he moved (and the token stays there), other players may move tokens into this area, even if they don't hold 'Advanced Military', because at this point a 'conflict situation' already occurs in this area.
- At any moment a check is made for city support (including the resolution of Slave Revolt) you must have an additional token on the map board for each of your cities. When you purchase 'Cultural Ascendancy' there is no check for city support. The first time a check is made is during the City construction phase.



DEISM

☐ SUPERSTITION: Reduce 1 less city.



DEMOCRACY

During the Tax collection phase you collect tax as usual but your cities do not revolt as a result of a shortage in tax collection.

☐ CIVIL WAR: Select 10 less unit points.

☐ CIVIL DISORDER: Reduce 1 less city.

- If an increase in tax rate would result in a tax revolt, you may still choose to do so. If this would happen you can still become the beneficiary of another player's tax revolt that turn.



DIASPORA

SPECIAL ABILITY: You may choose to take up to 5 of your tokens from the board and place them anywhere else on the board, providing that no population limits are exceeded.

- Placing a token in an area containing a city is not allowed, except for your own city if you hold 'Public Works'. In areas that only contain your tokens the effect of 'Agriculture' may be used.



DIPLOMACY

Players are not allowed to move tokens into areas containing your cities, except for areas where a conflict situation already occurs. This does not count for players holding Diplomacy or Military.

☐ TREACHERY: The beneficiary selects and annexes 1 additional city.

- Barbarian tokens are unaffected by 'Diplomacy'.
- Placing tokens during population expansion, annexation, Special abilities phase or moving ships into an area without disembarking tokens is not considered attacking or causing conflict.
- If a player holding 'Military' moves a single token into an area containing your city, this is considered 'attacking the city'. After he moved (and the token stays there), other players may move tokens into this area, even if they don't hold 'Military', because at this point a 'conflict situation' already occurs in this area.



DRAMA AND POETRY

- + CIVIL WAR: Select 5 less unit points.
- + CIVIL DISORDER: Reduce 1 less city.



EMPIRICISM

None.

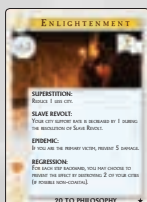


ENGINEERING

Other players or barbarians require 8 tokens to successfully attack your cities. Your cities are then replaced with 7 tokens. This does not apply when the attacking player also holds Engineering.

You require 6 tokens to successfully attack other player's cities or pirate cities. Their cities are then replaced with 5 tokens. This does not apply when the defending player also holds Engineering.

- + EARTHQUAKE: Your city is reduced instead of destroyed.
- + FLOOD: Prevent 5 damage.



ENLIGHTENMENT

- + SUPERSTITION: Reduce 1 less city.
- + SLAVE REVOLT: Your city support rate is decreased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.
- + EPIDEMIC: If you are the primary victim, prevent 5 damage.

- + REGRESSION: For each step backward, you may choose to prevent the effect by destroying 2 of your cities (if possible non-coastal).

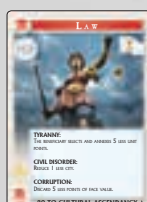


FUNDAMENTALISM

SPECIAL ABILITY: You may choose to destroy all units in an area adjacent by land to your units. Barbarian tokens, pirate cities and units belonging to players holding Fundamentalism or Philosophy

are unaffected.

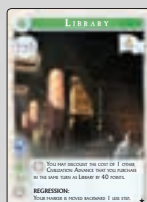
- REGRESSION: Your marker is moved backward 1 additional step.



LAW

- + TYRANNY: The beneficiary selects and annexes 5 less unit points.
- + CIVIL DISORDER: Reduce 1 less city.
- + CORRUPTION: Discard 5 less points

of face value.



LIBRARY

You may discount the cost of 1 other Civilization Advance that you purchase in the same turn as Library by 40 points.

- + REGRESSION: Your marker is moved backward 1 step less.



LITERACY

None.



MASONRY

- + CYCLONE: Reduce 1 less of your selected cities.

