



BEJEWELLED 3

STRATEGY GUIDE



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A Decade of Diamonds



When we created Bejeweled® all the way back in 2000, a lot of things were different. Bejeweled was originally called Diamond Mine. PopCap was still known by our original and unfortunate name, Sexy Action Cool (long story). 'N Sync was at the top of the charts and the Y2K Bug was going to crash our computers and erase everyone's bank account.

If you'd told us what we'd be seeing a decade later, it would have seemed like pure crazy talk. Diamond Mine became Bejeweled and went on to amuse several zillion people around the world, SAC became PopCap and went from 3 dudes in an attic to more than 350 people in a half dozen offices worldwide.

Where will we all be in 2020? Will we be playing Bejeweled 8 on holographic 3-D brain-screens? Will PopCap be an evil multinational behemoth with our own private security forces hunting down bands of scrappy rebels in the wastelands? Will there be a renewal of interest in an 'N Sync reunion?

Beats me... I just make the jewels go clink. But in the meantime, we hope this latest version of our little gem-swapping game will entertain you for the next 10 years as well as it did for the last 10.

Jason Kapalka

Co-founder and Creative Director, PopCap

Welcome to Bejeweled 3



The basic concept of Bejeweled couldn't be much simpler if we tried: Match three jewels of the same color to clear them from the board. Easy, right? I mean, even a zombie could do this – well, assuming his head and arms were still attached. But if you've spent any time with any version of Bejeweled at all, you know it's not really that simple. There are always better moves to be made, higher scores to attain, friends to beat. And in Bejeweled 3, we've spent literally BILLIONS of hours (okay maybe not literally) devising all new ways to engage and challenge your brain.

For this special strategy guide we've gathered some insider tips to help give your game that extra edge on your way to becoming an Elder Bejewelian. I'd like to tell you that your humble scribe here contributed greatly to the strategies, but, the sad truth is, my "advanced strategy" mostly involves having a handy color chart around so I can keep straight which one is "blue" and which one is "yellow." (We can't all be geniuses.) So special thanks to PopCap's Stephen Notley, Ed Miller, and Michael Guillory for ~~letting me plagiarize~~ adding some actual substance here.

First, let's get a few of the basics out of the way.



Special Gems

You already know it's really not just about matching three gems. The only way to really up your game is, first, to create special gems. Here are the special gems in Bejeweled 3:

Flame Gems:

Created by making a line of four gems. When matched, Flame gems explode, destroying themselves along with all eight surrounding gems.



Star Gems:

Created by making a T- or L-shaped match. When matched, Star gems send explosive bolts of energy right, left, up and down, destroying all gems on those lines.



Hypercubes:

Created by making a line of five gems. Use them to match any adjacent gem, regardless of color, to destroy all gems of that color on the board.



Supernova Gems:

Created by making a line of six gems (it's possible!). We're actually not going to tell you what that one does. You'll have to find out for yourself. (Hey, we need to have some secrets around here!)



Every time you play Bejeweled 3, your overall score totals are added to a cumulative total. As you hit certain benchmarks, your overall rank goes up. There are 131 rank levels in Bejeweled 3, from Novice to Elder Jewelian. So if you ever want to make that senior-most rank, you'd better get cracking!

Bejeweled 3 Modes



Bejeweled 3 has eight modes of play. Four of them are available immediately, while each of the four "secret" modes unlock after hitting a specific milestone in each of the four main modes.





Classic Mode



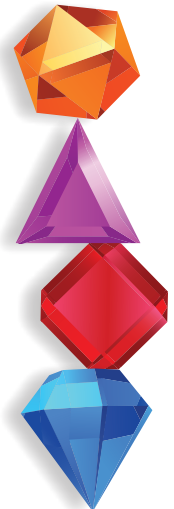
Classic is the traditional “vanilla” Bejeweled 3 game mode. This is the mode for those of you who remember when it was just about swapping three gems, without any of your fancy timers or bombs or other modern hoo-hah. And you liked it that way! Why, you used to walk 15 miles to your computer in the snow, with no shoes on, just to play the mode kids today now call “classic.”

