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# BAKER'S × DOZEN ×



Facilitator Guide

# Get ready!

As the game facilitator, you have 5 easy tasks to get the most out of your game. You can play the game too, but keep in mind, this may expose you to hints as you give them to other players.

1. Reserve a space to play and decide on teams beforehand.
2. Set up the game materials.
3. Start the game.
4. Be the hint master.
5. Lead the post-game discussion.

# Reserve a place to play the game.

This game can be played in one large room or in multiple smaller rooms with table space for each team. Just make sure each team has a laptop with internet or a cell phone so they can access the game site to enter their final answer.

If you're playing with all of your teams in one large room, separate teams as much as possible to avoid eavesdropping.

Split teams into 3-5 members each. Ideally, each team will have 5 people. We recommend splitting up friends, office teams, or departments so people can work with others they don't interact with day-to-day.

**Pro Tip:** Assign the teams in advance so the game runs more smoothly right away.

# Set up the game materials.

Give each team one of the pink Baker's Dozen boxes, some pens, and make sure each team can access the game site. Website link is below and is given in each box.

When you're ready to start, set an 80 minute timer.

**If you don't have access to the game site:** At the end of 80 minutes, read the correct suspect and victim located at the back of this guide.

Even with access to the game site, players may want to hear why suspects were eliminated. The answers are in the back of this guide.



**All teams will open up  
and use all the envelopes:**

Regardless of team size, all envelopes and items should be used.

**To access the game site:**

Go to [www.bakersdozenfanmail.com](http://www.bakersdozenfanmail.com)

# Start the game!

## Starting Instruction Speech (or make your own!)

-We're about to play Team Building Kits—Baker's Dozen. Each team will be of a set of judges on a reality baking show. One of the contestants is trying to poison one of you: the judges. In teams, you'll have to figure out which contestant is trying to poison a judge, why they're doing it, and which judge they want dead. Otherwise you or one of your fellow judges might not make it out alive.

- You'll have 80 minutes.

- When I say "start," you may open the box. There is a card titled "Start Here" to get you started.

- The introduction letter will name a website and instructions for how to enter your final answer. The internet for any other purposes is not allowed.

- If you're stuck at any point during the game, send one member to come see me for an additional hint.

- Once the game is over, we'll come back together and see which teams solved it.

- If you finish early, double-check your work and make sure you looked over everything. Then discuss with your team how you worked together to solve it so fast.

## Be The Hint Master

People may come to you for hints if they're stuck.

Tell the teams where you'll be located if you're participating in the game so people can find you. Otherwise, walk around and visit each group throughout the game.

For Hints: Ask which puzzle or document they're stuck on and find the corresponding hint on the Hint Sheet. Give one hint at a time or as needed. But be careful if you're playing too, as you might accidentally learn an answer.

**Pro Tip:** If you're not playing, read the hints ahead of time so you're familiar with the game.

# Lead the Discussion After the Game

The right answer will be revealed when they enter it into the game site. After the 80 minutes or when all teams are done, gather back together to have a post-game discussion to talk about how teams worked together and how they can take those lessons into their work.

## **Sample Discussion Questions:**

- Which teams got the right answer? Did you get it right on the first try? Which teams didn't?
- What did the successful teams do well?
- What could the unsuccessful teams do better?
- Did you notice anything that helped you work better together as you were going through everything?

- Would you have done anything differently?
- What can we take away from this experience?
- How can we move faster as a team without sacrificing quality?
- How did teams overcome working with new people on this project?
- Anything else you want your team to focus on.

Feel free to give out the items from the boxes as prizes for people who demonstrated exceptional skills. Or, make one person from each team dress up in all the kitchenware for a photo!

**Pro Tip:** Ask your Team Building Kits rep about our post-event engagement survey to see what people thought and get ideas on how to improve your culture.

# You did it!

You're well on your way to a happier, more productive team.

Now, there's good news and bad news.