- If you are a victim of Cyclone, you must first select the required number of affected cities by flipping the cities (either 1, 2 or 3). If you hold 'Trade Empire' this number is increased by 1. If you have insufficient cities directly adjacent to the affected open sea area, you select all of those cities. 'Masonry' subsequently permits you to deselect 1 of your selected cities. Then you must reduce all your remaining selected cities (if any).



MATHEMATICS

None.



MEDICINE

- + EPIDEMIC: Prevent 5 damage.



METALWORKING

In conflicts, for each round of token removal all other players not holding Metalworking must remove their token first.

- If more than 1 player holds 'Metalworking', their mutual order is again the normal minority/majority order.

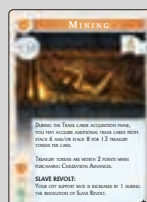


MILITARY

Your movement phase is after all other players not holding Military have moved. You are allowed to move tokens into areas containing cities belonging to players holding Diplomacy.

- CIVIL WAR: Select 5 additional unit points.

- If more than 1 player holds 'Military', for these players their mutual order is again defined by their census.



MINING

During the Trade cards acquisition phase, you may acquire additional trade cards from stack 6 and/or stack 8 for 13 treasury tokens per card.

Treasury tokens are worth 2 points when

purchasing Civilization Advances.

- SLAVE REVOLT: Your city support rate is increased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.

- When using treasury tokens to purchase Civilization Advances you may exceed the purchase price by exactly 1 this way.



MONARCHY

You may choose to increase your tax rate by 1.

- + BARBARIAN HORDES: 5 less barbarian tokens are used.

- TYRANNY: The beneficiary selects and annexes 5 additional unit points.

- You may only set a single tax rate for all of your cities.

- The tax rate effects of 'Monarchy' and 'Coinage' are cumulative.

- If an increase in tax rate would result in a tax revolt, you may still choose to do so.



MONOTHEISM

SPECIAL ABILITY: You may choose to annex all units in an area adjacent by land to your units. Barbarian tokens, pirate cities and units belonging to players holding Monotheism or Theology

are unaffected.

- ICONOCLASM AND HERESY: Reduce 1 additional city.

- If you have insufficient units in stock to annex all units in the area to start with, you cannot select this area.

- If you annex an area containing a city and a token (due to 'Public Works') or more tokens than the population limit allows (due to 'Agriculture'), the extra token must also be annexed, even if you don't also hold any of these advances. In this case it will be destroyed during the next 'Remove surplus population' phase.



MONUMENT

Acquire 20 additional points of credit tokens in any combination of colors.

- You gain and choose the color(s) of the additional credit tokens at the time 'Monument' is purchased. Your decision cannot be changed at a later stage.



MUSIC

- + CIVIL WAR: Select 5 less unit points.
- + CIVIL DISORDER: Reduce 1 less city.



MYSTICISM

- + SUPERSTITION: Reduce 1 less city.



MYTHOLOGY

- + SLAVE REVOLT: Your city support rate is decreased by 1 during the resolution of Slave Revolt.



NAVAL WARFARE

Your ships are allowed to carry 6 tokens. In conflicts, you may choose to remove ships from the conflict area instead of tokens. After each round of token removal a new check for token majority must be made.

- PIRACY:** If you are the primary victim, the beneficiary selects and replaces 1 less coastal city. You may not be selected as a secondary victim.
- CIVIL DISORDER:** Reduce 1 additional city.
 - In conflict, while checking for token majority, your ships are not counted. Because you can remove a ship rather than a token each round, this token balance may change every round of removal. Therefore a new check for majority has to be made each round.
 - Even if you hold 'Naval Warfare', moving your ships into an area (with or without tokens), is **not** considered to be causing conflict or attacking, while disembarking tokens may actually be. In an area containing only your ship and 1 or more enemy tokens or a city, your ship itself does not cause conflict.
 - An enemy token in an area containing only your ship (none of your tokens) is not causing conflict here due to your ship.
 - When attacking a city, a ship does not count for the minimum of 7 tokens; you still require sufficient **tokens**. However, during conflict resolution you may remove your ships as losses if the attack is successful.
 - If your city attack is unsuccessful, all of your ships in this area are destroyed as well.
 - If you hold both 'Advanced Military' and 'Naval Warfare', you cannot remove ships from areas adjacent to the conflict area.