Anyway, this is an untimed, turn-based mode, so you can take all the time you need to study the board and set up good moves. (In fact, one of PopCap’s interns is still planning his second move, 10 years later, from his very first game of Bejeweled. We stop down in his basement once a week to check his pulse.)



Keep these tips in mind while playing Classic mode:

- 1) Try to work from the top to the bottom of the board. Making matches at the top helps keep you in the game longer. Classic mode ends when there are no more physical moves possible.
- 2) Keep an eye out for bigger matches. Look for the opportunity to match four or five gems. This will create Hypercubes, Flame and Star gems, all instrumental in creating large explosions that earn lots of points and help mix up the board, potentially making it easier to find new matches.
- 3) While it’s generally best to play from the top down, matches made lower on the board are more likely to generate cascades and special gems. So balance your play accordingly.
- 4) When you earn a Hypercube, don’t get all excited and waste it on the first color you see. Use it on the color with the most gems on the screen. Better yet, just hang on to it until you have no other possible moves. The Hypercube is Classic mode’s best safety net.



Poker

How to unlock: Reach level 5 in Classic mode.

Just like the name implies, this is our version of the card game. But don't worry — you can't lose any money in Bejeweled Poker. Unless you bet with your friends, but we would never encourage that. (We won't tell on you if you do, though.)

Here's how it works: Every match you make turns over a playing card with that match's colored gem on it. Once you've made five matches (thus turning over five playing cards) your hand is complete and scored.

There are seven hands you can make (from lowest scoring to highest):



Now let's help get you to the World Series of Bejeweled Poker (Note: I just made that up. There really isn't one. Yet.):

- 1) Create wild cards to improve your poker hands. There are two ways to do this: First, if you make a move that creates two simultaneous matches, a wild card is created between the two gem types you just matched. (For example, if your move creates matching sets of both purple and yellow gems, you'll create a wild card in your hand that will be either purple or yellow.) Second, if you make a match that creates a Hypercube (five gems in a row), this will create a wild card of *any* gem type. The game will automatically figure out which color to pick to create your best hand.
- 2) Always study the board for your best possible hand before making a move. Try to identify multiple matches of the same color, then start from the top of the board and work your way down.
- 3) When going for a Full House, try to make the 3 of a Kind first before working on the Pair. Sometimes the gems that drop in may give you a 4 of a Kind or Flush instead!
- 4) Because you only get five matches in this mode, it's often better to go for simple 3-gem matches rather than holding out for a Flame or Star gem.
- 5) If you can't keep your hand confined to two colors, go for the Spectrum hand. It'll score higher than the lowly Pair.
- 6) Once you see those skulls creeping up the scoreboard, you need to start scoring better hands to keep the game going. The better the hand you make, the more points you'll score. Score enough points and you'll wipe a skull out and keep your game alive.



Lightning Mode



Lightning mode is a fast-paced, time-based mode, best played while you're fully awake, or maybe just in an excitable mood. If you've ever played Bejeweled Blitz online, you'll be right at home here, except, of course, that here your only competition is yourself.

At first glance it would seem that you've only got 60 seconds to get your best possible score, however with Lightning mode you can earn Time gems, which, when matched, add 5 or 10 seconds to your game every time. Thus, depending on how good you are, you could theoretically keep your game going forever. Or at least until it's time to get more snacks and/or pay attention to your loved ones.



These tips will help you achieve the eternal Lightning mode game:

- 1) Go for Speed Bonuses (your Speed Bonus is displayed in the upper left-hand corner of the screen above your score). Making matches quickly in succession will start adding bonus points for each match you make. Keeping your bonus going long enough and fast enough will eventually put you in Blazing Speed mode, in which every matched gem acts as a Flame gem that will explode to help quickly collect Time gems on the board.
- 2) To put that in plainer English: Worry about your speed first. Your eyes may focus on the Time gems – and of course you do want to match them, and quickly – but the faster you make *any* kind of match, the better your your game will ultimately be. Stopping to plan a move is a losing proposition.
- 3) Detonate any special gems as soon as you can. There's no "saving up" in a game this fast, and the detonations will give you a better chance at getting a Time gem on the board.
- 4) Unmatched Time gems become special gems every time the multiplier goes up, so use them to shake up the board if you're getting stuck or slowing down.
- 5) Big moves create Time gems, so go big whenever possible.