**Bad News:** The effects of this experience will wear off if you don't continually foster a cohesive culture.

**Good News:** Team Building Kits is designed to be played every quarter. And we have different themed games to choose from. Each game helps develop and reinforce your company culture, teamwork skills, and problem solving ability. Reach out to your Team Building Kits rep and we'll get you on the path to company culture success.

# Hints

Use these when people need hints

**ANSWERS GIVEN IN THE NEXT SECTION.**

## GAME SITE

- Refer to yourself by the nickname she gives you.

### Matteo Mancini - “THE ROMANTIC” JUDGE

- Matteo got his start working at a bakery in NYC. Identifying other characters from NYC may help reveal a connection.

- Matteo is allergic to tree nuts. Identifying recipes that contain tree nuts may help determine whether Matteo is the intended victim and who the killer might be.

### Letter to Matteo

**Hint 1** - The letter is signed from “B”. Three other characters have the first initial B. Look for ways to distinguish which character it is.

**Hint 2** - The letter is dated 1994. Finding other documents that have a similar date may help spur a connection.

**Hint 3** - The final line, "Still wish you could read the first letter I wrote to you" hints at a cryptic message encoded in this letter and how to reveal it.

## **Alex McMannis - “THE INNOVATOR” JUDGE**

### **Alex’s Name Card**

- Alex runs an investment firm called Chef’s Reserve. Identifying other characters with ties to Chef’s Reserve may help reveal a connection.

- Alex is allergic to peanuts. Identifying recipes that contain peanuts or other closely related legumes may help determine if Alex is the intended victim, and who the killer is.

### **Chef’s Reserve Proposals Investment Spreadsheet**

**HINT 1** - Find which characters previously applied for funding and the result of their application to discover possible motive.

## **ANASTASIA NALOTROVNA - “THE CRITIC” JUDGE**

- Anastasia is a food critic. What contestants did she criticize?

- Anastasia is allergic to coconut. Recipes that use coconut might reveal if she’s the intended victim.

## Restaurant Review

**Hint 1** - The chef responsible for baking the cookies that nearly killed Anastasia had the initial "J". That chef was fired and might hold a grudge.

### **EDMUND CLIFFE - "THE LUMINARY" JUDGE**

- Edmund is allergic to coconut. Any recipe that uses coconut could make him the intended victim.

## Completed Rubric

**Hint 1** - Edmund suspects a contestant of cheating in the previous round by using store-bought jam instead of homemade, which could make a desperate contestant take drastic measures.

### **OLIVIA DE LA HUERTA - "THE OPTIMIST" JUDGE**

- Olivia is allergic to tree nuts. Identifying recipes that contain tree nuts may help determine whether Olivia is the intended victim, and who the killer might be.

## Autographed Headshot

- Olivia's message to Julian suggests they are on good terms and Anastasia and Julian are not.

## OTHER CLUES

### Letter to the Health Inspector (found in the chef's hat)

**Hint 1** - This letter was written by someone with a vendetta against the restaurants 'Ma Petite Choux', 'Sweet Streets', and 'Glaze of our Lives'. Does one of the judges have a connection to all three?

**Hint 2** - This letter contains a secret message that can be revealed by using one of the items in the box. Look closely at the letter to determine which item will reveal the message.

### Bakery Snapshot (found in the apron)

**Hint 1** - The woman in this photo worked at a bakery called La Dolce Vita. The date on the photo is Spring 1994. Look for other documents that mention this bakery and/or year to find connections between characters.

## Cookbook Foreword

**Hint 1** - Julian reveals he was once fired for almost killing a customer by triggering an allergy. Who was that?

**Hint 2** - Julian's discussion of flour substitutions mentions that lupin is a close cousin of the peanut. This means that lupin may trigger a peanut allergy.

## Whisk Magazine

**Hint 1** - The profile of Summer suggests she holds a grudge against someone who once called her fusion style "played out".

## Bakery Article

**Hint 1** - The article reveals the bakery where Matteo got started was called La Dolce Vita. It also shows that Belle is disdainful of Matteo for not coming to the aid of the bakery when it closed.