PHILOSOPHY

- ICONOCLASM AND HERESY:** Reduce 2 less cities. Your units are protected against the effect of Fundamentalism.
- CIVIL WAR:** Select 5 additional unit points.



POLITICS

- SPECIAL ABILITY:** You may choose 1 of 2 options: 1) Gain up to 5 treasury tokens from stock. 2) Annex all units in an area adjacent by land to your units. Pay treasury tokens equal to the number of unit points annexed, or the effect is canceled. Barbarian tokens, pirate cities and units belonging to players holding Politics or Cultural Ascendancy are unaffected.
- BARBARIAN HORDES:** 5 additional barbarian tokens are used.
 - If you have insufficient units in stock or treasury to annex all units in the area to start with, you cannot select this area.
 - If you annex an area containing a city and a token (due to 'Public Works') or more tokens than the population limit allows (due to 'Agriculture'), the extra token must also be annexed (and be paid for), even if you do not also hold any of these advances. In this case it will be destroyed during the next 'Remove surplus population' phase.
 - The treasury tokens paid are put into your own stock. The treasury of the victim is unaffected.



POTTERY

- FAMINE:** Prevent 5 damage.



PROVINCIAL EMPIRE

- SPECIAL ABILITY:** You may choose to select up to 5 players that have units adjacent by land or water to your units. These players must choose and give you a commodity card with a face value of at least 2. Players holding Provincial Empire or Public Works may not be selected.
- BARBARIAN HORDES:** 5 additional barbarian tokens are used.
 - TYRANNY:** The beneficiary selects and annexes 5 additional unit points.
 - The victims may choose whether they give their cards face up or down. You may choose whether you reveal them.



PUBLIC WORKS

- Areas containing your cities may also contain 1 of your tokens. You are protected against the effect of Provincial Empire.
- Tokens in areas with a city expand as normal.
 - If your city is annexed or destroyed due to a tax revolt or calamity the additional token is destroyed.
 - When building a city, only if you use more than the required tokens from the map board, you may leave 1 token in the area.
 - If you reduce a city containing the additional token you must immediately count the extra token as population and thus replace the city with 1 token less than normal.
 - 'Agriculture' does not allow you to keep more than 1 token in an area containing your city.
 - If a special ability mentions destroying or annexing all units in an area containing your city, the additional token must also be annexed or destroyed.



RHETORIC

During the Trade cards acquisition phase, you may acquire additional trade cards from stack 3 for 9 treasury tokens per card.



ROADBUILDING

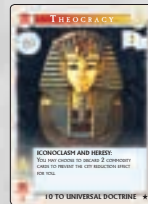
When moving over land, your tokens may move 2 areas. Tokens that are in a conflict situation after 1 step are not allowed to move any further. Your hand limit of trade cards is increased by 1.

- EPIDEMIC:** If you are the primary victim, take 5 additional damage.
 - For each of your tokens, if you choose to move 2 steps, you must do so in one go and then flip the token. This second step may not be made before or after embarking a ship. If a token is in a 'conflict situation' after the first of 2 steps, you may not move this token a second step. This second step may end in a 'conflict situation'.
 - Attacking a city is considered 'causing conflict' or being in a 'conflict situation', even if the attack is performed by a single token.



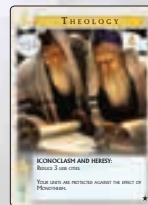
SCULPTURE

- TYRANNY:** The beneficiary selects and annexes 5 less unit points.



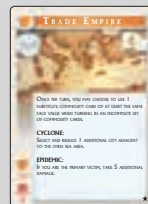
THEOCRACY

- ICONOCLASM AND HERESY:** You may choose and discard 2 commodity cards to prevent the city reduction effect for you.
 - Using this ability prevents your cities from being reduced, but does not cancel the secondary effects of Iconoclasm and Heresy if you are the primary victim.
 - Water commodity cards may be used.



