

# HOW TO PLAY

FIRST EDITION

Robotics have reached a point where humans have become an obsolete workforce. As humanity grow aimless and technologies relentlessly progress, wrecks of discarded bots pile up in giants scrapyards all over the world.

Bitter crowds start gathering around coliseums of scraps, for what would later be called "The Game of Debris."

Scavenging and repairing bots, in the prospect of throwing them against opponents, has become a thriving economy.

You're an engineer, and your ability to build and repair bots shines through, turning toasters into gladiators. Business is booming, and you need to get rid of the inconvenient competition.



# INTRODUCTION

Each player starts with a companion and a handful of debris cards. Each turn, players use debris for building, trading, and assigning tasks to their roster of bots.

Through the Maintenance & Business phases of a turn, players use cards from their hand to acquire packaged bots from the Market, build them, deceive their opponent, and stay alive. Once built, bots are used to draw more cards and get an edge on the competition. They have perks and defects that will affect their efficiency, as well as how they interact with the other components in play.

Each model of bot comes in differents versions, ranging from questionably operational to unexpectedly potent. Packaged bots are only revealed once built, so it's up to players to make the best from their luck and memory.

The goal of each player is to seize all of his opponent's cards, emptying his hand. A player wins the game when his opponent doesn't have any cards in his hand at the end of a turn.

# COMPONENTS

There are two main types of cards in Debris: the Bots cards and the Debris cards.



x35

Bots are two-faced cards. The back is the packaging, with **Trading value**, **Building costs**, as well as perk advertising ① — meaning at least one of the *functional* models has the advertised perks. The front shows the *functional* bot, with its stats, perks & **Recycle ^^** value.





Bot Back (packaging)

Bot Front (functional)

- A → The Carry A represents the bot's ability to draw cards.
- ⊕ The Attack × represents how much damage it deals
   in combat, and its Durability ⊕ how much damage
   it can sustain between turns. If a bot has sustained an
   amount of damage equal or superior to its Durability,
   it is destroyed.
- The Recycle △ value represents how many cards can be salvaged (drawn from the Scrapyard) when the bot is destroyed.
- The Perks & Defects of a bot are gameplay modifiers that affect how the bot interacts with other components & rules.
- **(f)** → The **Trading** cost of a *packaged* bot tells how much it costs to acquire the bot.
- **⑥** → The **Building** cost shows how many of each resource type (**Carry ○**, **Attack ◆** & **Durability ○**) must be *attached* to this bot in order to **reveal** it.
- Dice show how many different rolls are possible for a given packaging, and how good they can be. The higher, the better.

The complete and detailed list of **Perks & Defects** is located at the back of this rulebook.

















Important: There is a direct relationship between a packaged bot's Building costs and its stats. The higher the Building costs in a given category, the higher the related stat will be.

## ★ COMPANION CARDS x5

**Companions** are a special type of bot. They are only used during the setup of the game and when specific conditions are met. They cannot be traded and do not have any Building costs.



Back (packaging)



# ♦ DEBRIS CARDS

Debris are single-faced cards. They have **Trading** and Building values. Traps, while considered Debris cards, only have a Trading value, and thus may not be used to build bots.





Common Debris

Trap

- **A** → The **Trading value** of a Debris card tells how valuable it is in a trade. Debris cards from a player's hand are used to acquire packaged Bots on the table, either from the Market Row or an Opponent's side.
- B → The Building values of a Debris card tell you how much they can contribute to building a packaged Bot when attached to one. They are split in the same three categories found on a packaged bot: Carry , Attack & Durability

# SETUP

To set up the game, separate all the cards into 4 piles:

- ♠ → The Scrapyard contains all Debris cards except the traps.
- **B** → The **Traps** pile contains all the Trap cards.
- The Market contains all the bot cards except the Companions.

Shuffle all piles separately and place them facedown on the table. Lay down the top five cards of the Market pile (packaged side up) in order to create the Market Row (3).



Your setup should look like this

Leave some room on the side of the **Market** & **Scrapyard**: these will be each pile's trash.



Once any pile (except **Traps** that are a limited resource) is depleted, shuffle its trash pile in order to refill it.

