

Tambola is played on a basic principle that the organizer calls a Number one at a time. And players need to strike those Numbers on their tickets if available. Tambola/Housie can be played in many different ways depending on the competency level of the target audience. A wide variety of variations can be found in Online media.

Generally, Tambola is played with Numbers (1-90) being called out by the caller and players striking out those Numbers on their Tickets. And completion of certain rows, columns and slopes are awarded with prizes.

How to organize a Tambola/ Bingo event?

1. Distribute Tambola tickets to everyone who participate in the game.
2. Along with the ticket, hand out a pen or pencil to the players to strike the called Numbers in their tickets.
3. Decide the prize awards for the decided winning points. Winning points can be like:
 - 3 a. Corners: the ticket with all 4 corner numbers struck first (1st and last numbers of top and bottom rows)
 - 3 b. Early 5: the ticket with first five struck numbers
 - 3 c. First Row/Top Row: the ticket with all numbers struck in top row first
 - 3 d. Second Row/Middle Row: the ticket with all numbers struck in middle row first
 - 3 e. Third Row/Bottom Row: the ticket with all numbers struck in bottom row first
 - 3 f. Corner with Center: the ticket with all 4 corner & center-most numbers struck first (1st and last numbers of top and bottom rows along with center-most number of the middle row)
 - 3 g. Full House/First House: the ticket with all its numbers struck first
 - 3 h. Second House: the ticket with all its numbers struck second and so on.

and many others...

4. You announce that the Tambola game has started
5. The CALLER needs to pick a Number without seeing the box/container containing Balls/ Pins/ Coins. The caller usually shakes the box prior to picking the number .
6. If a number called by CALLER exists on a player's ticket, then that player has to strike it. Once a particular winning point, is achieved by a player, he has to claim for it immediately.
7. CALLER will verify the winnings by matching the struck numbers on the ticket with the called out numbers. CALLER then declares if the winning has been successfully claimed. If not, the winning point is still available to be claimed.
8. Game ends when all the FULL HOUSEs are successfully CLAIMED.

Note: American version of Tambola is called 'Bingo' and it is slightly different from Tambola based on the size of tickets being used.