

# Exploding Chickens

A full-stack card game

Radison Akerman, April 2022

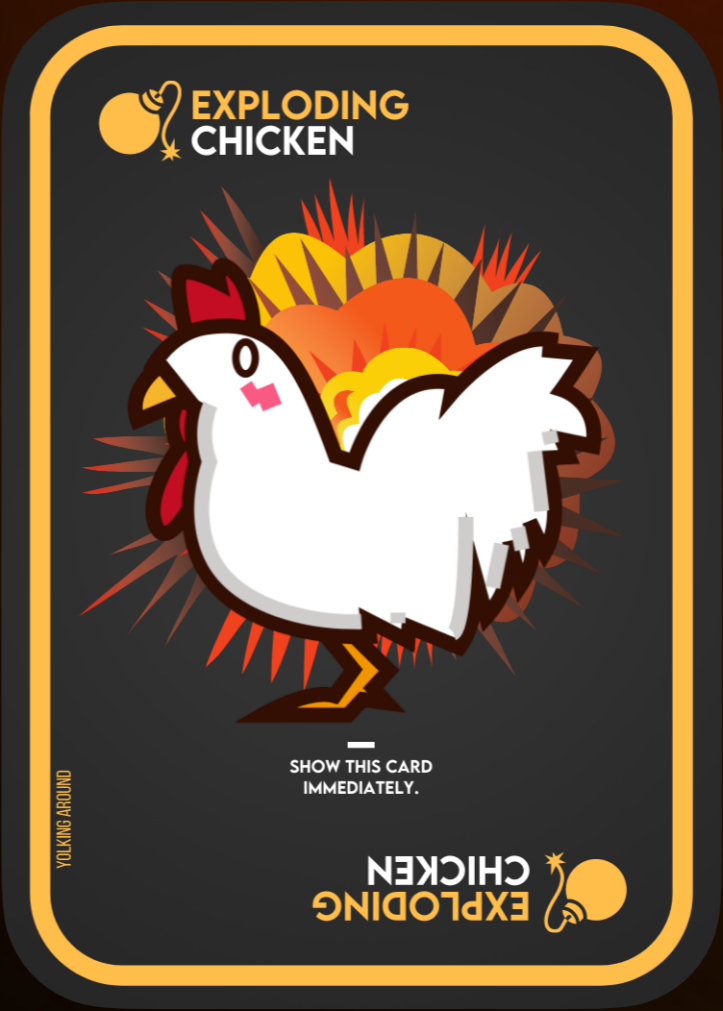
# About me

- Computer Science Major, Business Minor @ UIC
- Project Manager & Info Security @ UIC COE
- Web Security Intern @ US Dept of Veteran Affairs
- Photography, cycling, swimming, woodworking, chess, small electronics





