

Meeting Icebreakers

These are some super simple ideas to get things going:

- Rock/Scissors/Paper – last person standing selects a person to start the introductions
- Cards (need a deck of playing cards) – select a number of cards that match the number of people at the meeting, one of the cards is a one-eyed jack. Whoever draws the one-eyed jack starts the introductions
- Ball toss (need a ball) – pass the ball, each time it's passed you need to remember and say out loud everyone's name. i.e. First person is Erin...She says her name and passes it to Lisa...Lisa says, "Erin, Lisa" and passes it to Maria....Maria says, "Erin, Lisa, Maria"and on and on
- Mingle bingo – make a simple bingo card (3*3) with questions in each square. All meeting members mingle and the first person to get 3 across, down, or diagonal, yells BINGO and reads out the answers. For example: Erin plays the clarinet, Lisa likes tigers, and Marta can hold her breath for over 5 minutes.
- Card match (Need a deck of playing cards) – works well with an even number of participants. Select a subset of the deck so that when the cards are handed out, everyone will be paired up with a person whose card matches theirs. The pairs of people need to find out three interesting things about the other person.
- Hidden question – Write down question cards and put a different one under each attendee's chair. Ask them to read out their respective question and other members answer if it applies to them.
- Four corners – randomly assign people to the four corners in equal numbers, the group that finds out the most about their group members gets a token prize.

In general, simple props like, a deck of cards, a ball, a large rubber dice from dollar store, simple index cards with questions on them can turn a mundane, awkward situation into fun.

Icebreakers work well when both introducing a new group to one another, a new person to an existing group AND helping to get to know existing members. You never know what you can learn about someone you've known for years.

Feel free to tailor these questions and games to suit your group, a topic or theme and your situation.

Finally, don't forget to have fun!