Thank you for purchasing our murder mystery party game! If you’ve never run one before, then DO NOT WORRY! This one is pretty easy to run. More importantly, it can be run REMOTELY – ideal for Corona lockdown or for playing with friends and family in different locations.

We believe that we have supplied everything you need to have a fab, groovy party. If there are any problems, then please do email us (contact form is on our site) and we shall get back to you quickly.

Jan and John 😊

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Suggested Format of Party

Overview

Use a video chat software of your choice to enable all members of your party to see and hear each other remotely.

It’s optional, but fancy dress and small token decorations where the cameras are focussed can contribute to a party atmosphere.

Guests can print their own booklets / clues OR can view them on iPads etc.

Time: Overview

Create a fun atmosphere so guests feel free to ad-lib and enjoy themselves – BUT do keep an eye on the time. If you spend 20 minutes chatting at the end of each round and all spend lots of time cooking in-between rounds ... time can quickly add up.

Time

The game should take around 1.45 – 2.30 hours, depending upon ad-libs. Optional characters add slightly to each round. **Food and chatting breaks are in addition to this.**

If you are short of time, then delete:
  - **Initial “Mingling”** *(allows guests to learn who is who before the formal Introductions round and recognise major themes of party)*
  - **Interactive Whodunnit Round** *(evidence that the quick audio summary doesn’t cover; guests ham-up their characters for one final time)*
Suggested Format of Party

Suggested Timings – Host Instructions in Blue

Optional Initial “Mingling”, Remote-style 15–20+ min
 Guests video-conference each other for short chats. Choose whether to coordinate “slots” or have a free-for-all within a set time period; as this is optional, it is not essential for all guests to video conference all guests although each guest will need own login.

Party begins 5 - 10 min

Ensure all guests are added to video call/conference
Ask guests to have party booklets and clues ready
Play audio or read Introduction in Host Materials
   Note: this is indicated on Introduction (page 2) of booklets.

Instructions 5 - 10 min
Ask 2 volunteers to alternate reading instructions, pages 4-5

Rounds 1 and 2 20-30+ min
Optional break

Rounds 3 and 4 20-30+ min
Optional break

Rounds 5 and 6 20-30+ min
Ask guests to complete accusation sheets (page 12) 5 min

Whodunnit round (optional) 5-10 min

Solution Summary 5 min
Play audio or read Solution in Host Materials
   Note: this is indicated on Whodunnit (page15) of booklets.

Awards (optional) 5 min
Announce awards for best actor, costume, solution, decorations and/or food; email these to guests after the party
**Suggested Calendar of Events**

**General**

The remote option of this game can be played with minimal preparation and minimal (or no) props.

**Before Ordering and On Purchase**

Confirm the date with friends BEFORE purchasing and ensure they all have access to your video call/conferencing software of choice. Each game is completely rewritten for 6-8, 8-10, 10-12 and 12-14 players; refunds unfortunately cannot be given. Whilst it is possible to buy an ADDITIONAL version of this game (for a different number of players) for a 40% discount, you may or may not have to change which guests plays which characters. *(See Allocating Characters to Guests section.)*

Tip: You may wish to have two optional players in case of a cancellation. (Optional players have no motive but their prompt cards let them interact freely during rounds.)

On purchase, immediately download all files, including the audio files, just in case there are Wi-Fi problems nearer the time.

**A Few Days Or Weeks Before Party**

Allocate guests to characters. *(See Allocating Characters to Guests section.)*

Agree whether you will all eat (in your own homes) before the party or during one of the game breaks. (Eating before the party is easier as everyone is not held up if one guest disappears into the kitchen; eating “together” may, however, add to the party atmosphere and there is an optional Food Award should you wish to use it.)

Agree whether or not you will play the Initial “Mingling” remote-style. If so, agree time for “Mingling” and time when party-proper will begin.

Coordinate login details and time for video call/conference (including Initial “Mingling” if relevant) using software of choice.
A Few Days Or Weeks Before Party (Continued)

Using the pre-party files: email or post each guest their own:
- Invitation
- Pre-party Booklet
- “Tips for (Optional) 60s Decorations” – optional
- Decorations Pack, including Recipe Booklet – may optionally email

Note: costumes, themed food and decorations are not essential but do add to the fun of the game. Optional awards for solution, acting, costumes, decorations and food are in the Host Materials; if you tell your guests in advance which awards will be given, this may encourage more effort!

Ensure your audio Introduction works.

Print out or have on iPad or device (not one used for video call/conference):
- Introduction & Solution (hard copy in case audio fails)

Create a 60s’ playlist (if desired) and sort your own costume/decorations.

A Few Days Before – or Day Before – or Day of Party

Using the party files: email or post each guest their own:
- Party Booklet
- Clue(s) if appropriate

If emailing: also include Instructions for Printing / Viewing Party Booklet. (Some guests may view booklets on iPads etc IF they have another device for video chat).

If posting: obviously, allow adequate time for delivery.

Ask them NOT to read in advance!

After Party

Email the award certificates.
Allocating Characters to Guests

**General**

Each character has catchphrases and/or mannerisms so that they can be hammed up as much as the guest wishes (or the guests can just read the prompt card if they wish).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Female Suspects</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Annie Phoenix** – hip, foxy fashion designer introducing "shocking" miniskirts.  
*Pearl was my darling step-daughter; darling Pete is soo upset.* |

| **Polly Rottingham** – scientist working for DoDGY Pharmaceuticals. Daddy's Little Girl, Pearl’s bestie friend but in love with Drake (Pearl’s widower); the original ditzy blonde.  
*Little old me; my tall strong Drakie Drake – protect me!* |

Relationship note: it is claimed that both Annie and Polly are having an affair with Drake.
Allocating Characters to Guests

Male Suspects

Drake Wilde – internationally famous rock star, too outta-sight for his own good; Pearl's not-so-grieving widower.