Did you know?

More than 4.5 trillion gems have been matched and destroyed in Bejeweled Blitz on Facebook since launch. That means more than half a billion gems are matched and destroyed each hour—about 16.8 billion jewels destroyed every 24 hours!



Ice Storm

How to unlock:

Score over 100,000
in Lightning mode.

Ice Storm has a bit of a reputation around the PopCap® office as the hardest or “meanest” mode in Bejeweled 3, and, well, yeah, it just might be. (The name only contributes to its image. Neither “ice” nor “storm” is as benign as, say, “butterflies.”) And there’s no question that this mode will challenge you. Ominous columns of ice creep relentlessly up the board. If one reaches the top and stays there long enough, it’s game over. And in this mode more than any other, that can happen rather quickly.

The biggest challenge with Ice Storm is that you have to think vertically, as vertical matches are what completely destroy the ice columns. Horizontal matches help, but not enough to keep your game going for very long.



Here are a few tips to help you out:

- 1) Watch the water tank to the left of the game board. Every time you make a match, it fills up the water tank a little. When the tank is full, your Multiplier level increases, and a rush of steam knocks all the ice down.
- 2) Train yourself to look for vertical matches, but don't waste time if you can't find any. Horizontal matches still help prolong your game and may help create new vertical matches in the process.
- 3) Don't waste a vertical match if there isn't any ice rising up that column yet. Hold out. It'll come soon enough.
- 4) Hypercubes will drop randomly on occasion. Try to save these and other special gems to help get you out of tight spots!
- 5) By making rapid, successive vertical matches, you'll create Column Combos that will keep your game alive longer plus score you big point bonuses – especially important when you're going for the Glacial Explorer and Ice Breaker badges, covered later in this guide!



Zen Mode



We offer you no strategies for Zen mode.
The only strategy for Zen mode
is that there is no strategy.
There is only you and the gems,
here now,
in a perfect state of being.



Relax and breathe. Be the gem. Make matches in a state of total clear-headed bliss. If you are looking for an extra challenge in this mode, we suggest you try doing it in a Downward-Facing Dog pose. On the downside, you'll be playing upside-down. On the upside, it'll be good for your digestion and bring you one step closer to inner peace. Namaste.

(By the way, while the options in this mode — available by clicking the Zen button — can enhance your experience, be minimalistic with your choices. Don't inadvertently complicate things by applying too many effects or playing them too loud. You'll just distract yourself, which is totally the opposite of what you want Zen mode to do!)

Butterflies

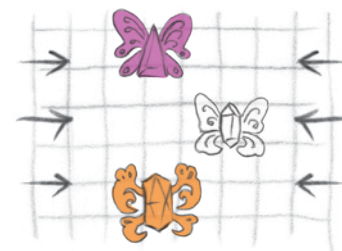
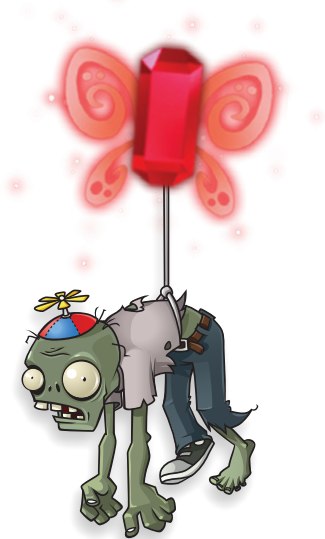
How to unlock:
Reach level 5 in Zen mode.

Butterflies is perhaps the most deceptive mode in Bejeweled 3, because, unlike Ice Storm, the name fools you into thinking it's going to be gentle. But if you approach this mode complacently, as if you're about to skip merrily through the fields, perhaps accompanied by a lovely little flute melody, prepare to see the Game Over screen sooner rather than later. Don't blame the butterflies, though. They're just doing their thing. It's the spider up top that's the problem since it will eat the butterflies (and end your game) if you don't clear them from the board fast enough.