Each player draw 8 **Debris** cards from the **Scrapyard** (Never show your opponent your hand.), and a **Companion** Bot from the **Companion** pile.

Companions are placed *packaged* side up on each player's side of the table.

A player dissatisfied with her initial cards may take a mulligan. To do so, shuffle any number of cards from your hand into the **Scrapyard**, then draw back up to eight.



# HOW TO PLAY

Players alternate taking turns until a turn ends with an empty-handed player. That player loses the game to his opponent.

The player who has read an Asimov book most recently starts the game.

Each turn is divided in two phases: **Maintenance** and **Business**. Once a player ends his **Business** Phase (either by choice or because he can't do any more actions for that turn), his turn is finished, and his opponent's turn starts.



Important: The first player skips her Maintenance Phase, and thus cannot reveal her Companion bot on the first turn.

# PHASES

# **™** MAINTENANCE PHASE

This is the very beginning of a player turn. Maintenance steps are executed in specified order.

### (1) 1: Reveal packaged bots

You may reveal (turn face-up) any of your built packaged bots. A packaged bot is considered built once the total of Building values attached to it is equal or superior to its Building costs. The bot becomes functional and available, and any card attached to the bot goes to the Scrapyard's trash pile. (see p.14)



### 2: Reset unavailable bots

Any bot that became *unavailable* on your last turn goes back to an *available* state (standing straight). Clear any damages it may have sustained since its last **Reset**.



### 3: Companion Check

If you don't have a **Companion** (*revealed* or *packaged*), draw one from the **Companion** pile and place it *packaged* side up on your side of the table (reveal it on your next turn).

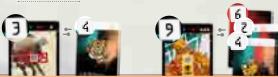
# ≥ BUSINESS PHASE

You can do any of the following in any order, as many times you want.

### Trading

Acquire a *packaged* bot from the **Market Row** or your **opponent's side** (with or without consent), according to the rules below. Once per turn, you may also acquire a **Trap** from the **Traps** pile.

→ Market Row: Trade cards with a total Trading value equal or superior to the *packaged* bot you want to acquire. Traded cards go into the Scrapyard's trash pile, and the *packaged* bot is placed on your side of the table. Lay down the first bot of the Market pile in the Market Row so there are always five *packaged* bots available.



→ Opponent's side: Trade cards with a total Trading value equal or superior to the *packaged* bot you want to acquire, as well as the sum of all the cards *attached* to it, plus 2. Traded cards go into your opponent's hand, and the *packaged* bot is placed on your side of the table along with all the Debris cards *attached* to it (they stay *attached* to the *packaged* bot).



opponent's packaged bot with attached debris

ards traded fron your hand

- → Trap pile: Trade cards with a total Trading value equal or superior to 4. Draw the first card of the Traps pile and put it in your hand; traded cards go into the Scrapyard's trash pile. This can only be done once per turn.
- ⚠ **Important:** When **trading** cards in excess of the required **value**, the extra amount is lost and may not be transferred toward another **trade**. *Packaged* **Companion** bots cannot be traded away.

Phase 2: Business Phase 2: Business 13

### + Building

Attach any number of **Debris** cards from your hand to any of your packaged bots to **build** them. Attached cards are no longer in your possession; they are bound to the packaged bot until it is revealed. You cannot move attached cards from a packaged bot to another, nor can you take them back in your hand.

A packaged bot is considered built once the total of **Building values** (white background) attached to it is equal or superior to its **Building cost** (black background).



Important: You don't have to build a packaged bot on the same turn you acquired it, and can take as long as you want to do so. You can attach as many card as you want, even if the values exceed the costs. A built bot can only be revealed during the Maintenance phase: you cannot reveal it the same turn it is built.

### $\rightarrow$ Tasking

Each *revealed* and *available* bot may be **assigned** one task per turn. When a bot is given a task, it is dedicated to it and becomes *unavailable* (turned 90°) until your next turn. An *unavailable* bot cannot **intercept** an opponent's bots.



*Note:* It may be wise to keep some bots *available* as a line of defense during your opponent's turn.

### → Scavenge

Send the bot on a scavenging mission. **Draw** a number of cards from the **Scrapyard** equal to that bot's **Carry** .