*I loved my pearly Pearl, my foxy baby, my one and only.*

It does help to let a strong guest play Drake; Drake can optionally sing (ham-up) a few lines here and there.

Gender Neutral Suspects

Brother or Sister Starlight – hippie leader of commune

*We just share love under the stars; peace man.*

Pat Psychello – East End assistant to Pete L.J. Phoenix with a passion for creating psychedelic art and a talent for something more sinister; organiser of the TurretsFest Music Festival since Pearl's death.

*Violence is so regrettable – sometimes; lies will be punished. Yeah! Blimey, I love this work!*

In the optional Whodunnit round, Pat must lead round by asking each suspect how they plead and then agreeing – or not.

Payton Morals – fearsome anti-smut campaigner fiercely opposed to miniskirts, smutty pop lyrics, the hippie commune, the proposed TurretsFest rock festival and anything and everything else!

*A disgrace! As the Nation’s Avowed Guardian of Morality and Decorum ...*
Allocating Characters to Guests

Optional Characters (Non-Suspects)

Skye MacLeod – Scottish guitarist and singer for Drake and the Dynamico Dynamods. Friend of Drake; larger-than-life rock star and hell-raiser. Skye can optionally accompany Drake by singing (hamming-up) a few lines here and there.

Och aye, babe.

Sacha Sonroe – world-famous, glamorous film star. Friend of Pearl, opposed to Drake, the commune and TurretsFest.

Calls everyone sweetie and blows air kisses.

Optional characters are ideal for guests who wish to be present but don’t want a big role (guests are free to say as much or as little as they wish) – or for guests who may or may not be able to make your party.

Optional characters have full Initial “Mingling” instructions. They have catchphrases so guests can enjoy hamming-up the roles if wished. They are given dialogue suggestions for each round and they can ad-lib as they choose.

As optional characters are rarely given in the list of essential speakers in the left-hand column of each round, they need to chime in; timid speakers may find this a bit difficult. Some parties may, possibly, decide to check whether optional speakers have anything to say before moving on to the next section or round.
**Party Pack Includes & Printing**

### For Host

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Host Instructions</th>
<th>Audio Introduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award Certificates</td>
<td>Audio Solution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Solution (hard copy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pre-Party – For Each Guest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-party Booklets</th>
<th>Editable Invites (in Word)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tips for (Optional) 60s Decorations</td>
<td>Decorations Pack &amp; Recipe Booklet (optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing / Viewing Notes (optional)</td>
<td>Menu Cards &amp; Place Cards (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Party – For Each Guest

- Party Booklets
- Clues
- Printing / Viewing Notes (optional)

### Paper required (If Not Viewed on an iPad etc)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Per person</th>
<th>Per Person</th>
<th>Host</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Double-sided</td>
<td>Single-sided</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Party Booklets *</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Invites *</td>
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<td>Party Booklets *</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clues *</td>
<td>0 - 1</td>
<td>0 - 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro &amp; Solution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Print and post or else email to guests so they can print them (booklets are best printed double-sided). Guests may alternatively wish to view booklets and clues on a device (eg an iPad) IF they have another device to use for video call/conference. Obviously, devices should be well-charged!
Decorations

Ideas

For decoration ideas, see the Decorations tab of


or our Pinterest board

https://www.pinterest.co.uk/MapleMysteryGames/murder-in-the-swinging-sixties

Decorations Pack Includes

Your Decorations Pack contains the following printouts:

12 singles covers for acts signed to P.L.J. Phoenix Records - includes hits mentioned in the prompt cards such as "Pearly Pearly Pearl"

6 "record centres" for hits by Drake and the Dynamico Dynamods - 45rpm single record size

1 record centre for Drake Wilde and the Dynamico Dynamods - LP size

2 A4 portraits of Pearl (the victim)

A4 sign for P.L.J. Phoenix Records and also for The Phoenix for Peace Foundation

A4 TurretsFest Music Festival Poster

2 psychedelic art pictures (signed by Pat Psychello)

Calling All Chicks, Cats and Hippies Sign

Signs for the Kitchen, Drawing Room, Dining Room and "Little Room" in P.L.J. Phoenix colours

P.L.J. Phoenix wine bottle label

60s’ cupcake toppers

60s’ slang used in party

Note: some printers may show faint white lines at intervals on some printouts, especially if ink levels are low. They are not usually noticeable at a distance.
Food

General

Eating before the party is easier as everyone is not held up if one guest disappears into the kitchen; eating “together” may, however, add to the party atmosphere and there is an optional Creative Food award should you wish to use it.

60s’ Food

For 1960s’ food ideas, see the food tab of


or our Pinterest board

https://www.pinterest.co.uk/MapleMysteryGames/murder-in-the-swinging-sixties

See the Recipes booklet (included in the Decorations Pack and Recipe Booklet that you may optionally wish to send to each guest) for suggested recipes that can be prepared (largely) in advance and that are inspired by the 1960s’ theme. Note that these recipes were designed for hosting your own party and quantities may need to be scaled down.

See our 60s’ cupcake toppers (in the Decorations Pack).
We hope you enjoyed our murder mystery!

We’d love your reviews at
and
https://www.facebook.com/maplemysterygames

Email us your photos (guests, costumes, food, decorations, iPad screenview etc) to jan@maplemysterygames.com - if we can use any photos on our website or Social Media pages, we will send you a £10 voucher off your next party.

If your party is chosen as one of our Featured Parties, then your next Maple Mystery Games party is free!!

For your chance to be chosen, send us some extra photos and some details – party occasion, food and drink, decorations, costumes, music, props, any fab party ideas or tips to help other hosts, what your guests did, what you and your guests liked about the party etc.