

## Tombola Game Rules

Tombola is the Italian version of Bingo. However, unlike the American version, where you can make Bingo horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, In Tombola, **only horizontally counts**.

On each card there are 3 rows and 9 columns. In each row, only 5 of the 9 columns are occupied by a number. The other columns are intentionally left blank.

Column 1 contains numbers from 1-10,

Column 2 contains numbers from 11-20,

Column 3 contains numbers from 21-30,

Column 9 contains numbers from 81-90.

Numbers are pulled out of a rotating drum, or, with home games, a bag. The person who pulls the number out of the drum is called the **tombolone**. The tombolone uses a master card on which the numbers from 1-90 are written in sequential order.

The tombolone proceeds to pull and announce numbers from the rotating drum one at a time. He/she will then typically announce the number in Italian (and sometimes in English, depending on the audience). Each number typically also has a little name or rhyme that goes along with it, which the tombolone will also announce. For example: If the number 25 is called, then the tombolone will shout out "Venticinque—Natale". (The connection being 25 is the date of Christmas, which in Italian is Natale.) If the number 33 is called, then the tombolone will shout out "Trentatre—L'anne Gesu Cristo". (The connection here is that Jesus lived on Earth for 33 years.)

As each number is called out, players cover that number on their cards. Most tombola sets that you can buy come with little plastic beans, or fagioli. (You can even use real beans if you run out of the plastic ones.)

Tombola is traditionally played for money. Each card costs a set amount (10¢ or 25¢). Players can purchase as many cards as they wish, except for the tombolone, who must purchase 6 cards. The total pot will be divided into 5 smaller prizes. Each prize goes to the winner of the 5 individual rounds which make up a complete tombola game.

The 5 rounds of a tombola game are:

1. **Ambo**: 1st person to cover 2 numbers in a row
2. **Terno**: 1st person to cover 3 numbers in a row
3. **Quaderno**: 1st person to cover 4 numbers in a row
4. **Quinto**: 1st person to cover 5 numbers in a row
5. **Tombola**: 1st person to cover all 15 numbers on the card

When one person has covered 2 out of the 5 numbers in a horizontal row, he/she will call out Ambo. Then the game stops and the person collects his/her prize. The game continues, with prizes are collected for the winners of the Terno, Quaderno, and Quinto rounds.

The person who finally covers all of the numbers on his/her card calls out Tombola, and is considered the winner of the game. (Usually the pot for the Tombola round is larger than those of the other rounds.)

## Tombola Number Meanings

Neapolitan - Italian - English

The names are not consistent across different versions of the game, so the / indicates alternate names

<b>1</b> <i>L'Italia</i> L'Italia Italy	<b>2</b> <i>'A piccerella</i> La bambina Little girl	<b>3</b> <i>'A gatta</i> La gatta/il gobbo/lo storto Cat/hunchback	<b>4</b> <i>'O puorco</i> Il maiale/la sedia Pig/chair	<b>5</b> <i>'A mana</i> La mano Hand
<b>6</b> <i>Chella ca guarda 'nterra</i> Quella che guarda a terra Part of woman's body that always looks down	<b>7</b> <i>O' vaso e creta</i> Il vaso di creta/i sette peccati mortali Chamber Pot/seven mortal sins	<b>8</b> <i>'A Madonna</i> La Madonna Our Lady	<b>9</b> <i>'A discendenza</i> La figliolanza Offspring	<b>10</b> <i>'E fasule</i> I fagioli/l'asino Beans/donkey
<b>11</b> <i>'E suricille</i> I topolini Mice	<b>12</b> <i>'E surdate</i> I soldati Soldiers	<b>13</b> <i>Sant'Antuono</i> Sant'Antonio St Anthony	<b>14</b> <i>'O 'mbriacone</i> L'ubriacone The drunk	<b>15</b> <i>O guaglione</i> Il ragazzo/il re The boy/king
<b>16</b> <i>'O culo</i> Il culo/il sedere Bottom/butt	<b>17</b> <i>'A disgrazia</i> La disgrazia Bad luck	<b>18</b> <i>'O sango</i> Il sangue Blood	<b>19</b> <i>'A risata</i> La risata/San Giuseppe Laughter/St Joseph	<b>20</b> <i>'A festa</i> La festa Feast
<b>21</b> <i>'A femmena annura</i> La donna nuda Naked woman	<b>22</b> <i>'O pazzo</i> Il pazzo The madman	<b>23</b> <i>O' scemo</i> Lo scemo Fool	<b>24</b> <i>'E gguardie</i> Le guardie The cops	<b>25</b> <i>Natale</i> Natale Christmas
<b>26</b> <i>Nannarella</i> Anna Little Annie	<b>27</b> <i>'O càntero</i> Il vaso da notte/l'animale Chamber pot/animal	<b>28</b> <i>'E zizze</i> I seni Breasts/tits	<b>28</b> <i>'O pate d'e</i> <i>creature</i> Il padre dei bambini The father of the children	<b>30</b> <i>'E palle d'o tenente</i> Le palle del tenente Lieutenant's balls
<b>31</b> <i>'O padrone e case</i> Il padrone di casa Landlord	<b>32</b> <i>'O capitone</i> Il capitone Big-headed	<b>33</b> <i>L'anne e Cristo</i> Gli anni di Cristo Christ's age	<b>34</b> <i>'A capa 'e morte</i> Il teschio/la testa Head	<b>35</b> <i>L'aucelluzzo</i> L'uccellino/il ladro Birdy/thief
<b>36</b> <i>'E castagnelle</i> Le nacchere/le caramelle Castanets/candy	<b>37</b> <i>O' monaco</i> Il monaco Monk	<b>38</b> <i>'E mazzate</i> Le bastonate Blows	<b>39</b> <i>A funa 'ncanna</i> La fune al collo/la corda al collo At gun point/rope around the neck	<b>40</b> <i>'A paposcia</i> L'ernia/la neve Hernia/snow