Draw Deck x52

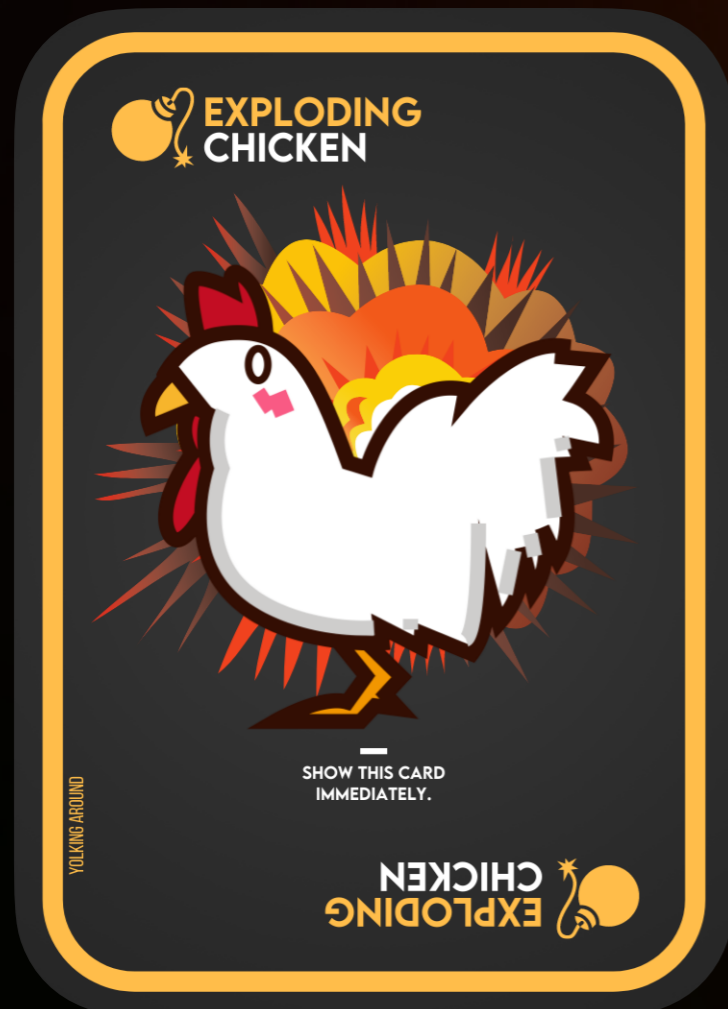


Discard Deck x0



# Exploding Chicken

Avoid this little guy at all costs. Once this card is drawn, you must use a defuse card to stop the ticking time bomb. If you don't have a defuse card, it looks like your time is up.



# Exploding Chicken

```
if (card is drawn)
  if (player has defuse)
    plays defuse, places
    chicken back in draw deck
  else
    player explodes, removed
    from game permanently
```



## Defuse Card

```
if (card is drawn)  
  place card in players hand
```

```
if (card is played &&  
  player is exploding)  
  discard card  
  && prompt player to place  
  chicken back in draw deck  
  && advance turn
```



## Shuffle Card

```
if (card is drawn)  
    place card in players hand
```

```
if (card is played)  
    shuffle draw deck  
    && discard card
```

# Shuffle Card



- Player wants to play card
- Sends “play-card” request
- Cascading validation phase
  - Is the player valid?
  - Is it their turn?
  - Do they have this card?
  - Can they play it now?
- Completes card action (randomize draw deck)
- Discard card
- Tell everyone what happened



