

4X Dice

A 4X (eXplore, eXpand, eXtract, eXterminate) dice game for 2-6 players.
by Martin Grider (v.0.1.2013-09-04)

The ever-expanding ocean of stars calls to you, the leader of a people only newly acquainted with the technology to touch the fiery tendrils of distant suns. Each system is a jewel to be examined and collected. Each of your colony ships a leg of your empire stuck firmly to the majestic web of your civilization. Mighty mining machines tirelessly churn in the voids, powering your interstellar armada. An armada whose jaws remain open, readying to crush the enemies of your empire.

Overview & Setup

Each Player takes a player mat and two, three, or four dice. (The number of dice will depend on how fast you want a game to go. More dice will play faster.) The player mats are divided into 4 areas clearly marked with the following action names: eXplore, eXpand, eXtract, eXterminate.

Place the game board in the center of the table, with 5 counters for each player starting at zero on all tracks. The game board consists of a track for each action type, as well as a victory point track. Each action track allows for 20 points (the victory point track is not limited, and players may continue around it as many times as needed, keeping track of their number of laps).

The game is played in rounds consisting of each player taking a single turn.

Each turn, a player plays all the actions available to them based on the dice in their 4 action areas (see below), then they re-roll and allocate the dice as desired for their next turn. Play then passes to the player on their left.

What gravity at the edge of a black hole, this calculating weight of choice?

Actions

- eXplore action: Move the eXplore counter forward a number of spaces equal to the number of ships shown on the dice in this area.
- eXpand action: Move the eXpand counter forward a number of spaces equal to the number of asteroids shown on the dice in this area, but not farther than the total on the eXplore counter. (You must eXplore before you can eXpand!)
- eXtract action: Move the victory point counter forward 2 spaces for each pair of a ship and an asteroid you have in this action area. You may do this no more times than the total number beneath your eXpand counter. Then move the eXtract counter forward 1 space.
- eXterminate action: For each ship shown in this area, you may change another player's die to show one less of either ships or asteroids. Each time you do this, move your eXterminate counter forward 1 space.

From the narrow end of it, pressed against the ground glass, so too the stars appear to gaze back at us. Each of our actions is bare to the sky! We can do nothing without the heavens made aware of it. Ahhh, but at least our observers are limited by the speed of the sun's reflection.

Game End & Scoring

The game is over after the last player's turn in any round when a player has reached the last action space on any action track. Total the final scores by adding to the victory point track as follows:

- eXplore counters X 1 victory point
- eXpand counters X 3 victory points
- eXtract counters X 2 victory points
- eXterminate counter X 1 victory points

The player with the most victory points after adding these is the winner!

When at last the star has eaten itself full, its stomach will distend. A nova ensues. No army may escape it except through the strategy of observation, the foresight of science, the tactics of avoidance.

Player Mats

eXplore	eXpand
eXtract	eXterminate

eXplore	eXpand
eXtract	eXterminate

Game Board

eXplore (x 1 at game end)

0					5					10					15				19
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eXpand (x 3 at game end)

0					5					10					15				19
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eXtract (x 2 at game end)

0					5					10					15				19
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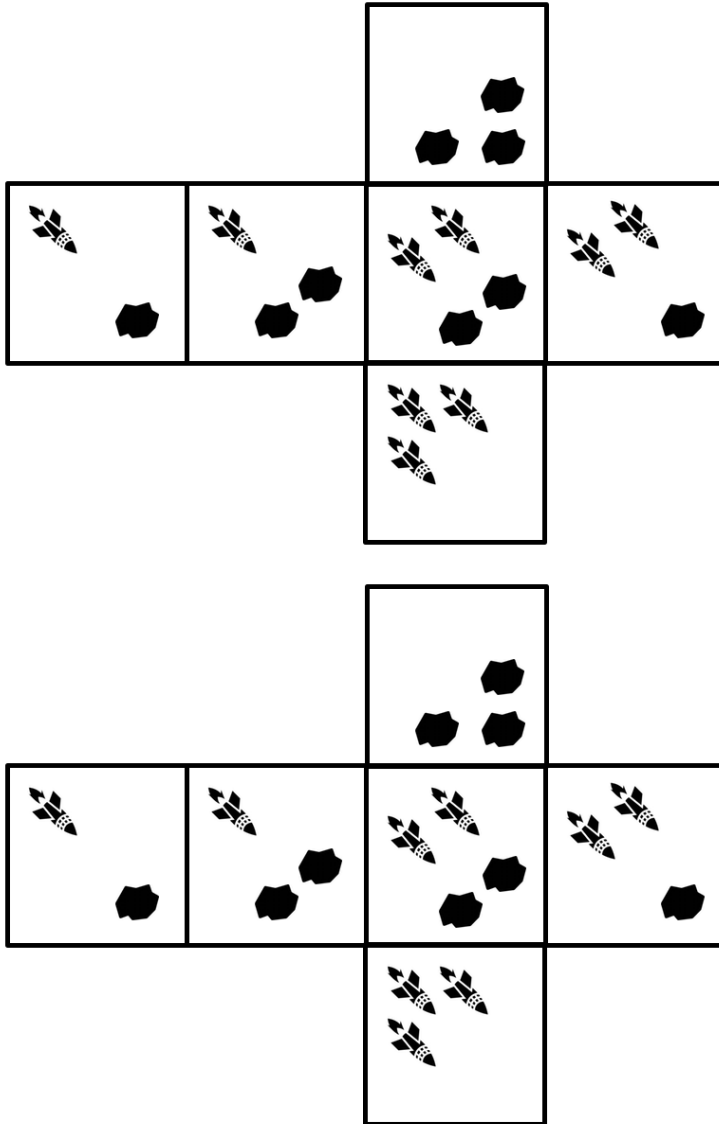
eXterminate (x 1 at game end)

0					5					10					15				19
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Victory Points

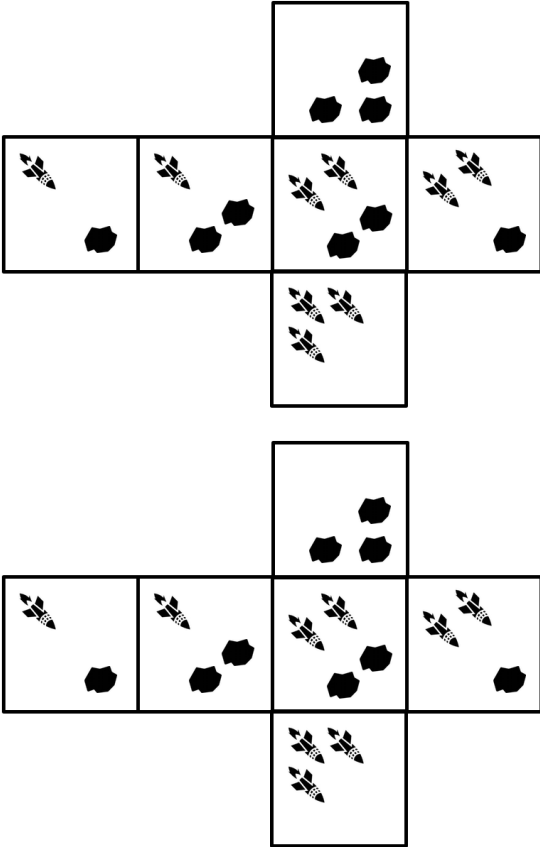
0					5					10					15				19
20					25					30					35				39
40					45					50					55				59
60					65					70					75				79
80					85					90					95				99

Dice (1")



(print this page x the number of players)

Dice (2/3")



(print this page x the number of players)