#### → Brawl

Attack another bot. Choose one of your opponent's revealed bots (*available* or *unavailable*) as a target. Your opponent may choose one of his *available* bots to intercept your attacker. If he does, that bot become the new target.

A fight is resolved between your bot and its target. Each bot simultaneously deals damages equal to its Attack to the other. If a bot has sustained an amount of damages equal or superior to its Durability, it is destroyed. When a bot is destroyed during a Brawl, it is placed in

the Market's trash pile. Companions are shuffled in the Companion pile. Its owner draw a number of cards from the **Scrapyard** equal to the trashed bot's **Recycle** ^ value.



bots are mutually destroyed

Recycle 4 is drawn by both owners, attacker draw first.



7 × 67





Lamb T-1 is destroyed

Recycle 4 is drawn by its owner.

Sc4veng-R sustain 2 damages, its Durability of is now 5 until its next Reset.

Important: Damages stack between fights and are only cleared during the bot owner's Maintenance phase. If necessary, use tokens, coins, or anything handy to keep track of damages in-between turns.

### → Ransack

Loot your opponent's hand. She can choose one of her available bots to intercept your bot. If he does, the Ransack becomes a Brawl. Your bot is the attacker, and your opponent's bot is its target.

Otherwise, draw a number of cards from your opponent's hand equal to your bot's Carry & stat. Cards are chosen randomly, drawn one at a time, and put into your hand. If your opponent does not have enough cards in hand, that's unfortunate, but you can't draw more.



If you draw a Trap, the Ransack is interrupted keep the cards drawn prior to the Trap — and your bot is destroyed. The Trap is removed from the game, and your opponent draws a number of cards from the Scrapyard equal to your bot's Recycle ^ value.

Important: When a Trap is drawn by a Defuser bot, all Trap rules apply; however as the bot is not destroyed, no Recycle  $\stackrel{\wedge}{\longrightarrow}$  is drawn by the Trap's owner.



Important: A Cautious bot does not trigger a Trap unless you choose to draw it from the ones looked at.



# END POINT

At the end of any turn, if a player has no card left in hand, he is unable to keep up with his business and maintenance costs. He goes bankrupt.

His opponent wins the game.

# TWISTS

Once you get used to Debris's rules & mechanics, you can spice up gameplay a bit by twisting several rules.

### RANDOM TRAPS

Instead of buying **Traps** from the **Traps** pile, shuffle them directly into the **Scrapyard** during the game's setup. They only explode during a **Ransack**.

## OWNER'S CHOICE

**Recycle** rules do not apply normally (except for **Traps**). When a bot is *destroyed*, instead of going to the **Market** trash pile, its owner chooses one of the following:

- → Recycle the bot: draw its Recycle ^, value from the Scrapyard and put the *destroyed* bot in the Market's trash pile.
- → Keep the bot: turn the *destroyed* bot *packaged* side up, as if you just acquired it from the **Market Row**.

# SPECIAL THANKS

The author would like to thank Lorelei L'Affeter, Benjamin Fardel, Charlotte Fardel, David Muyombo, Samantha Lhoir, Gabriel Rodrigues & Jonathan Vautier for testing the game and their suggestions, as well as supporting and believing in the game at its earliest stages, and everyone that has contributed to Debris.

A very special thanks goes to Lorelei L'Affeter, for her patience and continuous support from the very beginning.

Game design & Art by
Timothé Lapetite

Acid Cake 2017 www.acid-cake.com

18 End Point & Twists Credits & Thanks

### PERKS & DEFECTS

#### Asimov's Laws



Cannot do **Ransack**. If possible, must **intercept** any **Ransack** against its owner.

#### Berserk



Cannot do **Scavenge**. Must **Brawl** or **Ransack** every turn.

#### Cautious



When drawing cards, look at **X** cards. Draw only one and put the others back in any order. **X** = bot's .

### Shifty



Cannot be **intercepted** when doing a **Ransack** or **Brawl**, except by another **Shifty** bot.

#### Restless



May perform a **second task** each turn or stay **available** after the first.

#### Threat



When doing a **Ransack**, must be **intercepted** by the opponent whenever possible.

### Defuser



Is not *destroyed* by **Traps** when doing a **Ransack**.

#### Guard



Can intercept Shifty bots.