**EXPLODING CHICKEN**  
SHOW THIS CARD IMMEDIATELY.

EXPLODING CHICKEN

**DEFUSE**  
VIA LASER POINTER

DEFUSE

**ATTACK**  
PERFORM A GLASS BREAKING OPERA

ATTACK

**SEE THE FUTURE**  
RELEASE THE SPEC-OPS GUYS

SEE THE FUTURE

**SKIP**  
FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK IN CLASS

SKIP

**REVERSE**  
"REVERSE! REVERSE!"

REVERSE

**SHUFFLE**  
GROOVE TO THE WORLD OF MUSIC

SHUFFLE

**FAVOR**  
MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

FAVOR

**WILD CHICKEN**  
DISCOVER A CHICKEN IN THE WILD

WILD CHICKEN

**CHICKTIONARY**  
UNCOVER THE HIDDEN CHICKEN LANGUAGE

CHICKTIONARY

**RAINBOW CHICKEN**  
TASTE THE RAINBOW

RAINBOW CHICKEN

**SURFING CHICKEN**  
SEE CHICKEN DIFFERENTLY

SURFING CHICKEN

**HOT POTATO**  
DROP A STEAMING HOT POTATO ON A GOOD FRIEND

HOT POTATO

**X1**  
PASSES THE TURN ON TO THE NEXT PLAYER. ONLY PLAYABLE WHEN AN EC IS DRAWN.

**FAVOR GATOR**  
BECOME LOW-KEY

FAVOR GATOR

**X2**  
STOPS THE FAVOR OF ANOTHER PLAYER. THE PLAYER MUST GIVE YOU ONE CARD.

**SCRAMBLED EGGS**  
START BREAKFAST OFF WITH A TOAST

SCRAMBLED EGGS

**X2**  
DUMPS EVERYONE'S HAND INTO A POT AND RE-DEALS THE ENTIRE DECK.

**SUPER SKIP**  
LEAP YOUR WAY OUT OF A STICKY SITUATION

SUPER SKIP

**X3**  
SKIPS TURN(S) WITHOUT HAVING TO DRAW A CARD.

**SAFETY DRAW**  
SWERVE AROUND THE TRAFFIC CONE

SAFETY DRAW

**X4**  
ENDS YOUR TURN BY DRAWING THE FIRST CARD THAT IS NOT AN EXPLODING CHICKEN.

**DRAW FROM THE BOTTOM**  
PULL OUT ONE OF THE LARGE BOXES

DRAW FROM THE BOTTOM

**X4**  
ENDS YOUR TURN BY DRAWING A CARD FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK.

**565 Games**  
**4,725 Minutes**  
**20,100 Cards Played**

Since April 2021

Demo

Scalable and fast

Room for expansion

Easy to understand

**Where do you start?**

Maximize compatibility

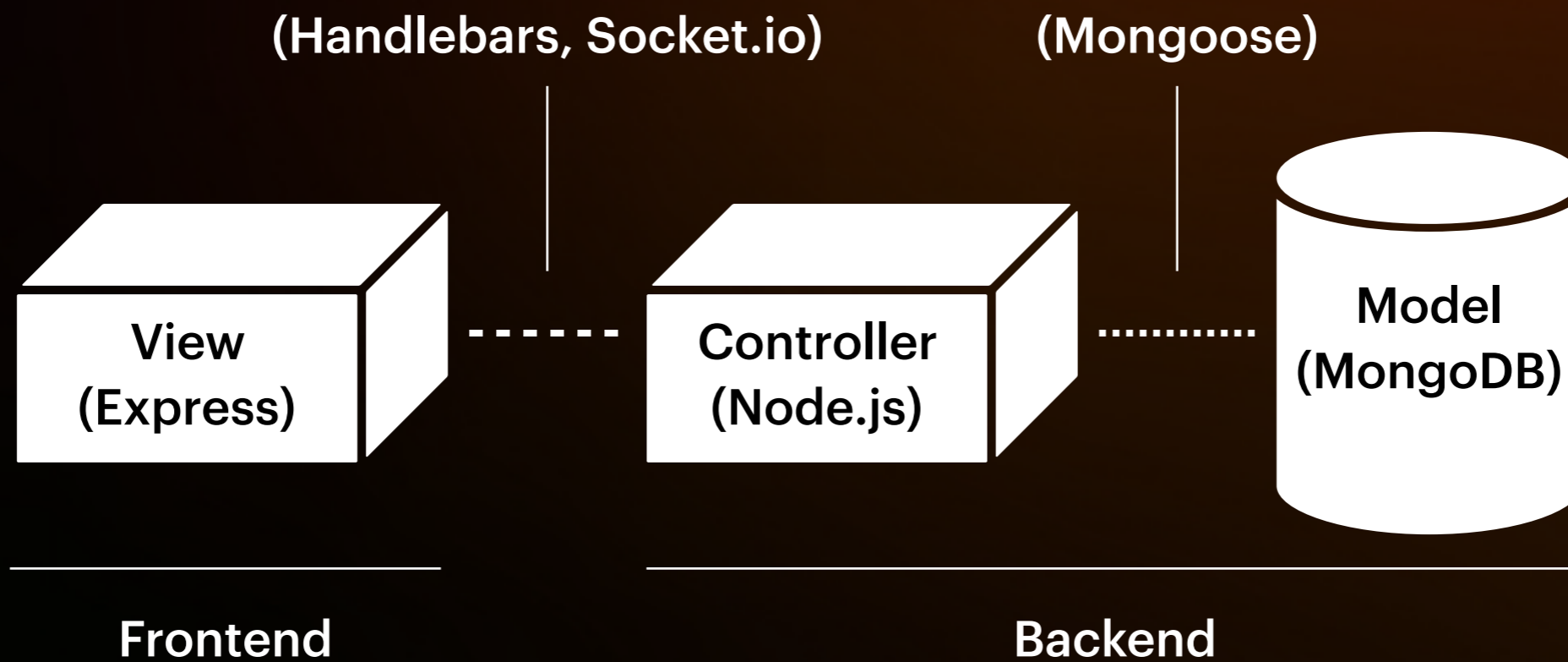
Quick to develop

Real-time rendering

# v1.0.0

An unorganized first attempt (that works)

