

# Bingo Genie

## Press Review Guide

**Revision: 2022-09**

### Overview

Bingo Genie is a Macintosh software application that helps users quickly create and print customized "Bingo Game Cards", using their own lists of words or phrases. The bingo cards can then be used to teach vocabulary, science or math in schools, or for party games, or special company events, or distribute/sell as card packs. It also has a built-in "Caller Mode" screen which scrambles and presents the Bingo items, one at a time, allowing interactive game-play.

### Reviewer - Free Promo Code

Please feel free to request a "Promo Code" from me if you wish to receive a free fully-functioning copy of the full software to review. <mailto:note@schwansongs.com>

### Details

#### Product Name

Whirlwind WordSearch

#### Hardware/Software Requirements

Runs on a Macintosh, Intel or Apple Silicon, under Mac OS 10.12 or newer.

#### Price

\$14.99 USD, with a free "Lite" version separately available

#### Latest Version

version 1.2.0, released September 2022

#### Download

The software is available on the Apple App Store, and there is a free "Lite" version available as well, with a reduced set of features. The Lite version is available on the Apple App Store, and also can be directly downloaded from the Product Web Page. See enclosed "FeatureComparison.png" chart to review the feature differences between the full and lite versions.

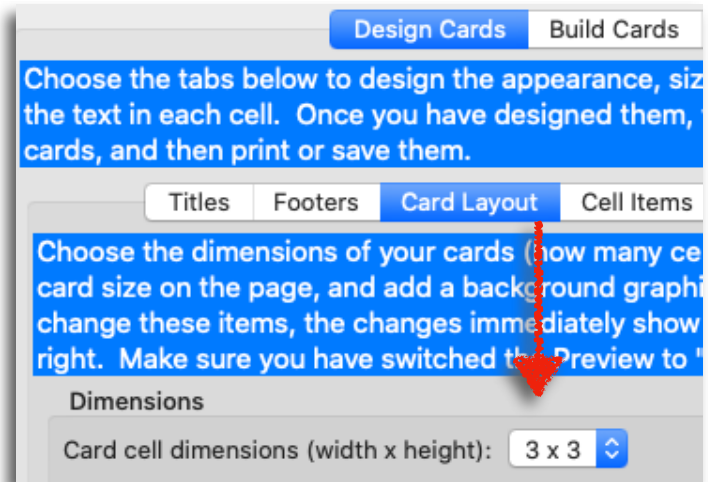
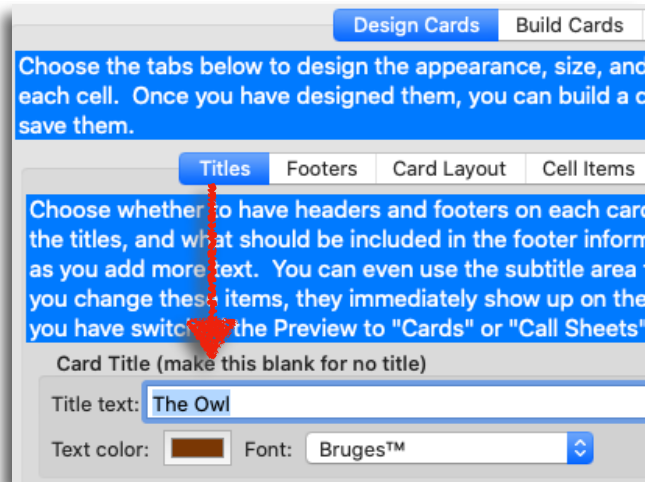
# Features

- Choose card sizes from 3x3, 4x4, 5x5, 6x6, or 7x7.
- Create a deck of any number of cards, from 4 up to 100 unique cards, with an accompanying call sheet that lists each cell item used on the cards.
- Use your own list of words or phrases for the cell items, including different languages or emoji, and choose your own fonts and colors for the cell items.
- Optionally add your own title and subtitle above the cards, and footer below with card number, and choose your own font and color for the text.
- Turn on or off the "FREE" cell in the middle, and choose your own word/font/size/color for the Free cell.
- Turn on or off the display of the "BINGO" letters above the columns, and choose your own font and color for the text.
- Choose a different color and size for the grid lines around the card cells, or turn the grid lines off completely.
- Optionally add your own background image or solid color behind the cards.
- Save your designed card deck settings as a file for opening and printing later, or for sending to other Bingo Genie users.
- Automatically create a "Call Sheet" reference sheet, listing all cells used in this deck of cards. You can use this to do your random selection/calling of the cells. The call sheet comes in two formats, "list" and "cells."
- Print your deck of cards to a printer, or save the entire deck as a PDF file for later printing, sharing, or sharing/selling to others who do not have Bingo Genie.
- "Caller Mode" screen automatically displays each of your items in a random order for "calling" out to the card-holders.
- Use the uniquely generated "Deck ID" from an older printed deck to exactly "re-create" the deck with Bingo Genie, in case you need to re-print card #13 that somebody accidentally took home and lost.
- The "Deck ID" printed under each card consists of alphabetic letters, however, it is always "sanitized" to insure no embarrassing "naughty words" are accidentally embedded in it, so it will always be "classroom-safe."
- Buy this software once, use it forever. No hidden upgrade costs or extra fees. Ever.
- Run this software without a net. Bingo Genie does not need an internet connection to do its magic.

