

## Presentation

Altered is a trading card game in which each player brings a deck led by a Hero card. This starter deck is ready to play as-is, but you can customize it or create new decks from scratch.

## Game Overview

In Altered, you'll lead two Expeditions as they discover and explore the land transformed by the Tumult. One of your Expeditions will be led by your Hero, represented by the Hero Expedition marker, and the other one is led by their Companion, represented by the Companion Expedition marker. Your Expeditions will progress towards each other as the game goes on, and your goal is to be the first to have them meet up.



After a tumultuous journey through the clouds, the Asgarthi reach their destination. Liria is a resplendent floating city and home to the Reka people, as well as the Naos, an immense world tree whose canopy overlooks the city's tallest buildings. As the two peoples become acquainted, a new alliance is born.

## Material



29 card deck for the first game  
+ 10 cards for the following games  
+ 1 Hero card  
+ 12 Token cards



1 Playmat



Every single copy of an Altered playing card has a unique QR code. Download the Altered® Companion app, secure the digital ownership of your cards, and add them to your online collection.



Adventure cards:  
1 Starting Hero Region card  
1 Starting Companion Region card  
1 Set of 3 Tumult cards



4 Player Aid cards



1 set of Terrain markers to separate

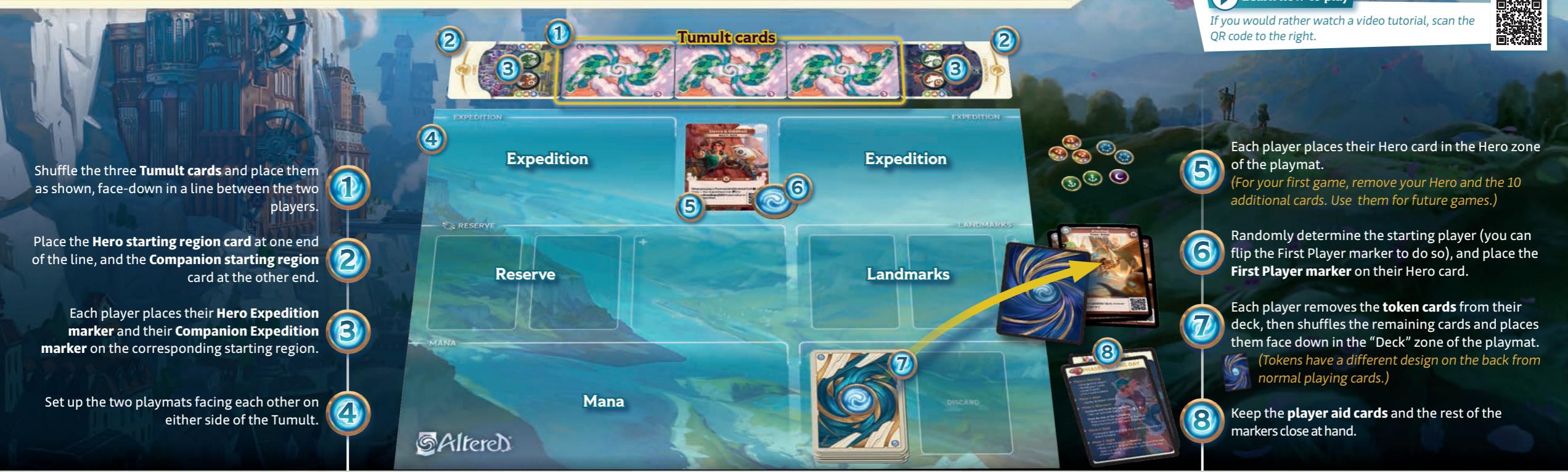


6 Expedition markers  
(Hero & Companion)

1 First Player marker

4 Boost, 4 Fleeting,  
3 Anchored and 3 Asleep markers

## SETUP



## PARTS OF A CARD

There are 4 types of cards: Heroes, Characters, Spells, and Permanents. See "Other Card Types" for more details.

### On all cards:

- (A) Name
- (B) Type and sub-type(s).
- (C) Faction: there are 6 different factions in the game.
- (D) Hand Cost: the card's mana cost when it is played from your hand.
- (E) Reserve Cost: the card's mana cost when it is played from Reserve.
- (F) Abilities: the card's special rules.
- (G) Support ability: an additional ability that some cards have.



### On Character cards only:

- (H) Characters have statistics corresponding to the three terrains: Forest (F), Mountain (M) and Water (W).

### Abilities:

- (I) Cards have different effects depending on where they are played from:
  - : This activates regardless of where the card is played from.
  - : This activates when the card is played from your hand.
  - : This activates when the card is played from Reserve.