THEOLOGY

- ICONOCLASM AND HERESY:** Reduce 3 less cities. Your units are protected against the effect of Monotheism.



TRADE EMPIRE

Once per turn, you may choose to use 1 substitute commodity card of at least the same face value when turning in an incomplete set of commodity cards.

- CYCLONE:** Select and reduce 1 additional city adjacent to the open sea area.
- EPIDEMIC:** If you are the primary victim, take 5 additional damage.



TRADE ROUTES

SPECIAL ABILITY: You may choose to discard any number of commodity cards to gain treasury tokens at twice the face value of the commodity cards discarded this way.

- You cannot gain less treasury than exactly twice the face value of a commodity card. If you have insufficient tokens in stock you cannot discard this card.



UNIVERSAL DOCTRINE

SPECIAL ABILITY: You may choose to annex 1 pirate city or up to 5 barbarian tokens anywhere on the board.

- SUPERSTITION:** Reduce 1 additional city.

- The barbarian tokens may be selected from more than 1 area.



URBANISM

Once per turn, when constructing a wilderness city you may choose to use up to 4 tokens from areas adjacent by land.

- In combination with 'Architecture' this means a wilderness city can be built in an area containing

2 tokens, using 4 tokens from adjacent areas and 6 tokens from treasury.



WONDER OF THE WORLD

During the Trade cards acquisition phase, you may acquire 1 additional trade card for free from a stack number that is higher than your number of cities in play.

Wonder of the World counts as a city

during the A.S.T.-alteration phase.

 **CORRUPTION:** Discard 5 additional points of face value.

- Acquiring this additional card is considered purchasing for 0 treasury tokens during additional purchases.

- Players cannot acquire the additional card while having 9 cities in play.



WRITTEN RECORD

Acquire 10 additional points of credit tokens in any combination of colors.

- You gain and choose the color(s) of the additional credit tokens at the time 'Written Record' is purchased. Your decision cannot be

changed at a later stage.

10. THE SHORT GAME

A full game of Western Empires takes 10-12 hours to complete. The setup for 'The Short Game' provides a set of rules and pre-constructed sets of Civilization Advances that allow a game of 5 to 6 turns, which means 6-8 hours accordingly. This scenario is only recommended for experienced players. If this is the first time you are playing the game, it is recommended to play the scenario 'The First Game' before starting a full game or this scenario.

HOW TO SET UP THE SHORT GAME

Take the 9 Short Game scenario tokens and make the exact selection as described below.

5 players

Conquering the Seas, Sacred Constructors, Coin and Commerce, Exploring the Deserts, Mystical Palaces.

6 players

Conquering the Seas, Sacred Constructors, Coin and Commerce, Exploring the Deserts, Early Merchants, Mystical Palaces.

7 players

Conquering the Seas, Sacred Constructors, Coin and Commerce, Exploring the Deserts, Early Merchants, Spreading Knowledge, Mystical Palaces.

8 players

Conquering the Seas, Sacred Constructors, Exploring the Deserts, Early Merchants, Spreading Knowledge, Emerging Empire, Mystical Palaces, Cultural Heights.

9 players

Conquering the Seas, Sacred Constructors, Coin and Commerce, Exploring the Deserts, Early Merchants, Spreading Knowledge, Cultural Heights, Emerging Empire, Mystical Palaces.

Now, set up the game as normal, as described in chapter 4 'Setting up the game' (page 10) using the basic A.S.T., with the following adjustments:

