Kigi

A Card Game of Pretty Trees & Tricky Choices

2-5 Players
Ages 10+
15 Minutes

by Daniel Solis

A wealthy patron commissions a lovely landscape mural, hiring the greatest (and most competitive) painters in the world. They will interfere with each other's paintings and compete for the best commissions. The best painters will earn the world's greatest treasure: Points!

Score points by growing contiguous branches sharing the same feature. Achieve your **commissions** to win extra points at the end of the game.

The player with the most points wins!

How to Read these Rules Cards:

Each card is numbered with an "a" side and "b" side. The "a" side has the rules text and the "b" side has visual examples of those rules.

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TRUNK cards are the bases of each player's personal tree.

TREE cards display 2-5 features: **orange butterflies**, **blue dragonflies**, **pink flowers**, **purple flowers**, **red blossoms**.

COMMISSION cards are the patron's special requests.

TRUNK (5)

TREE (30)

SET UP

Give each player a random **trunk card**. Place yours on the edge of the table. Remove unused trunk cards from the game.

Shuffle **trees** and **commissions** into a deck in the middle of the play area face-down. Reveal 3 cards face-up in a row as the **display**.

Reserve space for your **Commissions** and **Collection**.

COMMISSION (10)

2a

SPACE FOR
OPPONENT'S
COLLECTION

OPPONENT'S TREE

SPACE FOR
OPPONENT'S
COMMISSIONS

DECK

DISPLAY

SPACE
FOR YOUR
COMMISSIONS

YOUR TREE

SPACE
FOR YOUR
COLLECTION

HOW TO PLAY: Take turns clockwise. Starting with a random player. On your turn...

1) Take a card from the display.

- **Keep a Commission card** face-up at your side for reference at the end of the game.

- **Connect a Tree card** to any player's tree branch. There is no "grid" constraining the orientation of cards. You may place it anywhere as long as the branches touch. It may not cover a feature, **directly** touch more than one card, or hang over the table. (see 3b)

2) Score points then **prune**, if able. (see 4a)

3) Add a card from the top of the deck to the display. If 3 Commissions are ever on display, **remove** them from the game. **Refill** it with three new cards from the deck.

3a

EXAMPLE OF PLACING A TREE CARD
You've just taken a tree card and you want to add it to the tree below. You test out a few locations first to see if they are legal. **A)** hangs over the edge of the table, so it is illegal. **B)** visibly overlaps more than one card and partially covers a feature on the card underneath (a red blossom), so it is illegal. **C)** directly touches one card, doesn't cover a feature, and doesn't overhang the table, so it is allowed. **D)** You decide to place it here, extending a new branch from the card below. This is allowed.
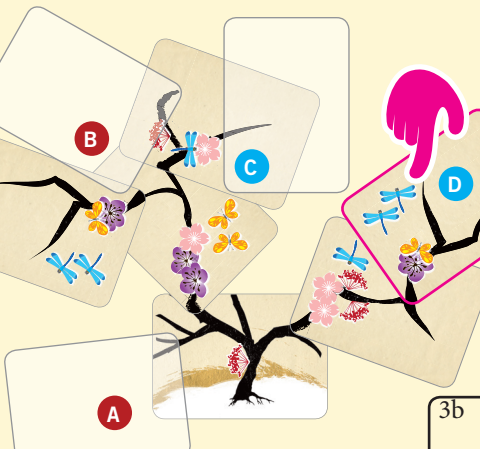
SCORE POINTS if you add to a contiguous line of cards down to the trunk that all share at least one feature in common.

Score 1 point for each instance of the shared feature(s) in that contiguous line. You do not score points for other instances of that feature if they are not part of this contiguous line.

PRUNE CARDS if you score **10 or more points**. The tree's owner removes each scoring card and sets them aside in a collection of pruned cards. If this disconnects any other cards from the tree, the owner collects those as well. The trunk is never pruned.
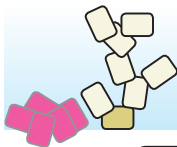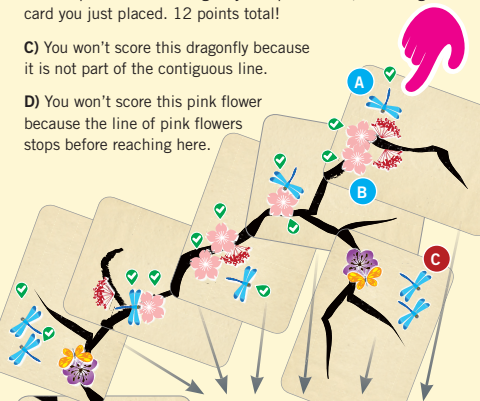
EXAMPLE OF SCORING

You just placed the card noted by the pink hand. This card features **A)** a dragonfly, **B)** two pink flowers and two red blossoms. Following the line of cards down to the trunk, you score 1 point for each dragonfly and pink flower, including the card you just placed. 12 points total!

C) You won't score this dragonfly because it is not part of the contiguous line.

D) You won't score this pink flower because the line of pink flowers stops before reaching here.

EXAMPLE OF PRUNING

Because you scored over 10 points, this tree's owner prunes scoring cards. Because this also disconnects the card marked **C)**, she prunes it, too.

ENDING THE GAME

The game ends when the last card is taken from the display.

COMMISSIONS AND VICTORY

Players then check their Commissions to see if they met the Patron's demands.

Score 10 bonus points for each Commission you have successfully achieved at the end of the game. If multiple players have achieved a Commission's conditions, only the owner of the Commission card will actually score the bonus points.

Once all points are tallied, the player with the most points wins! If tied, the player with the most blossoms on their tree wins.

ADVANCED GAME

Deal two random Commissions to each player as a part of setup. Each player keeps one. The others are shuffled into the deck.

Bob has the fewest bugs on his tree, so he scores +10 points. You have the same number of cards in your collection, but he has a Commission to do this, so he scores +10 points. Lastly, he has the fewest flowers on his tree, so he scores +10 points.

You only have one branch on your tree compared to your opponent's two branches, so you don't score that commission. You do have the most cards on your tree, so you score +10 points.

Can you add cards to *any* player's tree?

Yes, you may add cards to any player's tree.

When I place a card, it cannot touch more than one card, but can a previously placed card eventually touch more than one?

Yes, in the example tree below, several cards are highlighted in pink. These were legal placements at the time they were added to the tree.

Later, new cards were added, highlighted in blue, which were legal placements even though this caused the pink cards to touch more than one card.

It is only on your turn, *when you place the new card* that it may not touch more than one card.

6a
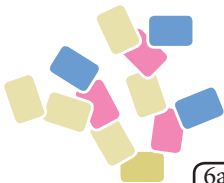
FAQ

Do you earn points when someone else adds a card to your tree?
You only earn points on your turn when you add to a contiguous group on any tree. You do collect any pruned cards from your tree, though, even if another player scored those points on those cards.

What does "most branches on tree" mean?
A branch is any line of cards. So, if a line of cards splits, that would make it two branches. If you have the Commission that says "most branches on tree," you're trying to have more branches on your tree than your opponents at the end of the game. Because the trunk only has a small amount of space around it, you will probably have to split your branches quite a bit. For example, the tree shown on the right has 5 branches.