

Playing and Adapting Games

Labels

Attach a label that you can feel to board game boxes. For example, attach one of the game pieces to the box. Check out Hadley's labeling series for information on labeling and marking techniques.

Lighting

Use a lamp with a flexible arm together with room lighting. Direct the light where you need it. Put the lamp shade below your eye level, with the light shining from a 45-degree angle. This way, excess lighting shines away from your eyes.



Game Pieces

Use color contrasting game pieces. If you have dark-colored game pieces, put them on a light-colored placemat, inside a shallow light-colored container, or inside a plastic resealable zipper bag.

If game pieces are identical, use different ones that are easier to locate and identify. Use ones that are different in shape, size, and color from other game pieces.

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Teams

Play in teams! Ask your teammate to describe the board, and to tell you the number you've rolled when rolling dice. Or, download a dice roller app on your smartphone. You can then open the app, tap the virtual dice, and roll them on your smartphone.

If you're playing a game like Monopoly, ask your teammate to tell you what properties each player has. Playing in teams helps you get the information you need to win the game!

Magnification

When playing board games, use a low vision device, like a handheld magnifier or the magnifier on your smart phone.

A magnifying lamp may be helpful. This is a floor or desk lamp that has a magnifier with a flexible arm attached to it. Magnifying lamps are available from specialty stores. See the resource list for more details.

Adaptive Versions

Large print and braille versions of games are available. Adaptive games have play instructions in large print or braille. If dice come with the game, they will have large print, raised dots, or braille on them. You can purchase adaptive dice separately, too.

Adaptive board games and dice are available from specialty stores. See the resource handout for more details.