# Quick Usage Tutorial

## Design the layout of your cards

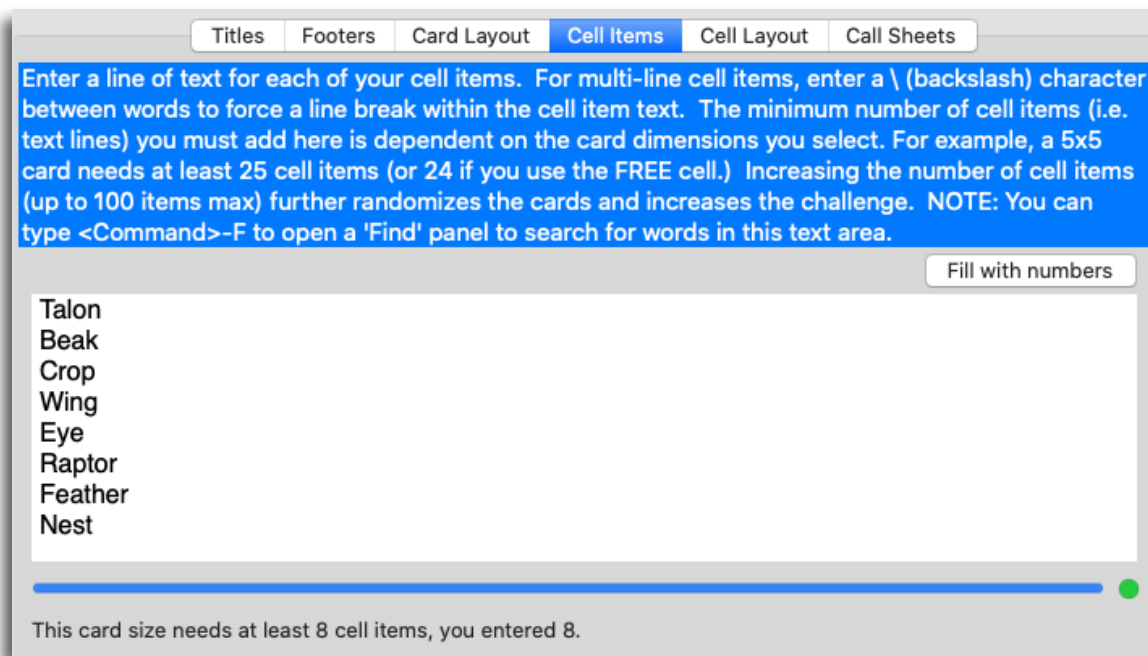
Under the "Design Cards" tab, tap the "Titles" tab and type "The Owl" for the Card Title text, and choose a font and color for the title.



Then tap the "Card Layout" tab and choose the 3x3 Card cell dimensions.