### Starting Hand

Draw 6 cards from your deck, then choose 3 of them to put in your Mana zone, face-down and ready (see illustration below). The three other cards will form your starting hand.

### Mana Orbs

Cards in your Mana zone are always face down, and are called Mana Orbs. Each Mana Orb gives you 1 Mana when you exhaust it. Ready all of your Mana Orbs during the Morning phase. A card that is face-down in your Mana zone stays there for the rest of the game.



## A DAY OF EXPLORATION

A game of Altered is played over several rounds called Days. Each Day is composed of five phases: Morning, Noon, Afternoon, Dusk and Night.

### PHASE 1: MORNING

If it's the first Day of the game, go straight to the next phase (Noon). Otherwise, follow these steps:

1. Change the owner of the First Player marker.
2. Ready your Mana Orbs and exhausted cards.
3. Draw two cards from your deck.
4. Starting with the First Player, each player chooses if they want to place a card from their hand into their Mana zone.

### PHASE 3: AFTERNOON

Starting with the First Player, players take turns in this phase, during which they each play one card at a time.



In Altered, 1 TURN = 1 CARD

### PHASE 2: NOON

Activate any card with an "At Noon" ability. Not all starter decks have cards with "At Noon" abilities.

### Turn structure

1. Take as many quick actions as you want.
2. Then, play a card OR pass.

### QUICK ACTIONS

Before playing a card, you may take as many quick actions as you wish. You can also do this before choosing to pass.

There are two kinds of quick actions:  
**Exhaust abilities:** These are present on certain Permanent and Hero cards. Exhaust (→) the card to activate its effect.  
**Support abilities:** A card's support ability is only usable if it is in your Reserve. To activate it, discard (X) the card from your Reserve. (See "The Reserve".)  
Remember, taking a quick action doesn't count as playing a card, and doesn't end your turn.

### PLAYING A CARD

To play a card, you must exhaust the number of Mana Orbs corresponding to its cost.

- **Playing a Character:** When you play a Character, you decide which Expedition to place it in (Hero or Companion).



- **Playing a card from Reserve:** See "The Reserve".
- **Playing a Spell or a Permanent:** See "Other Card Types".

### PASS

If you cannot play a card or no longer wish to do so, you may pass. This means that you won't be able to take any more turns until the next Afternoon phase. Once a player has passed, the remaining player can continue taking turns. Once both players have passed, move on to the Dusk phase.

## PHASE 4: DUSK

During Dusk, players compare the statistics of the Characters in play to determine which Expedition markers can move forward, and which ones can't.

Starting with one Expedition (Hero or Companion), do the following steps:

- Check the **terrain(s)** (,,) of the region where your Expedition marker is currently located.
- For each of these **terrains**, add up the statistics of the Characters in that Expedition.
- If **at least one** of your totals (for the terrains of this region) is **strictly higher** than your opponent's, your Expedition marker **moves forward** one region.

Otherwise, your Expedition stays where it is.

Next, do the same for the remaining Expedition (Hero or Companion). Your opponent does the same for their Expeditions.

• Your total must be higher than 0 in order to move forward.

• Each Expedition can only move forward once per Dusk phase.

• When an Expedition would move to a face-down Tumult card, flip it face-up.

• You always compare your Hero Expedition with your opponent's Hero Expedition, **even if the two markers are not in the same region**. The same goes for the Companion Expeditions.



## Example

• Mike's Hero Expedition marker is on a region with 3 terrains: (,,). In order to move forward, the sum of stats in Mike's Hero Expedition needs to surpass Ella's in at least one of those terrains.

• Since his Expedition total in (,,) is higher than Ella's Expedition total in (,,), Mike's Expedition marker moves forward.

• Ella's Hero Expedition marker is in a region with (,,) and (,,). To move forward, Ella's Expedition total needs to surpass Mike's Expedition total in at least one of those terrains. Her (,,) stats are only useful to block Mike.

• Since her Expedition total in (,,) beats Mike's Expedition total in (,,), Ella's Expedition marker also moves forward.

## PHASE 5: NIGHT

### REST

Send all Characters in your Expeditions to your Reserve. If they are **Fleeting** (,,), discard them instead (see "The Reserve").

### CLEANUP

If you have 3 or more cards in your Reserve, choose 2 to keep and discard the excess. Similarly, choose 2 cards in your Landmarks and sacrifice the rest (see "Other Card Types").



During the other phases of the Day, there is no limit to the number of cards in your Reserve and Landmark zone.

### CHECK VICTORY

See "Ending the Game".



YOU HAVE NOW REACHED THE END OF THIS DAY. BEGIN A NEW DAY, STARTING WITH THE MORNING PHASE.