- Shuffle the selection of scenario tokens and place them face down in a stack.
- All players draw a token (face down) and may look at it (players may look up the Advances in silence).
- Divide civilizations as normal, using the player sequence tokens.
- In A.S.T.-ranking order, each player may place 5 cities within their own region, as described in the regions setup (chapter 5, page 14 and 15), 4 of which must be on a city site. Remember no cities can be built in areas with population limit '0'.
- Once all players are done, simultaneously all players reveal their scenario tokens and collect the Civilization Advances listed along with the corresponding credit tokens. It is recommended to have a round in which each player announces to all players which Civilization Advances he has received, and what the effects of these cards are.
- Some tokens order the destruction of 1 city when revealed. This is done at this point. After this, all scenario tokens are returned to the box.
- All players draw trade cards as though it was the Trade cards acquisition phase (4-5 cards per player). First all players with 4 cities draw their cards, next all players with 5 cities draw their cards, A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties. If players draw a calamity, they **don't** reveal this. Players cannot purchase additional trade cards at this point.
- All players must start with 10 treasury tokens.
- In A.S.T.-ranking order, all players may distribute up to 14 population tokens over their associated region (player's choice). No population limits may be exceeded, but players may use the effect of 'Agriculture' when they hold that card.
- Advance all succession markers to column 11 on the A.S.T. (just before the Late Bronze Age).
- At this point, all players should have a set of 4 Civilization Advances, 4-5 trade cards, 4-5 cities and 14 tokens on the board and 10 tokens in treasury.

For games with 5 or 6 players using 'The Short Game' scenario', players do **not** get an additional 5 or 10 credit tokens of each color at the start of the game as described in chapter 4. These additional credits are only used when playing a full game.

It is recommended for 'The Short Game' to use the Basic A.S.T. However, if players prefer the Expert A.S.T., the game may not be much shorter, yet different than a regular setup. In this case, do not start at column 11 on the A.S.T., but rather at column 9.

START

The game starts as if it were a regular turn, by collecting taxes. Players may use the effects of 'Coinage' and 'Monarchy' at this point.

Any tradeable calamities drawn at the start of the game may be traded during the Trade phase. During the Calamity resolution phase these calamities as well as additional calamities drawn or traded are resolved as usual.

The game ends once one or more players advance their succession marker to the final space on the A.S.T., or in the case of the Expert version, an additional game turn is played after which the game ends. That is the moment for victory determination.

Tips and tricks:

- In 'The Short Game' some calamities have a less devastating effect than in the regular game.
- This type of game develops quicker than expected. It is more important to score Victory Points by purchasing Civilization Advances than planning for the long term and stay in place on the A.S.T. for a turn.
- It is most important to advance on the A.S.T. every turn. There are fewer possibilities to catch up than in the full game.

11. DIVISION OF TRADE CARDS

Commodity or Calamity		5 - 8 players	9 players	Commodity or Calamity	
Stack	Name			Name	Stack
0	Water	∞	∞	Water	0
1	Ochre	9	9	Ochre	1
	Clay	9	9	Clay	
	Bone	.	8	Bone	
2	Papyri	8	8	Papyri	2
	Iron	8	8	Iron	
	Wax	.	8	Wax	
	Tempest	.	1	Tempest	
	Volcanic Eruption or Earthquake	1	1	Volcanic Eruption or Earthquake	
	Treachery	1	1	Treachery	
3	Fish	8	8	Fish	3
	Fruit	9	9	Fruit	
	Ceramics	.	8	Ceramics	
	Squandered Wealth	.	1	Squandered Wealth	
	Famine	1	1	Famine	
	Slave Revolt	1	1	Slave Revolt	
4	Wool	7	7	Wool	4
	Oil	8	8	Oil	
	Grain	.	8	Grain	
	City Riots	.	1	City Riots	
	Flood	1	1	Flood	
	Superstition	1	1	Superstition	
5	Wine	6	6	Wine	5
	Textiles	7	7	Textiles	
	Glass	.	6	Glass	
	City in Flames	.	1	City in Flames	
	Civil War	1	1	Civil War	
	Barbarian Hordes	1	1	Barbarian Hordes	
6	Tin	5	5	Tin	6
	Copper	6	6	Copper	
	Lead	.	6	Lead	
	Tribal Conflict	.	1	Tribal Conflict	
	Cyclone	1	1	Cyclone	
	Epidemic	1	1	Epidemic	
7	Resin	5	5	Resin	7
	Incense	6	6	Incense	
	Herbs	.	6	Herbs	
	Minor Uprising	.	1	Minor Uprising	
	Tyranny	1	1	Tyranny	
	Civil Disorder	1	1	Civil Disorder	
8	Marble	4	4	Marble	8
	Gemstones	5	5	Gemstones	
	Obsidian	.	4	Obsidian	
	Banditry	.	1	Banditry	
	Corruption	1	1	Corruption	
	Iconoclasm and Heresy	1	1	Iconoclasm and Heresy	
9	Ivory	4	4	Ivory	9
	Gold	5	5	Gold	
	Amber	.	4	Amber	
	Coastal Migration	.	1	Coastal Migration	
	Regression	1	1	Regression	
	Piracy	1	1	Piracy	