## RECIPE CARDS

## Blood Orange and Ricotta Cream Sponge Cake

**Hint 1** - This recipe has an Italian flavor. Which contestant would make something like this?

**Hint 2** - The substitution is encoded by scrambling the letters of each word.

## Curry Mango Chiffon Cake

**Hint 1** - This recipe is a fusion-style bake. Who bakes like this?

**Hint 2** - The substitutions are encoded by breaking every two syllable word into two parts and scrambling the fragments

## Lemon Lavender Angel Food Dream

**Hint 1** - The cake is a southern-style bake and it mentions the chef having a daughter. Who could fit this description?

**Hint 2** - The phrases in her recipe are written out using the NATO spelling alphabet (A=Alpha, B=Bravo, etc.).

## Strawberry Cloud Chocolate Cake

**Hint 1** - All the ingredients are vegan. Which chef is vegan?

**Hint 2** - The substitutions are encoded by a shift cipher, based on the number of the ingredient in the ingredient list. #12 refers to the 12th ingredient in the list, and shifts the letters in the phrase backward 12 spaces. #16 refers to the 16th ingredient in the list, and shifts the letters backward 16 spaces.

## Mocha Dacquoise

**Hint 1** - This is a French dish. Who would bake like this?

**Hint 2** - The substitutions are written using a shift cipher. The star symbols indicate the number of places the cipher text should be shifted to reveal the plain text. The stars relate to the number of Michelin stars this chef hopes to earn: 3. Thus, each letter of the message should be shifted 3 places backward in the alphabet.

**Hint 3** - After shifting the letters, there is another code. Try looking at these words in different ways and you'll find the "right" way to read it.



# ANSWERS

This section reveals the answers

## **SPOILER WARNING:**

The remaining pages contain solutions to the puzzles in this Team Building Kit game. Do not read past this point if you don't want to see any spoilers!

## **Belle Buchanan**

Belle thinks Matteo turned his back on the bakery that gave him his start, a sin in the culinary world. She's also aware that Edmond knows she used store-bought jam in the last round and wanted her eliminated from the show. Is this enough to turn deadly?

She bakes the Lemon Lavender Angel Food Dream.

When deciphered, the phrases translate to "superfine", "cream of tartar", and "cake". There are no potential allergens in the recipe.

Belle is innocent!

## **Julian Vargas**

Julian was fired after a review from Anastasia which caused him to need to reinvent himself. Does Julian hold a grudge?

He bakes the Strawberry Cloud Chocolate Cake.

His substitution says "non-dairy butter" and "coconut oil". The removal of coconut oil clears Julian.

Julian is innocent!

## **Summer Savage**

Summer was told by Alex, the industry's top investor, that her beloved fusion style is "played out" and denied her funding. Will she take that news personally?

She bakes the Curry Mango Chiffon Cake.

When deciphered, the recipe says "Increase curry powder if it's not spicy enough" and "Remember to leave off the crushed peanuts!"

Summer is innocent!

## **Camilla Siciliano**

Camilla and Matteo are both connected to the bakery La Dolce Vita in NYC. Camilla's mother, Bianca, wrote the letter to Matteo. Camilla's birthday is in 1994, the same year as the dates on the letter to Matteo. Camilla is Matteo's long-lost daughter. Does she hold a grudge for Matteo not saving her mother's bakery?

She bakes the Blood Orange and Ricotta Cream Sponge Cake.

When deciphered, the recipe says "Leave out marzipan! Use apricot seed paste instead."

Camilla is innocent!

## **Jean-Marc Legrand**

Jean-Marc believes his baking skills are the best in the world, but he was refused seed money from Alex to build his business and was so angered by it that he sent an anonymous letter to the health inspector to shut down Chef's Reserve. Will he take bigger measures.

His recipe was the Mocha Dacquoise.

When deciphered, his recipe reveals nonsense words. Yet, when each word is read from right to left, it says "No American butter, only French butter" and "Instead of almond flour, use lupin flour."

The cookbook page mentions that luplin is closely related to

the peanut. Along with Jean-Marc's motive and the fact that no other recipes include allergens, it becomes clear that:

***Jean-Marc Legrand is the Murderer!!!***

