

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN MEMORY LANE

Memory Lane, a game sent to us by reader Kathy Bacile, celebrates childhood memories. Our version captures much of the original's magic, but is easier to make. We recycled a game board for the base (or you can

buy blank game boards at [www.barebooks.com](http://www.barebooks.com)) and used game pieces and a die from a craft store. We made the game spaces and trivia cards using a computer and printer.

### Board

- 1 Cut a piece of white Con-Tact paper about an inch larger than your board, peel off the adhesive back, and stick the Con-Tact paper to the board. Trim off the excess paper.
- 2 To add color to the board, first cut a piece of wrapping paper slightly larger than the board. Starting at one edge of the board, use a glue stick to apply a 2 inch-wide swath of glue to the surface. Next, lay the wrapping paper over the glued section and smooth it down. Alternate between applying a swath of glue and laying down the wrapping paper until the board is covered. Do not apply glue to the entire board at once as the glue will dry out, and don't use Mod Podge – it will cause the paper to buckle. Smooth out any air bubbles or wrinkles.
- 3 Create thirty 2- by 2-inch game spaces using a computer and removable mailing labels, cutting the 2- by 4-inch labels in half after printing them. See the complete list of game spaces below.
- 4 Affix the spaces evenly on the board, as shown.
- 5 To mark where the trivia cards are stacked during play, glue one of the cards to the board near the Home space, "Memory Lane" side up, as shown.
- 6 Seal the game board with clear Con-Tact paper.
- 7 Wrap the edges of the board with electrical tape.

### You will need:

- An old game board (Monopoly/Chutes and Ladders size, save the box)
- Con-Tact paper, white and clear
- Solid-colored wrapping paper
- Glue stick
- 2- by 4-inch removable mailing labels (Avery label #5444, [avery.com](http://avery.com))
- A trivia card (see next page)
- Electrical tape

### Game Spaces

The magic of Memory Lane resides in the appeal of the places you choose for the Share a Memory spaces: a favorite family cottage by the ocean, an old movie theater in town, the neighborhood school — any location that your kids love and that evokes memories. Our pieces feature clip art from Microsoft Office. Find them on your computer or at: [office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx](http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx).

Our board has 18 Share a Memory spaces, including 3 showing former family homes. The remaining 12 slots are instructional and specialty spaces, specifically:

- Pick a card (make 4)
- Swipe! Take a treasure (from an opponent; make 3)
- Pick a treasure (from the pile; make 2)
- Go to your room! (and skip a turn; make 1)
- Start (make 1)
- Home (make 1)



# A Game of Stories

## Trivia Cards

Use a computer and printer to create 20 or so 3- by 5-inch cards with trivia questions on one side and “Memory Lane” on the other.

We included some questions about current players, such as “Where (city or hospital) was the player to your left born?”; others that focused on interesting family history; and a few that required identifying baby pictures.



## Treasures

We used wooden cutouts (available in the wood section of craft stores) for our treasures. Each represents an important element of life: health (an apple), wealth (a car), happiness (a smiley face), knowledge (a book), and relaxation (a palm tree). You'll need a set of treasures for each player. Our game has 4 sets.

## Treasure Boxes

Made from empty candy tins, our treasure boxes are just the right size for holding the treasures. To decorate the tins, we glued leftover wrapping paper to the tops of the boxes, added some color to the sides with electrical tape (slicing the tape along the openings after it was applied), then hot-glued a charm on each.



## Odds and Ends

To complete the game, you'll need metal charms matching the ones glued to the treasure boxes to serve as game pieces (one for each player). You'll also need a die.

## Game Box

Our game box, like Kathy's, was made by gluing cutout photocopies of family pictures to the top of the box with Mod Podge. We made the label using the computer. Then we sealed the surface with a coat of Mod Podge.

