



# THE MISPRINT BATTLEBOX

Player's Companion

# Welcome!

The Misprint Battle Box is a Magic: The Gathering play experience for 2 to 4 players. All of the cards needed to play are provided.

This Player's Companion is intended to help newer players to the battle box format and misprinted cards have an enjoyable play experience.

Below is an overview of general battle box rules as well as the special rules that are unique to this project. There are also visual examples to help with the misprint unique rules.



## Contact

The Misprint Battle Box was created and owned by Aaron McCarthy  
For the latest list and more visit [www.misprintbattlebox.com](http://www.misprintbattlebox.com)



# What is a Battle Box?

The Battle Box format was first developed in 2014 by Brian DeMars. Originally called Danger Room, Brian published an article on the Star City Games website outlining the format he created.

The original inspiration for the format was to eliminate the variance that creates bad games of Magic. The way he did decided upon to achieve this goal was to remove lands from the library.

A battle box is a contained set of singleton cards from which all players use to create their library. Each player starts the game with 10 lands in an equal set, to which they can play one land per turn to cast their spells.

In a battle box game, each player makes a land drop each turn. Each player has access to the same amount of mana each turn. Too much mana and not having enough will create a one sided play experience. This format eliminates those non-games.

Creating an enjoyable box is a bit of good set design. The level of balance needed in a cube is not needed here. but curation is necessary and part of the enjoyment.

Let's go over the rules...



# Battle Box Rules

A battle box game of Magic follows the standard rules of MtG with the following changes. This rules list is a combination of typical battle box rules and ones that are unique to the Misprint Battle Box:

- Each player starts the game with 4 cards in hand
- No mulligans
- The library contains no lands
- No mana ramp, no land destruction, & no tutors
- Each player gets a 10 land set consisting of 5 basics (WUBRG) and 5 dual lands
- A player can play 1 land from their land set per turn
- Singleton, unless multiples are included for good reason
- The library is shared between players
- The graveyard is shared between players
- Large sealed errors are played on the battlefield, but a proxy is used in the library, graveyard, & hand
- All cards are Play as Written (PaW)



