

## White Elephant Game – Quick Option for ~ 40 – 60 people

We love to trade gifts using the “White Elephant” option.

The first time we ever played was in 1984 in Denver, CO at a couple’s Sunday School party. My husband and I have played almost every year since. We’ve learned a few tips:

- You need some people to bring “steal worthy” gifts. *(One year we tried it with youth and they brought things like toilet paper.)*
- The game takes too long if you have more than 30 people!
- Sometimes you need to know your group and add extra rules such as “Keep the gift in plain sight in front of you.” Or Only give people a number when they “turn in” a gift.
- Bring extra gifts for those who forgot.

Anyway, on to the directions for a slight variation to make the game go faster but still fun!

- 1 – Determine the number of people participating. *(Example 56 people.)*
- 2 – Place HALF the numbers in the bag. However, put in **TWO** of each number. *(Ex: #1-28 and again #1-28)*
- 3 - Allow people to draw a number from the bag without looking. *(They can look once it’s drawn.)*
- 4 – Have people get up and walk around to find their partner in crime. ;-)  
They should sit together.

Now the rules are the same, except everyone opens or steals as partners.

The **pair** of number 1’s go and open up **2** gifts for all to see. Now, the pair of number 2’s can steal from #1’s or open 2 new gifts. If they steal then #1’s must open new gifts because no one may steal from the pair that stole directly from them in that same round. *(They can steal those same gifts later.)*

The number 3’s can steal or open new gifts. Keep going until you get to the last pair of numbers. In our example it would be the pair of #28’s.

By the way, we did actually have 57 people. So, one gentleman agreed to open the final lone gift. *(We didn’t let him steal.)*

Naturally when all the gifts are open the partners can discern who gets which gift and of course people usually end up trading all around the room later too.

We had a whole lot of fun with this and got to know others better!

Let me know how it goes for you. ;-)