

I've commented on computer games, now I'm going to do board, card games and other games that are very hard to classify. I will be listing them in a more or less random order (the order I thought of them/researched them) but I do end on the most logical game to finish with. (If you can call it a game that is). I'm just saying games should really cause you joy or at very least less boredom, rather than full blown panic. Anyway, let's go!!!

Chess

I'd LIKE to be able to play chess, but even the basics don't make any kind of sense. Clearly castles can't move at all, they certainly can't teleport any distance in an instant, especially when the game was invented. Even today, that would be impressive, but let's ignore that stuff as we all know that's nonsense. Apparently chess grand masters can have a million potential moves in their mind at all times, so yeah, I have no chance. I lose pens for a long time, only to find I've actually been chewing on them for ages. We've all been there, right? I guess that's one 'move', you could say. The 'pen in mouth move', and I even screwed that one up.

Noughts and crosses

This one is more for me, but even for this game, I don't fully understand the strategy of how to win. 9 boxes and two players? You'd think it would be straightforward. But it's not. I doubt there are a million combinations possible, but there has to be a few.

Draughts

My nan never let me win draughts. Maybe so as to not give me an unfounded confidence, but more likely because she was a massive narcissist. I like the way draughts double in size when at the other end of the board. It reminds me of Super Mario.

Bingo

Is this really a game? Personally I'd say if your chance of winning is 100% random, it's as much a game as trying to guess someone's phone number. At least if you do that, there's the risk someone will complain about you to the police. (Maybe for 'phone number misuse'). Where the hell is the risk when you're surrounded by nothing but old ladies? Having said that, I've played a few games in school, and it would have been nice if I won at least once.

Dominoes

You keep losing at games of skill, too? Not to worry, you can build small buildings with these things. I like to build Greek temples.

Monopoly

I've only won a handful of Monopoly games, as I've always been more interested in owning the obscure properties (e.g. Old Kent Road), rather than the more useful

ones. Apparently you should buy places where the dice are most likely to land you on. Yeah, screw that.

Scrabble

I haven't played Scrabble in many years. I've always been traumatised by my other gran's word 'orgy'. I don't think I'll ever be the same.

Battleships

What kind of battleships can't move? Teleporting castles, knights having so little control of their horses, they can NEVER go straight, why are war-based strategy games so ridiculous?

Guess Who

No trauma from inappropriate use of words here, but some of the faces? They look like serial killers. Why not go to the max and give the characters knives or hammers?

Operation

When I was in year 6, the teacher asked the class what they'd like to do when they were older. When I was asked, on complete impulse I said 'brain surgeon'. Then the person sitting next to me said 'I'd hate to be a brain surgeon'. Then I thought 'Fair point' and I never even thought about the profession again. It wasn't exactly a life changing experience though, as I've never been interested in biology. Would you really want such a person, and more specifically me, operating on you? I doubt it. I'm not even good at the game.

Jenga

At around the same time, I said I'd love to knock buildings down as a profession, so it should come as no surprise when I say I never took this game too seriously. (You know when I said the games were in random order? This was an exception, I wanted it to immediately follow Operation for obvious reasons. Simon Wiedemann's honest comedy!)

Twister

I believe this is the only game on the list that is also a film AND an ice cream. Favourite game of those unafraid of contagious diseases. Takes a brave person nowadays.

Mouse Trap

Not a real mouse trap, that wouldn't be fun at all. No, this isn't the 'put cheese on a plank of wood and wait' game, it's actually very family friendly. Still, it's an easy mistake to make, and surely in the history of the world, SOMEONE bought a deadly mouse trap thinking it was for entertainment. A very upsetting Christmas.

Command and Colors: Ancients

This war strategy game is taking up the serious levels somewhat. More serious than the game I mean, not literal mouse traps. Sure war is no fun, but let's not make it too realistic. Imagine if C&C WAS more serious than a real mouse trap... :S

Hangman

Just say 'jazz'. No one ever would suspect that word, I saw it on TV.

Connect Four

An excellent game of strategy anyone can play. Here the war between cheerfulness (yellow) and passion (red) never ends. Ever. But if I had to put money on who would win, I'd probably say red. It's hard to take happy soldiers seriously.

Simon

A great sounding game that's far less patronising than 'Simple Simon', which is apparently a card game. Luckily I'd never heard of it before and I'm praying it really is ultra obscure. Anyway, in Simon you have to remember colours. According to the theory I should have an advantage over other people, but that's not true. :(

Poker

Could be a card game, could be a medieval torture device. And I thought mouse trap was bad. I can only imagine the kinds of people who think this one is fun. Very disturbing.

Russian Roulette

This one is last because it could well be the last game a player will ever play. I'll tell you a proper game: Armored Core. In that you can design your own mechs! Crucially there is no option where you can make your creation shoot yourself, as what would be the point??

Ok! That was a number of mostly random games for you, one pest control method, one torture device and one method of suicide. This monologue ended up far darker than I was expecting it to. Actually I was expecting it to be good clean fun. What's my favourite game on the list? Hmm. Simon SOUNDS good, but I think my fav has to be hangman. Jazz? You can't lose. Bye!