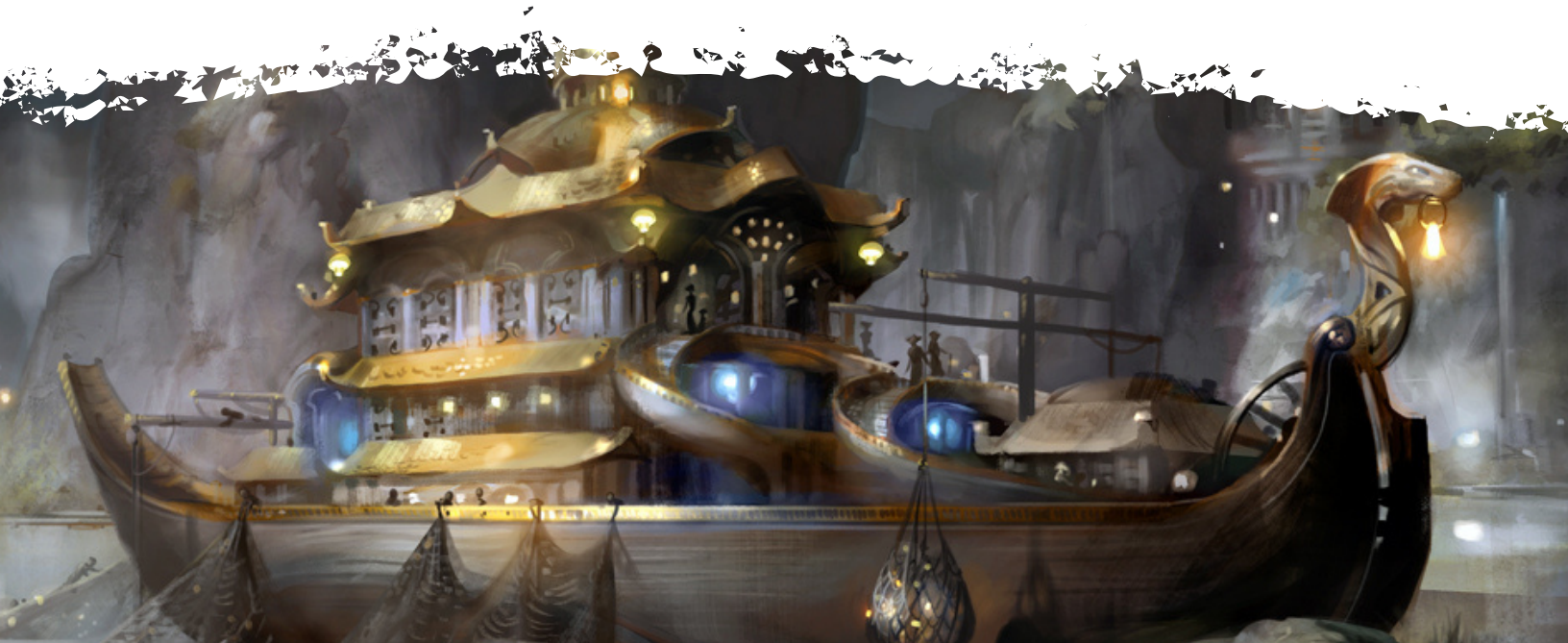


# Play as Written

Play as Written (PaW) is a format created Kevin Gardner for misprinted Magic cards. The idea is simple; play the card as it is printed.

There is no official rule set in the community for this format. As such, below are the rules I've created to follow for Play as Written in the Misprint Battle Box.

- read only what is printed on the card
- no outside knowledge of what a card "should" have printed on it
- if less than 50% of the ink is there, the text is treated as missing
- cards without a mana cost do not have a mana cost
- cards that have have a power and toughness can attack and defend
- creatures without a toughness die
- cards with text on both sides are both cards in the library, hand, and graveyard. They are one of the cards when on the stack or battlefield
- if players disagree on card text, the player who wins Rock, Paper, Scissors, Lizard, Spock (RPSLS) determines the card text



# PaW Examples

These are examples of Play as Written (PaW) cards in the Battle Box with an explanation of how they are to be played.

## Go for the Throat

The Ink spill across the top of the card has prevented the mana cost from being clearly printed. While it is faintly visible, there is clearly less than 50% of the ink.

**How to play it: this card has no mana cost**



## Lone Missionary

This card has no mana cost that can be seen. None of the ink for the mana cost is on the card.

**How to play it: this card has no mana cost**



## Honor Guard

There is extra ink in the text box of this card. The cost of the activated ability should be one W mana, but extra ink has make it look like a zero.

**How to play it: the activated ability on this card costs 0**





# PaW Examples

## Beacon of Destruction

This card is miscut revealing text from the edge of the sheet. The miscut has removed the mana cost for the card.

**How to play it: this card has no mana cost**



## Accumulated Knowledge

The miscut has revealed the top of the spell Accumulated Knowledge, paring it with a Kraken token.

**How to play it: Pay 1U for a 9/9 kraken creature**



## Hopeful Eidolon

The miscut here removed the P/T of Hopeful Eidolon and revealed the P/T from the green card above it.

**How to play it: This card has a P/T of 4/5**



# Shared Zones

The rules for the Misprint Battle Box state that the library and graveyard are shared amongst players. This introduces some unique changes to some cards in the history of MtG.

Cards with scry, that manipulate the top of the library, or steal from the graveyard have a new feel with shared zones.

Here are a few examples from the box.





# Play Suggestions

Determine who goes first by playing Rock, Paper, Scissors, Lizard, Spock (RPSLS).

Magic: the Gathering Pro Tour dice are the official dice of the Misprinted Battle Box.

