

Bingo Night Guide

Bingo is a really fun, sociable game and it's an easy event to run. All you need is a charismatic caller, a bunch of enthusiasm, rhyming numbers and 'eyes down'.

What you'll need

- Venue
- Bingo cards (you can find templates online)
- Ping pong balls
- Large plastic tumbler
- A checking board to display the selected numbers
- Microphone
- Prizes



Getting ready for the event

- Select a venue - Find a suitable venue that has enough room. A pub or community hall both work well.
- Advertise the event - Set a date and start publicising the event through social media, and make posters or flyers to put up in the venue.
- Licensing – No gambling license is needed for a bingo event, however, in order to comply with regulations you must not charge an admission fee over £8 per person, and prizes must not exceed £600. Read guidance from the Gambling Commission for more information.

Abbie's Christmas Bingo Night raised £880!
- Abbie Chetwynd, Kilimanjaro

On the day

- Greet your guests, and give everyone a bingo card.
- Once people are seated, welcome everyone to the bingo night and explain why you are fundraising.
- The caller picks numbered balls from the bingo tumbler and announces the number, often using traditional Bingo Lingo.
- As the numbers are called the players cross them off on their card, the first player to cross off all the numbers on their card and shout out 'House' or 'Bingo' wins.
- A smaller game within bingo is shouting out 'Line' for the first complete row.

Top tips

- Make it a themed bingo night, e.g. Valentines, Easter, or 'Chocolate bingo' where you play for chocolate!
- Break the games up with a raffle in the middle of the event.

The important bits

- If you plan on serving alcohol at your event, you may need a licence.
- Speak to your venue and see if they already have a alcohol licence that will cover your Bingo Night.

Bingo extras

Raise additional money on the night by encouraging your attendees to:

Buy a number - if your players are one, two or even three numbers away from a line or house, they can buy their final stamps. We recommend pricing being between £5 and £10 each.

Sponsored Bingo - local organisations could donate to sponsor the night. They get a chance to shout about their newly opened shop/restaurant/pub and you could encourage them to play along too.

"My Bingo Night went really well and was great fun, I've already started planning the next one!"