



CURIOUS CARGO

QUICK TIP GUIDE

The goal of this document is to give you a head start on playing Curious Cargo well. While there are many different strategies to pursue in playing Curious Cargo, this document will help you gain a better understanding of how to be successful in your first few plays of the game.

Warning: If you want to discover these tips through your own play, we advise you to stop reading and put this document away!

TRUCKS & TRUCK CARDS

Try to maintain a healthy hand size of Truck Cards. This will provide flexibility and allow you to plan out a sequence of Card plays.

In the Trucking Phase, you have 1 of 3 things you can do: Play Truck Cards, Discard a Truck Card to get Conveyor Tiles, or Discard Conveyor Tiles to get a Truck Card. There is nothing wrong with passing on a turn in this phase. This is especially true in the beginning of the game as you are building your lines and amassing your supply of Conveyor Tiles and Truck Cards.

In the Trucking Phase, Discarding a Truck Card for Conveyor Tiles is a powerful action. This will help you build up a supply of Conveyor Tiles needed for building your lines. This action is often underutilized for beginner players.

Don't be afraid to send trucks to your opponent's side. This move can really hinder their planning on their Shipping side. Also, playing the right Truck to your opponent's Shipping side might push the perfect Truck over to your Receiving side where you have the correct lines to Receive the goods on that Truck!

CONVEYOR TILES & LINES

Try to maintain a healthy amount of Conveyor Tiles in your Storage. This will provide flexibility and allow you to strategically plan out your lines. The order in which you place Tiles into Storage is also important.

In the Trucking Phase, Discarding Conveyor Tiles for a Truck Card is a powerful action. This will help you build up a supply of Truck Cards in your hand. Plan and place your Conveyor Tiles into Storage to be used to discard for Truck Cards in the Trucking Phase. This action is often underutilized for beginner players.

Try not to put yourself in situations where you are looking for specific tiles. The probability of you drawing the exact tile you need is very low. Instead, you can almost always build the desired shape by stacking Tiles and/or utilizing a combination of multiple Tiles.

Use the Scaffolding Tiles. If you went through the game and you still have several in your supply, it's likely you missed more efficient building opportunities. Remember, Scaffolding Tiles do not give any points during End Game Scoring.

Being flexible in planning and building your lines is key. Be willing to adjust and/or terminate lines. Purposely leave Conveyor Tiles in Storage that will help you better manipulate your lines in the future.

Adapt your lines to the Trucks in play and the Truck Cards you have in your hand.

Try to keep your Shipping lines out of sync with your opponent's Receiving lines while keeping your Receiving lines in sync with their Shipping lines. If your Receiving lines are identical to the position and color of your opponent's Shipping lines, it becomes very difficult for your opponent to prevent you from Receiving their goods.

OVERALL

Make sure you can complete the minimum shipping requirement of 2 of each good.

Try to plan out sequences for both your line construction and your Truck Cards.

If you find yourself playing from an empty hand of Truck Cards and relying on drawing the top card of the deck, you're probably in trouble. This is also true if you have an empty Storage and are relying on drawing the perfect tile from the draw bag. Instead, focus on adapting your Truck Card sequence to your lines and the construction of your lines to the Truck Cards in your hand.

Typically it is easier to Ship goods on lower numbered Shipping docks, but it's also easier for your opponent to Receive those goods.

For a deeper dive into the strategy and tactics of playing Curious Cargo, in this video, Ryan Courtney talks through his decisions and explains the logic behind his moves: <https://www.twitch.tv/videos/737545878?t=90s>