Here are a few tricks to keep your butterflies happy and safe and out of the spider's mouth:

- 1) Try not to move butterflies towards the edge of the board unless you have to. It's easier to match them when they are in the middle.
- 2) Sometimes it's better to let a butterfly move into a match than make the match yourself. Plan your moves based on their ascent to help you get two or more at once.
- 3) Don't always use Hypercubes on the color with the most butterflies – sometimes it's best to get those pesky ones on the edges instead, even if it's only one.
- 4) If you're having trouble clearing a butterfly, try making matches below it, which will help push it back down the board.
- 5) Don't waste too much time trying to make special gems – because every move needs to count – but go for it when you can. Flame gems, Star gems, and Hypercubes can all get you out of a tight jam when detonated.



Try to keep butterflies toward the center of the board.



Quest Mode

Quest mode isn't one particular type of game, but a multi-staged series of Bejeweled challenges of increasing difficulty. There are five stages with eight mini-quests per stage. You must complete at least four mini-quests per stage in order to proceed to the next. And while the first level starts off pretty easy, don't get too complacent – the difficulty ramps up high by the last stage. The more you hone your strategy on the earlier stages, the more prepared you'll be for the final, toughest stage later.



Here are a few tips for some of the tougher challenges:

Alchemy

- 1) Try to make either all vertical or all horizontal matches, so you can focus on individual rows or columns and not waste time redoing territory you've already covered.
- 2) The edges and corners are the hardest parts, so try to cover them as soon as you can.
- 3) Sometimes you'll have no choice but to waste a move on a column or row already completed. Don't worry about it too much, but do watch the move counter at the bottom of the board carefully.



Balance

- 1) Try not to make a red match without having a balancing blue match ready, and vice versa.
- 2) If possible, keep a couple of safety red and blue matches on hand in case of emergencies.
- 3) If the balances start to get too badly out of whack, try to make non-red or non-blue matches quickly in order to create red and blue opportunities.
- 4) Try to avoid special gems in this mode, as they can create unwanted blue or red matches. It's best to be in control of every single match.



Buried Treasure/Sandstorm

- 1) Both of these are timed modes, so you'll have to hurry. But Sandstorm ups the ante by blowing sand back over the relics if you're not quick enough. Beat the sand by concentrating on one treasure at a time.
- 2) Hypercubes can be extremely handy for getting rid of that last pesky bit of sand – so hold on to them until you really need them.



Stratamax

Special gems and cascades are the keys to Stratamax, so concentrate your efforts on the bottom of the board. Your moves are limited, so let cascades do the work for you.



Did you know?

Bejeweled has been played by more than 500 million people around the world, and has consumed 7 billion leisure time hours since 2000. That equals:

- 798,000 years
- 70 people playing Bejeweled nonstop since the end of the last Ice Age [9400 B.C.]
- The man-hours needed to build 1,150 Empire State Buildings
- The time it would take a person to walk to the moon and back 43,959 times



Time Bomb

- 1) Since Time Bombs drop in after you make a match, try to avoid making matches near the edges of the board. As in many other modes, gems on the edges are much harder to clear.
- 2) Try to keep Time Bombs near the top of the board; they become harder to match and clear the lower they go.
- 3) As always, special gems are your friend. If you're having trouble getting rid of a particular Time Bomb, try to detonate a special gem either close to the bomb, or at the bottom of the board, where a detonation might mix up the board enough to help you out. Hypercubes are very handy.



Wall Blast

- 1) The only way to beat this challenge – maybe the single hardest mode in all of Bejeweled 3 – is to create special gems at the top of the board, and then detonate them before they drop below the wall. So focus all your early effort on the top of the board.
- 2) If any special gems drop below the wall before you detonate them, don't despair. They can still be used to shake up the board if things aren't going well up top.
- 3) If you manage to create a Hypercube, study the board carefully before using it. The obvious choice will be to pick the color with the most gems on the wall, but it's possible that another color could create even more special gems or cascades.
- 4) If you're running out of time and aren't nearly done clearing the wall yet, cut your losses and just start over. We won't tell, you'll save yourself some time, and you won't have to see the dreaded Game Over screen.



Diamond Mine

How to unlock: Complete the first relic in Quest mode.