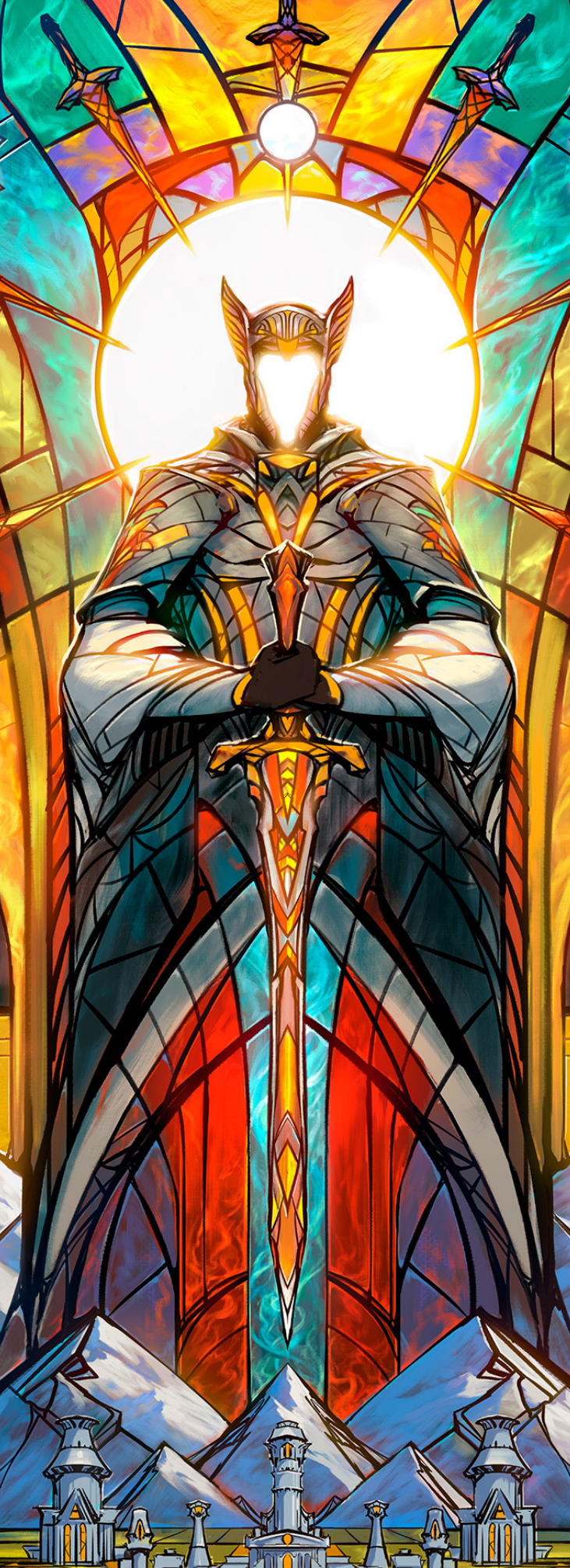
Reaper Miniatures Scrye Life Counters and Duelist Abacus Life Counters are the official score keepers of the Misprint Battle Box.

All cards are kept in clear sleeves as it would be a shame to have colored sleeve backs hiding any of the misprints.

Sealed products can be used on the battlefield but must have a proxy in the library, hand, and graveyard.







# About

**The Misprint Battle Box was created by Aaron McCarthy.**

Aaron has been playing MtG since he rode his bike to a local comic store in 1994 and bought a starter deck of Revised with his paper route money.

He's been a fan of Craw Wurms ever since that day.

After looking for unique versions of cards for his Legacy Sneak and Show deck, Aaron found misprints.

He's been hooked ever since. With new misprints for Sneak and Show hard to come by, the idea for the Misprint Battle Box was born.

As a utilitarian collector (person who only collected cards he actively plays), the Misprint Battle Box is an amazing outlet to build a playable collection that can be shared with friends.

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# Thank you reading

