

Voice-activated Monopoly tells players: 'You're bankrupt!'

June 21 2019



With Monopoly Voice Banking, Hasbro brings its beloved game into the era of voice assistants: an electronic version of Mr Monopoly's top hat sits in the middle of the board, talking—and listening—to players

What fictional financial wisdom might the mustachioed, top-hat-wearing billionaire Mr Monopoly dole out to a regular board-game player?

It will soon be possible to find out, with a new [voice](#)-command version of the iconic [game](#) available in the US July 1.

It's cash-free, all the better to thwart cheating players—or the risk of losing the classic colorful slips.

With Monopoly Voice Banking, Hasbro brings its beloved game into the era of voice assistants: an electronic version of Mr Monopoly's top hat sits in the middle of the board, talking—and listening—to players.

And the character inside is ruthless: "You're bankrupt!" he might yell out, if players fail to manage their money well.

Players must interact with the hat by pressing a button corresponding to their characters to ask how much is in their accounts, to buy a particular property along the board, and even to draw virtual cards.

The instructions lay out all of the voice commands players can use with the hat.

In an effort to speed up the notoriously long game, this new [version](#) allows a maximum of only four players instead of six, offers fewer properties and ditches the option of acquiring railroads or the electric company.

And with Mr Monopoly himself controlling every transaction, Monopoly Voice Banking makes it nearly impossible to cheat, since no one will be able to engage in the time-honored strategy of slipping a few fake notes up his or her sleeve

Watch out, though—players can still be ordered to "Go to jail."

© 2019 AFP

Citation: Voice-activated Monopoly tells players: 'You're bankrupt!' (2019, June 21) retrieved 10 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2019-06-voice-activated-monopoly-players-youre-bankrupt.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.