Recognize the name? Congratulations! You are a Bejeweled scholar! You don't get anything for that, but we're proud of you anyway. Diamond Mine was what Bejeweled was called before we changed it to Bejeweled. It's also the name of one of the most fun and addicting challenges in Bejeweled 3.

In this mode, you must make matches to dig down beneath the dirt and rocks on the lower part of the board to collect gold, diamonds and artifacts. You have 90 seconds to dig through all the dirt and rocks on the Dig Line. Once you completely clear to the Dig Line, another 30 seconds is added to extend your game. The game ends when you fail to clear all the way to the Dig Line.

Here are a few tips to help keep you digging

(And however deep you think Diamond Mine can go – it probably goes deeper than that!):

- 1) As you start getting deeper, rocks may take up to three nearby matches to destroy. The deeper you go, the more crucial it's going to be to make special gems. Hypercubes can be used to remove Dark Rocks if you match a color that is adjacent to one.
- 2) You can continue to make moves after clearing rocks to the Dig Line, which can give you a head start on the next round before the board moves up.
- 3) Try to match two Hypercubes whenever possible, which will clear the entire board!
- 4) Make horizontal matches adjacent to rocks as often as possible since these will clear out more rocks than a vertical match.
- 5) Try not to match special gems until they are close to the rocks, especially the Star gems, which can help clear out an entire row beneath the Dig Line.
- 6) Focus on the tougher areas first. Rocky ground is denser than regular earth, and destroying the rocks tends to dig around the rocks as well.
- 7) If you still have a special gem near the top of the board as you get close to the Dig Line, go ahead and detonate it even if it's not the best possible move, because once you hit the Dig Line, the special gem may scroll up and off the board. And there's nothing sadder (well, in Bejeweled 3, anyway) than a wasted special gem.



Badges



As you play through all of Bejeweled 3's modes, you earn badges — Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum — for hitting certain benchmarks. Here's a chart of all the badges and what's required to complete them.



High Voltage

High scores attained in Lightning mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
100,000	300,000	500,000	750,000



Ante Up

High scores attained in Poker mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
100,000	300,000	500,000	750,000



The Gambler

Total number of flushes attained in Poker mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
10	20	30	40



Inferno

Flame gems cleared

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
50	350	1000	2000



Stellar

Star gems cleared

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
25	125	400	750



Chromatic

Hypercubes cleared

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
25	125	400	750



Glacial Explorer

High scores attained in Ice Storm mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
100,000	300,000	500,000	750,000



Ice Breaker

Column Combo reached in Ice Storm mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
5x	8x	12x	15x



Diamond Mine

High scores attained in Diamond Mine mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
100,000	300,000	500,000	750,000



Blaster

Gems cleared in a single move

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
30	40	50	60



Jeweler

High scores attained in Classic mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
50,000	150,000	300,000	500,000



Final Frenzy

Bonus score attained during Last Hurrah in Lightning mode game

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
20,000	30,000	40,000	60,000



Relic Hunter

Relics uncovered in a Diamond Mine game

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
5	8	12	15



Butterfly Monarch

High scores attained in Butterflies mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
100,000	300,000	500,000	750,000



Butterfly Bonanza

Number of butterflies attained in a single move in Butterflies mode

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
4	6	8	10

Elite Badges



In addition to the previous 15 badges, there are 5 Elite badges.



Heroes Welcome

Awarded for completing Quest mode



Annihilator

Awarded for matching one Hypercube to another in any mode



Superstar

Awarded for creating a Supernova gem (6 gems in a row)



Levelord

Awarded for reaching level 10 in Classic mode




Top Secret

Awarded for getting the high score in all secret modes (Poker, Butterflies, Ice Storm and Diamond Mine)

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Play your favorites today!



We sincerely hope that you enjoy playing Bejeweled 3 and that these strategies will help you on your way towards becoming a level 131 Elder Bejewelian! And remember, the most important thing of all is to just keep playing. Don't let anyone bother you with talk about other things you should be doing. Bejeweled is life! The gems must be matched! If not you, then who? If not now, when? So seize this opportunity, go forth, and match! And good luck!

Jeff Green

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To learn more about Bejeweled 3,
visit PopCap.com