- Full-stack web application
  - Node.js — an asynchronous event-driven JavaScript runtime geared towards scalable network apps
  - MongoDB — a NoSQL document-oriented database
    - Mongoose as an ODM (Object Data Modeling)
  - Handlebars — HTML templating language
  - Socket.io — real-time, bidirectional communication



# Game

## Cards

- `_id`
- `action`
- `assignment`
- `position`
- `pack`

## Players

- `_id`
- `nickname`
- `avatar`
- `seat_position`
- `wins`
- `sockets_open`
- `is_host`
- `is_dead`

## Events

- `_id`
- `tag`
- `req_player`
- `target_plyr`
- `related_key`
- `related_value`

Misc data...

**Socket.io Client**



**socket-handler.js**

**game-actions.js**

**card-actions.js**

## Shuffle Card

- Player wants to play card
- Sends “play-card” request
- Cascading validation phase
  - Is the player valid?
  - Is it their turn?
  - Do they have this card?
  - Can they play it now?
- Completes card action (randomize draw deck)
- Discard card
- Tell everyone what happened









```

183 // Name : game_actions.base_router(game_details, player_id, card_id, target, stats_storage, config_storage, bot, socket_id, fastify)
184 // Desc : base deck - calls the appropriate card function based on card action
185 // Author(s) : RAK3rman
186
187 exports.base_router = async function (game_details, player_id, card_id, target, stats_storage, config_storage, bot, socket_id, fastify) {
188     // Find card details from id
189     let card_details = await card_actions.find_card(card_id, game_details.cards);
190     // Determine which function to run
191     if (card_details.action === "attack") {
192         await card_actions.attack(game_details);
193         await game_actions.discard_card(game_details, card_id);
194         stats_storage.set('attacks', stats_storage.get('attacks') + 1);
195         return {trigger: "attack", data: "true"};
196     } else if (card_details.action === "defuse") {
197         let defuse_stat = await card_actions.defuse(game_details, player_id, target, card_id);
198         if (defuse_stat === true) {
199             await game_actions.discard_card(game_details, card_id);
200             await game_actions.advance_turn(game_details);
201             stats_storage.set('defuses', stats_storage.get('defuses') + 1);
202             return {trigger: "defuse", data: "true"};
203         } else {
204             return defuse_stat;
205         }
206     } else if (card_details.action === "favor") { // Favor, expecting target player_id
207         let v_favor = await card_actions.verify_favor(game_details, player_id, target);
208         if (v_favor === true) {
209             await game_actions.discard_card(game_details, card_id);
210             let favor_data = await card_actions.ask_favor(game_details, player_id, target, false, stats_storage);
211             stats_storage.set('favors', stats_storage.get('favors') + 1);
212             return {trigger: "favor_taken", data: {
213                 target_player_id: favor_data.used_gator ? player_id : target, favor_player_name: favor_data.used_gator ? (await player_actions.get_player(g
214                 }});
215         } else {
216             return v_favor;
217         }
218     } else if (card_details.action === "randchick-1" || card_details.action === "randchick-2" ||
219     card_details.action === "randchick-3" || card_details.action === "randchick-4") { // Favor, expecting target player_id
220         let v_double = await card_actions.verify_double(game_details, card_details, player_id, card_id);
221         if (v_double !== false) {
222             let v_favor = await card_actions.verify_favor(game_details, player_id, target);
223             if (v_favor === true) {
224                 await game_actions.discard_card(game_details, v_double);
225                 await game_actions.discard_card(game_details, card_id);
226                 let favor_data = await card_actions.ask_favor(game_details, player_id, target, false, stats_storage);
227                 stats_storage.set('favors', stats_storage.get('favors') + 1);

```

# v2.0.0

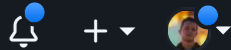
A segmented second attempt (that makes sense)

- Same web stack (Node.js, MongoDB, Handlebars, Socket.io) + Vue.js + Auth0
- Mocha + Istanbul — Backend tests, code coverage
- Shared repository model
- Issues and features request tracking in Github
- New Lobby abstraction



Search or jump to...

Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore



rakermanfoundation / exploding-chickens Private

Sponsor

Unwatch 1

Fork 0

Starred 3

Code Issues 8 Pull requests Discussions Actions Projects 1 Security 1 Insights Settings

Filters is:issue is:closed

Labels 13

Milestones 1

New issue

Clear current search query, filters, and sorts

8 Open 29 Closed Author Label Projects Milestones Assignee Sort

Game redirects unclear backend enhancement #56 by rak3rman was closed 5 days ago 1 task done v2.0.0

Kicked player marked as winning game backend bug #54 by rak3rman was closed 6 days ago

Rebuild frontend using Nuxt.js backend enhancement frontend #51 by rak3rman was closed 6 days ago 4 tasks v2.0.0

Remember user nickname on player join enhancement frontend #47 by rak3rman was closed on Mar 14 v2.0.0

Allow players to leave (kick themselves) from lobby backend enhancement frontend #43 by rak3rman was closed 6 days ago v2.0.0

Create redundancies to prevent client lockup backend bug enhancement #41 by rak3rman was closed on Mar 7 v2.0.0

Rework favor framework backend bug enhancement frontend high priority #39 by rak3rman was closed 19 hours ago v2.0.0

Implement lobbies backend enhancement frontend high priority #38 by rak3rman was closed on Mar 7 v2.0.0

Isolate socket connections by group enhancement #37 by rak3rman was closed on Nov 15, 2021 v2.0.0

Test cases are not exhaustive backend enhancement #35 by rak3rman was closed on Mar 4 v2.0.0

Dark mode for game/lobby UI enhancement frontend #33 by rak3rman was closed on Mar 7 v2.0.0

# Lobby

## Games

Cards

Events

Misc data...

## Players

- `_id`
- `game_assign`
- `nickname`
- `avatar`
- `seat_position`
- `wins`
- `sockets_open`
- `is_host`
- `is_dead`

## Events

- `_id`
- `tag`
- `req_player`
- `target_plyr`
- `related_key`
- `related_value`

```

194     await lobby_details.save();
195     await socket_helpers.update_g_ui(lobby_details, game_pos, req_data.plyr_id, socket_id, undefined, undefined, action, io);
196     await socket_helpers.update_l_ui(lobby_details, req_data.plyr_id, socket_id, undefined, action, io);
197     callback(false, `Game has been ${chalk.dim.yellow('reset')}`, lobby_details, game_pos, req_data, action, socket_id);
198   }
199   ], wf_g_final_callback);
200 })
201
202 // Name : socket.on.play-card
203 // Desc : runs when a card is played on the client
204 // Author(s) : RAK3rman
205 socket.on('play-card', async function (data) {
206   let action = "play-card";
207   console.log(wipe(`${chalk.bold.blue('Socket')}: [` + moment().format('MM/DD/YY-HH:mm:ss') + `] ${chalk.dim.cyan(action)} ${chalk.dim.yellow(da
208   waterfall([
209     async function(callback) {callback(null, data, action, socket.id)}, // Start waterfall
210     wf_g_get, // Get game_details
211     wf_g_validate_in_progress, // Validate we are in game
212     wf_g_validate_turn, // Validate it is req player's turn
213     wf_g_validate_lock, // Validate player is able to modify cards
214     async function(lobby_details, game_pos, req_data, action, socket_id, callback) {
215       // Play card
216       let cb_data = game_actions.play_card(lobby_details, game_pos, req_data.card_id, req_data.plyr_id, req_data.target, stats_store);
217       await lobby_details.save();
218       // Throw err if play_card throws err
219       if (cb_data.err) {
220         card_lock = false; callback(true, cb_data.err, lobby_details, game_pos, req_data, action, socket_id);
221       } else {
222         await socket_helpers.update_g_ui(lobby_details, game_pos, req_data.plyr_id, socket_id, undefined, cb_data, action, io);
223         // Start explode tick if we are exploding
224         if (!cb_data.incomplete) await socket_helpers.explode_tick(lobby_details._id, game_pos, req_data.plyr_id, socket_id, undefined, 15,
225         card_lock = false; callback(false, `Played card ` + req_data.card_id, lobby_details, game_pos, req_data, action, socket_id);
226       }
227     }
228   ], wf_g_final_callback);
229 })
230
231 // Name : socket.on.draw-card
232 // Desc : runs when a card is drawn on the client
233 // Author(s) : RAK3rman
234 socket.on('draw-card', async function (data) {
235   let action = "draw-card";
236   console.log(wipe(`${chalk.bold.blue('Socket')}: [` + moment().format('MM/DD/YY-HH:mm:ss') + `] ${chalk.dim.cyan(action)} ${chalk.dim.yellow(da
237   waterfall([
238     async function(callback) {callback(null, data, action, socket.id)}, // Start waterfall

```



```

147 // Name : game_actions.play_card(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target)
148 // Desc : calls the appropriate card function based on card action, returns structured callback to be sent to client
149 // Target data structure : { plyr_id, card_id, deck_pos }
150 // Author(s) : RAK3rman
151 exports.play_card = function (lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target, stats_store) {
152     // Find card details based on card_id
153     let card_details = card_actions.find_card(card_id, lobby_details.games[game_pos].cards);
154     // Generate callback from data struct
155     let callback = game_actions.generate_cb(undefined, card_details, undefined, target, false);
156     if (card_details === undefined) { callback.err = "Invalid card action"; return callback; }
157     // Ensure that the card is allowed to be played now
158     let exp_only = ['defuse', 'hotpotato', 'chicken'];
159     if (player_actions.is_exploding(card_actions.filter_cards(req_plyr_id, lobby_details.games[game_pos].cards)) && !exp_only.includes(callback.card.action))
160         callback.err = "Cannot be used while exploding"; return callback; // Player is exploding and player attempted to use a card that cannot stop a chick
161     } else if (!player_actions.is_exploding(card_actions.filter_cards(req_plyr_id, lobby_details.games[game_pos].cards)) && exp_only.includes(callback.card.action))
162         callback.err = "Can only be used when exploding"; return callback; // Player is not exploding but player tried to use a card that can stop a chicken
163     }
164     // BASE DECK
165     // istanbul ignore else (else condition covered above when callback is generated)
166     if (card_details.action === "attack") { card_actions.attack(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
167     else if (card_details.action === "defuse") { card_actions.defuse(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target, callback); }
168     else if (card_details.action === "chicken") { card_actions.chicken(lobby_details, game_pos, req_plyr_id, callback); }
169     else if (card_details.action === "favor") { card_actions.favor_random(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target, callback); }
170     else if (card_details.action.includes("randchick")) { card_actions.favor_random(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target, callback); }
171     else if (card_details.action === "reverse") { card_actions.reverse(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
172     else if (card_details.action === "seethefuture") { card_actions.seethefuture(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
173     else if (card_details.action === "shuffle") { card_actions.shuffle(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
174     else if (card_details.action === "skip") { card_actions.skip(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
175     // YOLKING AROUND EXPANSION PACK
176     else if (card_details.action === "hotpotato") { card_actions.hot_potato(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, callback); }
177     else if (card_details.action === "favorgator") { card_actions.favor_gator(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, target, callback); }
178     else if (card_details.action === "scrambledeggs") { card_actions.scrambled_eggs(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
179     else if (card_details.action === "superskip") { card_actions.super_skip(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, callback); }
180     else if (card_details.action === "safetydraw") { card_actions.safety_draw(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, callback); }
181     else if (card_details.action === "drawbottom") { card_actions.draw_bottom(lobby_details, game_pos, card_id, req_plyr_id, callback); }
182     // Check if callback was successful (complete request and no errors)
183     if (!callback.incomplete && !callback.err) {
184         // Reached end of successful card execution, update events and statistics
185         event_actions.log_event(lobby_details.games[game_pos], "play-card", req_plyr_id, target.plyr_id, callback.card_id, undefined);
186         let stats_desc = card_details.action.includes("randchick") ? "randchick" : card_details.action;
187         stats_store.set(stats_desc, stats_store.get(stats_desc) + 1);
188     }
189     return callback;
190 }
191

```

# Key Takeaways

- Do your research when picking a language
- Build a solid data structure
- Clearly define boundaries between parts of your project
- Give yourself room to build something better
- Visualize everything upfront

[chickens.rakerman.com](http://chickens.rakerman.com)