

# HOW TO USE THE ORACLE FOR TRANSFEMINIST TECHNOLOGIES

**Welcome!** This Oracle is a hands-on card deck designed to help us collectively envision and share ideas for transfeminist technologies from the future.

The wisdom of the Oracle, embedded with transfeminist values, will help us foresee a future where technologies are designed by people who are too often excluded from or targeted by technology in today's world.

Join us on a creative journey, free your mind, and let's make a world where many worlds fit!

## Contents:

- \_23 Value cards
- \_23 Object cards
- \_13 Situation cards
- \_13 People and Places cards
- \_2 empty Value cards
- \_2 empty Object card
- \_2 empty Situation cards
- \_1 Instructions booklet

**Goal:** The purpose of the Oracle is to help you generate and share ideas for creative technologies that are imbued with transfeminist values.

## Number of People:

- \_When playing in pairs or trios: up to 40
- \_When playing as single players: up to 13

In larger groups, we suggest that one or two people act as the Reader (facilitator) to guide people through the game.

**Time:** Shortest reading takes about 10 min; more involved readings can be 45 min to an hour.

**Age Appropriateness:** The Oracle is appropriate for all ages. There is one Object card (a dildo) and one Values card (the "Pleasure" card is a clitoris) that some parents or educators may want to remove from the deck before playing with younger children.

## Instructions:

One person act as the Reader (optional). This person will guide you through the use of the Oracle, provide instructions at each step, keep time,

and facilitate discussion.

Take out the Oracle and separate the cards by type (Values, Objects, People and Places, and Situations). Shuffle each group.

**Consult the Oracle!** Each person/group takes:

- \_1 or 2 Values cards
- \_1 Object card
- \_1 People and Places card
- \_1 Situation card (optional)

## Read your cards

**\_Value card(s):** Each Value card represents a transfeminist value. Take a moment to reflect individually, and/or discuss in your group, what this Value means to you.

**\_Object card:** Each Object card represents an everyday object. (Note: if you are playing with children, consider whether you want to remove the Dildo from the stack of Object cards before you begin).

**\_People/Places card:** the People/Places cards all say the same thing: "Be in your own body. Be in the place you inhabit." Some speculative design exercises encourage you to imagine that

you are another kind of person, but transfeminism encourages us to recognize the importance of situated and embodied knowledge. Instead of pretending that you are someone else and you know what they need, take a moment to reflect on who you are. What body are you in? Where do you live? What privileges and burdens do your body and place provide?

**Situation card (optional):** Situation cards provide you with a situation that you need to deal with. They can be a fun way to focus your creative energy. You can also do readings without Situations, or create your own (real or imagined) Situation!

**Blank cards (optional):** We've included blank cards in case you want to add your own Values, Objects, or Situations.

#### 4. Create your Blueprint:

Your goal now is to envision a futuristic technology that:

- \_is embodied in your Object;
- \_is guided by your Value(s);
- \_is developed by and for your People, in your Place;

\_and will help you solve the Situation presented to you by the Oracle.

**Remember, it's the Future**, so Objects aren't limited by today's capabilities... everything is possible!

You may use the Blueprint sheet (**download it from <https://transfeministech.org/resources>**) to organize your ideas. Your Blueprint should have a title, a diagram or drawing of your technology in action, and a brief description of how it works.

#### 5. Share your ideas:

**In person:** Share your ideas back with the others! Tell everyone what cards you drew, what your transfeminist technology is called, pass your Blueprint around (if you made one), and briefly describe how it works.

**On the web:** We hope you'll also share your ideas with the world via the magic of the internetz! Take a picture of your Blueprint, then share it on any social media platform. Title your post with the name of your transfeminist tech, add your brief description, and be sure to use the hashtag #transfemtech! You can also send us your Blueprint at [transfemtech@codingrights.org](mailto:transfemtech@codingrights.org).

#### Alternate ways to use the Oracle

\_Give yourself a time limit for each step (for example, 10 min). Use a timer!

\_Use two Values cards instead of one;

\_After you take your cards, swap one card of your choice with another player;

\_Do two or three rounds of new Situations, with the same Object, Values, and People/Places cards;

\_Instead of an Object card, think of any existing technology and then try to remix it through the lense of your Values and People/Place.

\_Got another idea? Please share it with us at [transfemtech@codingrights.org](mailto:transfemtech@codingrights.org) :)

**More Resources** are available at <https://www.transfeministech.org>