

Pick-a-Side (Christmas version)

Description: Group members will pick a side of the line to stand on according to their Christmas preferences.

Group size: 5 or more people (the bigger your group the longer your line needs to be)

Supplies:

- A line on the floor (gymnasium lines work great, as does painters tape placed on the floor)
- List of questions
- Microphone for larger groups

Before the game:

If needed, take your painters tape and mark a long line across the floor. You'll need space on both sides of the line for your group members to stand.

Directions:

1. Say to the group, *"Today/tonight we're going to play the Pick-a-Side Christmas game in which you must decide which of two Christmas traditions/items/activities you prefer. Your personal preference will determine which side of the line you need to stand on. For example, if you prefer candy canes you'll stand on the right side of the line and if you prefer chocolate Santas, you'll stand on the left side of the line."*
2. Once the directions have been made clear, instruct the group to get up and stand on the line.
3. Read through the choices one at a time, encouraging the group to quickly "Pick a Side" after both options are given. Remind them that they need to pick one – no standing in the middle!

Tips:

This game is intended to move along quickly or the group will get bored. I've found it easiest to stand at one end of the line and raise my arms and hands to show which side of the line they need to move to. For example, Candy canes this side, chocolate Santas this side.

Depending on which way folks are standing right and left can get confusing.

You do not need to use every item on the list – cut the game short if they seem to be losing interest.

If the group is getting loud (which you want!) you'll likely need to read the choices 2 or 3 times.

If getting everyone up and in a line is not an option – have folks stand or sit.

Pick-a-Side (Christmas version) cont.

Pick a Side List

Fruitcake – love it or leave it

Green or red

Candy canes – peppermint or anything but

Colored lights or white lights

Eggnog or cocoa

Real tree or artificial tree

Wreaths or garland

Ham or turkey

Jingle Bells or Silent Night

Christmas Eve – still shopping or finished

Re-gift or donate

Christmas – travel or stay home

White Christmas – hold the snow!

Tree up – Day after Thanksgiving or not until December

Black Friday shopping or staying home

Christmas cookies – homemade or store bought

Big gifts or lots of little gifts

It's a Wonderful Life or Elf

Christmas cookies – homemade or store-bought

Charlie Brown Christmas or Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer