

Jackpot Grit Kit

Randomizing Methods

A brief History of Jackpot Grits

Grits have a very long history at Winter Camp. They were first served as part of the “Prison Breakfast” at Winter Camp II (in 1978). We were very proud then because they were so inexpensive. A box of grits large enough to feed 12 Winter Campers costs us about 89 cents. Grits have often been on the menu since then, but only as an inexpensive breakfast.

Fast forward to Winter Camp XXVI in 2001. At Winter Camp XXV he had a 162 dish banquet to celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Winter Camp. It seemed like we’d never have more variety of foods than that ever. Enter Jackpot Grits. Which had random ingredients. We planned to have 8 different toppings for the grits, each which had a 50-50 chance of being added to a bowl of grits. This mean we could have served 256 different dishes and the cost was still less than a few dollar for all of us.

Jackpot Grits has been on the menu since and while we’ve never served more than 50 kinds in a year, we still have the chance.

The Coin Toss

Point at each ingredient in turn and flip a coin. Heads you add some, tails you don’t.

The die method

Roll a die for each item; on a 1-3 skip it, on a 4-6 add some,

The more complicated die method

Roll a die for each item. On a 1-3 skip it. On a 4-6 add some and if it was a 6, add some more.

The really complicated die method (aka, Grits Matrix Method aka GM²)

Roll a die and subtract 2. If your total is zero or less, you get plain grits. On 1-4, roll 2 dice on the matrix below that number of times (so if you rolled a 5, 5-2 means you’d roll two dice three times)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Roll twice more	Color 1	Color 2	Chocolate Chips	Peanut Butter Chips	Cinnamon Candy
2	Color 1	Roll twice more	Butterscotch Chips	Something from your kitchen	Coconut	Mini M&Ms
3	Color 2	Butterscotch Chips	Roll twice more	Brown Sugar	Sprinkles	Color 1
4	Chocolate Chips	Something from your kitchen	Brown Sugar	Roll twice more	Nothing!	Color 2
5	Peanut Butter Chips	Coconut	Sprinkles	Nothing!	Roll twice more	Both Colors
6	Cinnamon Candy	Mini M&Ms	Color 1	Color 2	Both Colors	Roll twice more

- Some is a technical term meaning just that. If you like it, some might be a lot; if you don’t, some might be a little. With food coloring a drop or two is usually a god definition of “some”..
- Something from your kitchen is also technical. It’s something you have in your kitchen that you think might be good in grits: Sugar, maple syrup, peppermint extract, vanilla, hot sauce; it’s up to you.