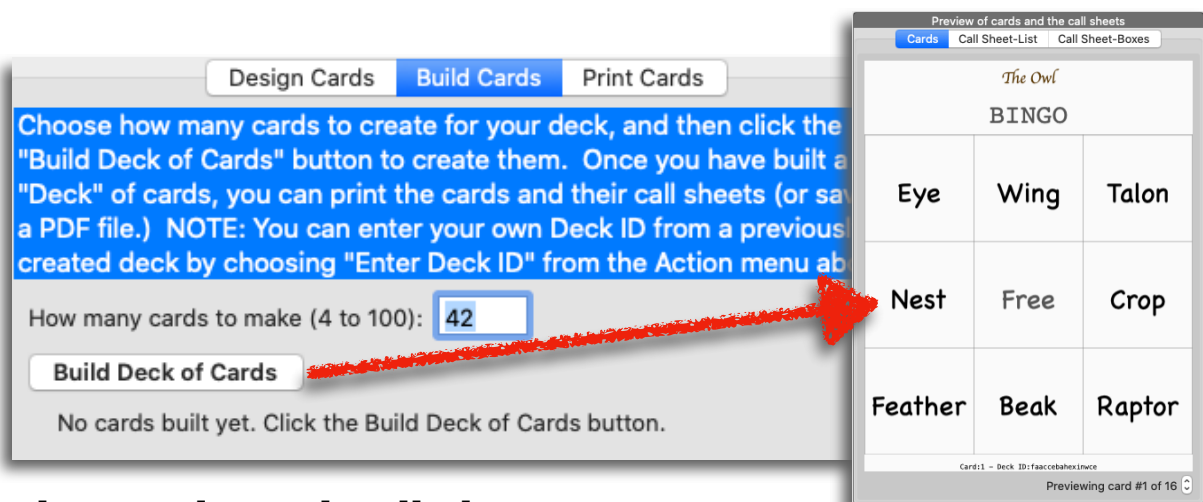
## Type in the words to use for each cell, one per line.

Under the "Design Cards" tab, tap the "Cell Items" tab, and type in one word per line: Talon, Beak, Crop, Wing, Eye, Raptor, Feather, Nest. When you have typed enough lines for this card layout size (3x3), the progress dot under the text field will change from red to green.



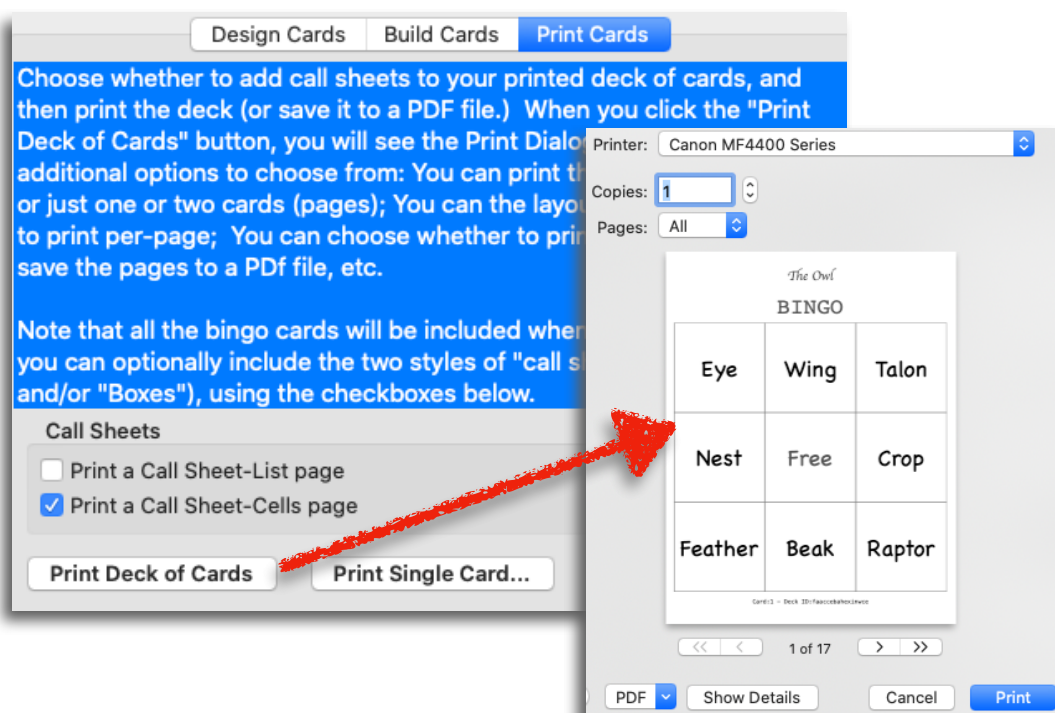
## Build a deck of 16 Bingo cards.

Choose the "Build Cards" tab, type "16" in the "How many cards to make" text field, and then tap the "Build Deck of Cards" button to make the deck. You will see a preview of one of the cards now on the right side of the window. You can tap the up/down buttons under the card preview to see each of the cards that was made. Each time you tap the "Build Cards" button, it will create a whole new deck of cards with a different "scrambled" ordering of your cell items on the cards.



## Print the cards and call sheet

Tap the "Print Cards" tab, and then tap the "Print Deck of Cards" button to bring up the print dialog. You can now tap the "Print" button to print the 16 cards and the call sheets to your printer. Just like magic.



