

Internationale Spieltage

SPIEL '21



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Game publishers are among the winners from the Corona crisis. Playing games with boards, cards and dice is booming like never before. When the world's largest games convention, SPIEL '21, kicks off in October with around 600 exhibitors, countless board and card games, including more than 1,000 new releases and world premieres, will be on display to marvel at and test.

SPIEL '21 from October 14 - 17, 2021

at Messe Essen

SPIEL- the world's largest games event, is fast approaching. When the doors at the Essen Exhibition Center open in October, more than 600 exhibitors from 43 nations will show us the games people are playing right now.

We would like to invite you to this gaming spectacle. Exhibitors will be showing their latest creations to interested media representatives not only at the event itself, but beforehand at the Press New Releases Showcase on Wednesday, October 13, 2021. This year, the press conference for SPIEL '21 will take place in digital format the week before the event begins, on October 6, 2021, at 10.00 am.

Game publishers are among the winners from the Corona crisis. Playing games with boards, cards and dice is booming like never before. And so, manufacturers will once again be exhibiting more than 1,000 new game releases and world premieres at SPIEL this year. There is, for example:

- A new APP-based interactive audio mystery puzzle game series from Ravensburger. In ECHOES, all players must listen carefully. An excellent memory is also helpful. Because in these games, players get important clues when they listen to the scanned playing cards.
- Games that encourage storytelling. This is the case with the FABULA RASA series from Hutter. Here the players try to flawlessly render their version of the story or to deliver a convincing explanation for a crime.
- Games for old-school pinball fans, like FLIPPERMANIA from Frosted Games, which brings all the excitement of original pinball arcades to the game table.
- Abstract 2-person strategy games like DISTRIX, in which players vie to control more than half of the nine voting districts in America's 51st state (Distrix Games).
- Family games where things get lively, like KIPP MIR SAURES from Zoch Spiele. In this game, players try to produce sweets while stopping the tubes of the 3D game board from tipping over using different sized cubes.
- New trick-winning racing games like STICH RALLYE from Amigo.
- Cooperative games like DUNE - HOUSE SECRETS, which is not just a gaming highlight for fans of the novel series (Portal Games/Pegasus).
- Hotly anticipated expansions to popular games such as PALEO - EIN NEUER ANFANG, which contains new modules for PALEO (Hans im Glück).
- BLAZE, a card game from publishing house HeidelBÄR, based on the world-famous Russian card game "Durak". The game box and card backs are decorated with a special metallic print.
- Drawing and guessing games like LAST MESSAGE (Iello/Hutter). In this exciting family game, players must cleverly combine individual drawings to unmask the culprit.
- Games for coffee-lovers like ESPRESSO DOPPIO, which includes three real espresso cup sets whose individual pieces have to be constantly repositioned throughout the game (HUCH!).

- Railway construction games such as ULTIMATE RAILROADS from Hans im Glück Verlag, which includes numerous expansions in one big box.
- Cooperative children's games such as ZAUBERBERG (Amigo Spiele), in which children can gain their first joint experience of strategic and tactical considerations.
- The winning titles of this year's 31st Deutscher SpielePreis will also be presented in detail in the New Releases Showcase and at the convention. The same applies to the main prize winner of innoSPIEL, which has been awarded annually at the convention since 2017 and honors a particularly innovative game idea.

As usual, we will continue to keep you up to date in subsequent press releases and provide information about game trends and event highlights.

This year's schedule for media representatives at a glance:

- Digital press conference for SPIEL '21 on October 6, 2021, at 10.00 am. (no accreditation required).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TO_n_aM7c
- As usual, the New Releases Showcase will take place one day before the convention opens, i.e., on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, from 11.00 am at the Essen Exhibition Center, Hall 1A. This is where publishers will present their new games. Please note that other exhibition halls cannot yet be entered by media representatives on this day, as set-up is taking place under special hygiene and admission rules.
- Please apply for accreditation - if possible - by Sept. 30, 2021 if you would like to visit the convention during the exhibition period or the New Releases Showcase on October 13, 2021. We ask for your understanding that later accreditations will only be possible in exceptional cases for media representatives who are reporting daily. All tickets must be personalized and are non-transferable. Unfortunately, no whole-event press passes can be issued this year. This means that you will receive a day pass for every day that you stay on site.
- The so-called 3-Option rule will also apply to media representatives on admission. You must therefore either be tested (rapid test), have recovered from Covid or fully vaccinated. Please have your proof - if possible, in electronically readable format - your press ticket and a photo ID ready. Furthermore, a medical grade face mask must be worn in the halls. You can find more information about the admission and hygiene rules here: <https://www.spiel-messe.com/en/press/>.
- **Please be so kind as to inform us immediately if you received accreditation but do not need the press tickets.** Because of the expected limits on visitors, you would be giving other media representatives a chance to visit the event.

The link to the online accreditation form is available upon request.

We look forward to celebrating a unique games festival with you. If you have any queries, please contact Dominique Metzler on +49 (0)228/342273, or by e-mail: info@merz-verlag.com.

Kindest Regards,
Yours sincerely,

Friedhelm Merz Verlag
(Organizer SPIEL '21 and SPIEL.digital)

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