<b>41</b> 'O curtiello Il coltello Knife	<b>42</b> 'O ccafe' Il caffè Coffee	<b>43</b> 'A femmena fore 'o barcone Donna al balcone Woman on her balcony	<b>44</b> 'E cancelli Le carceri Jail	<b>45</b> 'O vino bbuono Il vino buono Good wine
<b>46</b> 'E denare I soldi/il pomodoro Money/tomato	<b>47</b> 'O muorto Il morto Dead man	<b>48</b> 'O muorto che pparla Il morto che parla The talking dead man	<b>49</b> 'O piezzo 'e carne Il pezzo di carne A piece of meat	<b>50</b> 'O pane Il pane Bread
<b>51</b> 'O ciardino Il giardino Courtyard	<b>52</b> 'A mamma La mamma Mother	<b>53</b> 'O vecchio Il vecchio Old man	<b>54</b> 'O cappiello Il cappello Hat	<b>55</b> 'A musica La musica Music
<b>56</b> 'A caduta La caduta The fall	<b>57</b> 'O scartellato Il gobbetto Hunchback	<b>58</b> 'A mappata Il fagotto Bundle	<b>59</b> 'E pile/'a casa I peli/il gallinaccio/la casa Hair	<b>60</b> 'Se lamenta Si lamenta The moaner
<b>61</b> 'O cacciatore Il cacciatore Hunter	<b>62</b> 'O muorto acciso L'assassinato The murdered man	<b>63</b> 'A sposa La sposa Bride	<b>64</b> 'A sciammeria La marsina/il giaccone Dress-coat	<b>65</b> 'O chianto Il pianto Weeping
<b>66</b> 'E ddoje zite Le due zitelle Two old maids	<b>67</b> 'O purpo int" a chitarra Il polipo nella chitarra The squid in the guitar	<b>68</b> 'A zuppa cotta La minestra cotta Soup	<b>69</b> Sott"e 'ncoppa Sotto sopra Upside-down	<b>70</b> 'O palazzo Il palazzo Building
<b>71</b> Ll'omme 'e mmerda L'uomo di merda The shitty man	<b>72</b> 'A meraviglia La meraviglia Astonishment	<b>73</b> 'Ospitale L'ospedale Hospital	<b>74</b> 'A rotta La grotta Cave	<b>75</b> Pullecenella Pulcinella Punchinello/Punch
<b>76</b> 'A funtana La fontana Fountain	<b>77</b> 'E riavulille I diavoletti/le corna/le cambe delle donne Devils/horns/women's legs	<b>78</b> 'A puttana La prostituta The prostitute	<b>79</b> 'O mariuolo Il ladro Thief	<b>80</b> 'A vocca La bocca Mouth
<b>81</b> 'E sciure I fiori Flowers	<b>82</b> 'A tavula 'mbandita La tavola imbandita The laden table	<b>83</b> 'O malettempo Il maltempo Bad weather	<b>84</b> 'A chiesa La chiesa Church	<b>85</b> Ll'anema 'o priatorio Le anime del purgatorio The souls of purgatory
<b>86</b> 'A puteca La bottega Drugstore	<b>87</b> 'E perucchie I pidocchi Lice	<b>88</b> 'E casecavalle I caciocavalli Cheeses	<b>89</b> 'A vecchia La vecchia The old lady	<b>90</b> 'A paura la paura Fear