## Use "Caller Mode" to play Bingo

Bingo Genie will not only shuffle your bingo call items, it will also display the cell items, one by one on the screen. You can call them out and/or project them on an overhead screen so game players can also see them. Bingo Genie even keeps track of which items have been called and provides you an updating listing of them. You can easily switch between the currently called item display and the listing display.

Choose "Caller Mode" from the Action menu, and Bingo Genie will display a Caller window. You can tap the buttons at the bottom to step to the next (or prior) item to call, or declare a winner. Tap the "Start Again" button to re-shuffle the order of items and start the calling over again.



You can tap the "Listing" tab at any time to display a listing of all the items that will be called in their current calling-order. It places a check-mark next to each item that was already called, and an arrow pointing to the currently-displayed item. This can help you quickly verify a winner.

# Testimonials

These are copied from recent reviews on the App Store:

<None Yet>

## Useful Links

### Product Web Page Link

<http://www.schwansongs.com/bingogenie/>

### AppStore Links

**Macintosh Version:**

Full: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/id1494313288?ls=1&mt=12>

Lite: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/id1497456252?ls=1&mt=12>

## FAQs

- **How to Change the letter font size of the cell text on my cards:** If you find that your cell text is a little too small or a little too large for the cell boxes, you can fine-tune the overall size of the letters. **For your cell text:** Under the "Design Cards" tab, select the "Cell Layout" tab, and look underneath "Cell Text Appearance" for the slider called "Font size adjustment". After building a deck of cards, you can move this slider up (larger text) or down (smaller text), while watching the "Cards" Preview text on the right to see what size works best. You may need to step through some of the previewed cards to see each of your cell text items. *Alternatively*, you can simply turn on the checkbox "Auto-scale text in each cell", and the text in each cell will grow or shrink to insure it exactly fits. Note that turning on this auto-scale checkbox affects both the Card cell text and the Call Sheet cell text, and disables their manual font-size sliders. **For the call sheet text:** Under the "Design Cards" tab, select the "Call Sheets" tab, and look for the slider called "Call Sheet - List: Font size adjustment", or "Call Sheet - Cells: Font size adjustment". You can move these sliders up (larger text) or down (smaller text), while watching one of the "Call Sheet" Previews on the right to see what size works best. **For the Title and Subtitle:** The title and subtitle will automatically shrink for longer text, and will wrap to two lines if needed.
- **How to split long box text into 2 lines:** A cell text item will automatically wrap to multiple lines if it is too long using the font size you chose. However, it wraps at word boundaries, and not necessarily the word or hyphen boundaries you might want. There is a way to tell Bingo Genie exactly where you want to break the cell text. You can enter a '\' (back-slash) character on a text item line to force a line-break, forcing it to split into multiple lines exactly where you want. Note that this technique will work for your custom "Free cell" text as well.
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- **How to quickly make several decks that have similar settings:** You may want to design a card layout and use it as a basic "template" for all future decks. Perhaps you always make 5x5 decks with a free space, and always want a subtitle of "Mr. Brown's Biology Class". Simply set up the settings the way you want, and choose "Save Default Settings" from the "Bingo Genie" menu. From now on, any new documents you create will start out with those default settings. This does not affect any existing documents you have already saved, since they now keep their own settings.
- **How to remove the Free cell from the cards:** To create Bingo cards where every box is filled, and there is no "Free" cell, simply click the "Design Cards" tab, then the "Cell Layout" tab under that. Then turn off the checkbox entitled "Place a Free cell on cards", and re-build your cards. Remember that without this cell placed on your cards, you may need to add another cell text item to have enough to build the cards.

# About

## SchwanSongs - The Company

SchwanSongs is a sole-proprietor-operated company, operated by myself, Eduard Schwan. I specialize in writing Macintosh and iOS software for education and entertainment.

## Eduard Schwan - The Author

I spent my first lifetime in San Diego California, USA, writing various kinds of software including educational, language translation, tax preparation, and video/photo editing, as well as raising children and publishing a computer graphics book.

I am now enjoying my second lifetime with my wife, surrounded by eagles and owls in the forests of Washington State. I am busily writing and publishing my own software and books, composing music, making music videos, photographing wildlife, perfecting his home-roasted coffee, traveling and exploring, and still learning and creating new things every day.

## Contact Me

I have endeavored to offer as much information as I can think of here, but I may have missed something you need... please don't hesitate to e-mail me and I will answer any questions you may have!

Please contact me here: Eduard Schwan, Sole Proprietor

e-mail: [note@schwansongs.com](mailto:note@schwansongs.com) or [schwansongs@gmail.com](mailto:schwansongs@gmail.com)

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