SEQUENCE OF PLAY SUMMARY

#	Phase	Default Rules/Values	Order
1.	Tax collection	• 2 tokens per city from stock to treasury.	Simultaneous.
2.	Population expansion	• +1 token in areas with 1 token. • +2 tokens in areas with 2 or more tokens.	Simultaneous.
3.	Movement	• Tokens: 1 area by land or into a ship (and disembark later). • Ships: up to 4 areas by water. • Ships may carry up to 5 tokens at a time. • Ships cannot cross open sea areas. • New ships cost 2 tokens, or 2 treasury, or 1 token + 1 treasury (the token must come from the area in which the ship is built). • Existing ships cost 1 token or 1 treasury to maintain (the token may come from anywhere on the board).	Simultaneous. Players may insist waiting for other players in Census order (Highest Census # goes first. A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties).
4.	Conflict	• All token conflicts are resolved before city attacks. • In each conflict area the player having a minority removes a token first. • In the case of an equal number, the players involved remove a token simultaneously. • A successful city attack requires at least 7 tokens. • If a city attack is successful, the city is replaced with 6 tokens and a token conflict is resolved. • If a city attack is successful, the attacker may draw a trade card from the defending player at random and gain up to 3 treasury.	Simultaneous. Defenders of city attacks may insist waiting for other players in A.S.T.-ranking order.
5.	City construction	• 6 tokens for a city on a city site. • 12 tokens for a wilderness city. • Cities can never be built in areas with a '0' population symbol. • Check all areas for excess population. • City support: 2 tokens for each city on the board.	Simultaneous.
6.	Trade cards acquisition	• Players can buy a card from stack #9 for 15 treasury tokens after all cards are dealt.	City count order (lowest # first); A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties.
7.	Trade	• A trade involves at least 3 cards from both players. • The first 2 cards named in the transaction should be true. • Calamities may not be named during trade.	Simultaneous during a time limit.
8.	Calamity selection	• Calamity Limit: 3 calamities, of which only 2 may be Major calamities.	Simultaneous.
9.	Calamity resolution	• For damage, a token counts as 1 unit point, a city as 5 unit points.	Minor: simultaneous. Major: lowest calamity # first, for each # Non Tradables before Tradable.
10.	Special abilities	• Each player may use all of his Special Abilities in his turn once, in his desired order.	A.S.T.-position order; A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties.
11.	Surplus population & City support	• Check all areas for excess population. • City support: 2 tokens for each city on the board.	Simultaneous.
12.	Civilization Advances acquisition	• 5-11 Players: hand limit of 8 trade cards (after acquisition). • 12-18 Players: hand limit of 9 trade cards (after acquisition).*	Simultaneous, players may insist waiting for other players in A.S.T.-position order.
13.	A.S.T.-alteration	• Basic A.S.T.: 0 cities = freeze (except Stone Age). • Expert A.S.T.: 0 cities = move 1 space back (except Stone Age).	A.S.T.-ranking order.

Notes

- This summary acts as a reminder for default values and rules. The exact ruling and exceptions are defined in the Rulebook.
- A.S.T.-ranking is specified as the vertical position of the civilizations as printed on the A.S.T. (from top to bottom).
- A.S.T.-position is specified as the horizontal position (progression) of each Civilization's succession markers on the A.S.T. (from right to left). A.S.T.-ranking breaks ties.
- * Western Empires only supports 5-9 players. It is designed to support up to 18 players in combination with Eastern Empires.