## The Reserve

The Reserve is a face-up zone which acts like a second hand of cards.

### PLAYING A CARD FROM RESERVE

Cards in Reserve can be played as if they were in your hand. However:

- Pay its **Reserve Cost** instead of its Hand Cost.
- A card played from Reserve gains **Fleeting** (,,) (unless it's a Landmark Permanent).

**Fleeting means:** If a Fleeting card would be sent to Reserve, discard it instead.

**For Characters:** Place a **Fleeting marker** (,,) on the Character as a reminder.

Cards in Reserve are **not "controlled"**: their abilities don't apply, and they can't be targeted by an ability that doesn't specifically mention the Reserve.

A card that says "Discard target Character" can't discard a Character in Reserve, but a card that says "Discard target card in a Reserve" can.

## Other Card types

### Heroes

After your first game, add your Hero to the Hero zone on the Playmat. Belonging to a specific faction, they will shape your strategy, and using their ability wisely is essential to winning the game.

### Spells

When you play a spell, resolve all of the card's effects, then send it immediately to your Reserve. If you play a spell from your Reserve, it gains **Fleeting**: discard it once you've resolved its abilities.

Some spells are automatically **Fleeting**. This means that they are directly discarded after their abilities resolve.

### Permanents

When you play a Permanent, put it in the specified zone. It stays there unless an effect says otherwise.

Some starter decks don't contain Permanents.

## Ending the game

The first player whose Hero and Companion Expedition meet up in the same Region wins the game at the end of the Day.



### TIEBREAKER

If both player's markers meet the same Day, first check if any player moved forward further than necessary. If one player did and the other did not, the player who did wins the game.

### Example

Ella's and Mike's Expeditions are both on adjacent regions to one another.



During Dusk, both of Ella's Expeditions move forward, while only Mike's Companion Expedition does. Ella progressed further than necessary, and therefore wins the game.



Otherwise, players play a **tiebreaker Day in the Arena**. (The Arena is on the back of the Companion starting region.) Place it in the center of the table and put both players' Expedition markers on it, remove the other cards from the game.

Then play out a normal Day. At Dusk, for each of the Arena terrains (,,), add up the statistics of Characters in **both** of your Expeditions. Compare all three totals with your opponent's: the player who wins in the highest number of terrains wins the game.

If both sides are still tied, start a new Day in the Arena.

## ADDITIONAL RULES

### CARD ABILITIES

If a card's abilities contradict these rules, follow what the card says. You can use the Altered® app to scan its QR Code and open "access details" for more advanced rulings.

### TARGETING

Card abilities usually **only** target cards in play. Characters in an Expedition, or Permanents in the Landmark zone are in play and controlled by a player.

Cards in Reserve are **not** controlled and can only be targeted by an ability that **explicitly** mentions the Reserve.

### RUNNING OUT OF CARDS IN YOUR DECK

If your deck is empty and you need to draw or Resupply cards, shuffle your discard pile, which then becomes your new deck. After that, finish drawing or resupplying cards.

### PLAYING A PERMANENT FROM RESERVE

If you play a Landmark Permanent from Reserve, pay its Reserve Cost. It does not gain **Fleeting** (,,).

## OTHER INFORMATION

### "AT NOON", "AT DUSK" AND "AT NIGHT"

These abilities trigger at the **beginning** of their respective phases. (The **First Player** resolves theirs first, in the order of their choice).

### TOKEN CARDS

Tokens have a different cardback. They aren't included in your deck, but created by other cards. When a token leaves its zone, it is removed from the game, even if a card tells you to do something else with it!



### MARKERS

Use these counters when a Character gains boosts. Each boost increases the three statistics by 1. **Remove them when it leaves the Expeditions**.

Use this marker when a Character gains **Anchored**.

Use this marker when a Character gains **Asleep**.

### SUPPORT ABILITY X

A **X** support ability is triggered when you discard the card as a Quick Action, not if it's discarded for another reason (such as having too many cards in your Reserve during the Night phase).

### "I" IN CARD ABILITIES

Cards use "I" to refer to themselves. For example, "I gain 2 boosts." should be understood as "this card gains two boosts."

## DECKBUILDING

After discovering this starter deck, it is time to build your own!

Your deck must include **40 to 60 cards** of the same faction, **including a Hero** card and:

- No more than **3 copies** of a card with the **same name**, regardless of rarity.
- No more than **15 Rare cards**.
- No more than **3 Exalted cards**.
- No more than **3 Unique cards**.

Check out the Altered® app and website for more information about available cards and the Marketplace!

## ADVANCED RULES AND MULTIPLAYER

Scan the QR code to find the Comprehensive rules and the **Free-for-all** and **2vs2** game modes:

