

# DIATOMS CAREERS

## SOLO PLAY RULEBOOK

Develop your reputation as a diatomaceous artist by completing mosaic commissions and tracking your creations.



<b>Careers</b> allows up to 4 players to track their progress as diatom mosaic artists. By collecting <b>Career Spaces</b> , players earn increasingly prestigious titles. There are three ways to earn Career Spaces:
<ol> <li>Play Commissions.</li> <li>Commissions is unique version of Diatoms where you complete commissioned mosaic designs. Earn one of for completing a Commission and additional for doing so with minimum waste.</li> </ol>
2. Play the main <i>Diatoms</i> game with others.  Earn one per game and an additional if you win First Place. See <i>Main rulebook</i> , page 7.
3. Play the main Diatoms game solo with a guest judge. Earn  based on your score. Refer to Private Tutor Solo Variant on page 7.
<b>Read pages 1-4 of the Main Rulebook before playing Commissions</b> , as the core gameplay around placing Water tiles and collecting diatoms is the same.

# COMMISSIONS - SOLO VARIANT

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Dear Society Members,

From time to time, wealthy collectors reach out to the Society to commission mosaic slides for their curio cabinet collections.

Commissions offer opportunities for prestige and career advancement.

Accordingly, the Society invites all members to try their hand at these commissions. If you can meet the particular requirements for each piece (and limit the castoff diatoms you squander), you may well make a name for yourself as a premier diatomaceous artist.

In *Diatoms Commissions*, your goal is to complete a mosaic that fulfills the requirements of a specific commissioned design. You must also be mindful of any diatoms you waste— collect too many extra "castoff" diatoms and you will fail the commission.

**Read pages 1-4 of the Main Rulebook before playing** *Commissions*, as the core gameplay around placing Water Tiles and collecting diatoms is the same.

## **Guide to Commission Requirements**



Light grey spaces are filled as normal with any color of the two shapes accepted in that space.



Full color spaces with white outlines <u>must</u> be filled with the specified color of diatom in either shape.



Spaces with a grey shape and black outline <u>must</u> be filled with that specific shape, in any color.



Spaces with a colored shape and black outline <u>must</u> be filled with that specific color and shape.



Spaces marked with numbers <u>must</u> be filled with the same shape as every other space with the same number.



Spaces marked with letters <u>must</u> be filled with the same color as every other space with the same letter.



Darkened spaces are not used. Diatoms cannot be placed there.



# COMMISSIONS SETUP

- Set out the **Petri Dishes of diatoms** and the **Starting Tile**. Place a **Microscope Slide board** and **Field Notebook** in front of you along with the **Lens Tool**. Shuffle all the other **Water tiles** and divide into two stacks. One stack will have one more tile than the other.
- Find the next Commission card to complete and place it within easy sight for reference. Commissions are intended to be completed in order. If marked FREEFORM on the top, see the note on page 5.
- Choose two tiles from the tops of the Water tile stacks to be your starting hand tiles and place near your board.
- Look at the number of Castoff Dishes shown on the Commission card. Take that many **Petri Dish lids** and place by your Slide Board. These are your **Castoff dishes**.



# PLAYING COMMISSIONS

### Choose, Place, Collect, Arrange, Repeat.



**Choose** one of the four available Water tiles—the two in your hand or the top tile of either of the stacks— and **place** it in the algae-pond area, following the rules from the main game. Except for the first Water tile you place, you <u>must</u> create at least one Sample Point (an intersection of 3 tiles) when placing a Water tile. If you can't make a sample, you have failed the Commission.



**Collect** diatoms according to your sample points from the Petri Dishes following the guide in your *Field Notebook* and the main game rules.



Arrange the diatoms on your Microscope Slide board following the requirements on the Commission card. As in the main game, once you have placed a diatom, you can not move it.

- If you can not fit a diatom you collected you must place it into one of the Castoff dishes.
- Each Castoff dish can hold 1 full Sample Points' worth of diatoms (eg: six circles OR three ovals OR two triangles OR an oval and a square, and so on.) Once placed, diatoms cannot be moved.
- If a diatom is too big to fit in a Castoff dish, you must place it in another dish. If it does not fit in any of your dishes nor on your mosaic, you have failed the Commission.



**Repeat.** If you just played a Water tile from your hand, be sure to refill your hand to two tiles before choosing your next Water tile to play.

## **Completing Commissions & Star Ratings**

If you fully complete the mosaic, filling every spot correctly according to the card prompt, you have successfully completed the Commission. Completed Commissions can be additionally scored with a **Star rating**. To determine your Star rating, look at your Castoff dishes. For each Castoff Dish that can still fit a star-shaped diatom (5/6), your mosaic earns one Star.











This player has completed this Commission successfully. They have one Castoff dish that can still fit a star diatom, so they earn a Star rating of 1 for this mosaic.

If you run out of Castoff dishes, Water tiles, or you can otherwise no longer complete the mosaic according to the prompt (for example, there are no more of a necessary diatom shape or color available), then you have failed the Commission. Better luck next time!

## COMMISSIONS SCORING

## **Collecting Career Spaces**

When you successfully complete a Commission, you can collect Career Spaces ( ) for your Career Log on the back page.

#### First Successful Completion only:

Collect one if it is the first time you successfully completed this particular Commission.

#### Each Successful Completion, including first time:

- If your star rating is 3 or more, collect two .

When you complete a set of Commissions, you may collect additional as indicated. Use the checkbox to mark as collected.

## **Advancing Through Commissions**

Start with Commission #1. When you successfully complete a Commission, record the result in here including how many Stars and Career Spaces earned. Next time you play, advance to the next Commission.

- When you reach Commission #25, be sure to read the note on page 6 on Freeform Commissions.
- If you replay a commission, you can record it in the Extra Commission logs on page 6.



Need more writing room?
Prefer to print a separate
log for recording games?
Find printables and more at
DiatomsTheGame.com

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Commissions 1-4: Begi	nner Creations	The development of one's expertise and reputation is only be achieved by first applying oneself to the bas					
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Commissions 5-8: Rad		Many diatom mosaics are arranged in radial patteri pleasing spokes of repeated color and shape variation	erns that are highly symmetric and offer				
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5	5	5	5				
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+1 of for completing #5-8	+1 of for completing #		+1 (r) for completing #5-8				
		The domain of the diatom is that of the microscopic					
Commissions 9-12: Cel	estiai rorilis	recreations of celestial bodies rendered in the arrar					
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Commissions 13-18: Na	turo's Roouty	The bountiful and beautiful forms of Nature offer a flowers of the garden to the trees of the orchard.					
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18 +2 for completing #13-18	18 +2 for completing #1	18	18 +2 (7) for completing #13-18				
Commissions 19-24: Si	one of Spirite	Where nature touches the heavens, we imagine spir into the microscopic depths ourselves.					
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Introducing **Freeform Commissions**: It's time to break out of the standard mosaic mold. If a Commission has **FREEFORM** at the top, turn your player Slide Board over and create your mosaic on the back. There are no slots- use your artistic eye for placement.

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# PRIVATE TUTOR SOLO VARIANT

Play the main game solo with the **Easygoing Mood** side of one Guest Judge. Use **10 randomly drawn Water tiles**, starting with 2 in your hand and the remaining 8 split into two stacks of 4. When finished, score your mosaic as normal and record below. For every 100 points above 200 in your score, collect 1 Career Space ( ). If you replay a judge and beat your previous score, collect an extra . Don't forget to mark off your collected on your Career Log as well.

**Example of Collecting Career Spaces for Private Tutor play:** If your score was 380, you would collect one ①. If your score was 480, you would collect two. If you replay a Guest Judge and beat your previous high score, collect one additional ②. For example, if you previously scored 480 then played with the same judge again and scored 485, you would collect three ② total—2 for your score and 1 extra for beating your previous score.



# PLAYER CAREER SOGS

Whenever you collect a **Career Space**, check off the next in your log, from top left to bottom right. You can claim each title as you reach it. Once you've filled in every Career Space, you've reached a legendary level of diatomaceous mosaic-making!

