

Bootstrap Economics – Instruction Manual

Game Objective; Navigate real-life entrepreneurial scenarios to grow your net worth. Earn income, overcome setbacks, pitch your business, vote on policies, and enhance your financial literacy. Use your in-game earnings to unlock real services in the Bootstrap Marketplace. The player with the highest net worth at the end of the game wins!

Step 1: Register on the Bootstrap Portal

Before starting the game, players are encouraged to register their business at:

www.bootstrapconomics.co

By registering, players unlock:

- Access to live pitch contests
- One-on-one coaching and technical assistance (TA)
- The ability to submit business ideas for peer feedback and small grant opportunities
- Exclusive access to real-time leaderboards, policy voting, and digital resource downloads



Step 2: Take the Pre-Game Financial IQ Test

Begin gameplay by completing a 4-question **Financial IQ Pretest**.

Questions will be answered progressively when landing on designated QR code boxes during the game.

Step 3: Determine Starting Order

- Each player rolls a die – the highest roll goes first.
- Each player flips a coin:
 - Heads = move 1 space per turn
 - Tails = move 2 spaces per turn

Gameplay Mechanics

- Players move counterclockwise around the board, beginning to the right of the starting box.
- Each space simulates a real-world business event – revenue, expense, bonus, or setback.
- Some spaces prompt players to scan QR codes for deeper digital interaction, rewards, or policy voting.
- Have fun! On each turn, players take turns answering a trivia question or responding to a trivia prompt on the box they land on.

QR Code Interaction (2nd–4th QR Code Spaces):

- Roll two dice and add the total (2–12).
- Scan the QR code and input your dice total to view the corresponding outcome:
 - Incentive reward
 - Business setback
 - Policy voting opportunity

In-Game Currency:

- Players earn and manage Bootstrap Coins throughout the game.
- Bootstrap Coins can be redeemed for real-world services via the digital marketplace – up to \$1,000 in in-game currency.

Special Interactive Features

Financial IQ Tracking

At the start of the game, each player completes a 4-question Financial IQ Pretest. These same questions will be revisited during gameplay.

When a player lands on the Financial IQ QR code checkpoint:

- Scan the QR code to access the Financial IQ portal.
- Players have 30 seconds to submit their answers (timed by a designated timekeeper).
- For each correct answer, players will receive the corresponding in-game reward or outcome, based on the results in the portal.

When a player lands on a Swap space, they must follow the prompt:

- Risky Swap – Swap all Bootstrap Coins with another player.
- Risky Swap – Swap your board position (pawns) with another player.

Pitch Contest Spaces

- Pitch your business idea aloud to your peers.
- Scan the QR code and input your dice total to view the corresponding outcome.

Policy Watch

- Scan QR codes to vote on live business policies
- View real-time national voting results
- Engage in civic awareness and small business advocacy

End of Game

- Once a player reaches the final square, all remaining players take one last turn
- The player with the highest net worth may collect 10% interest from each remaining player
- Use the Net Worth tally sheet (digital download online marketplace) to calculate:
 - Revenue
 - Expenses
 - Loans
 - Final assets

Registered players can:

- Enter live pitch contests
- Receive coaching and TA
- Win funding and peer feedback to refine their business plans