Instructions

Welcome! Thank you for participating in this HIT.

In addition to your $0.10 for participating, you have now been given a starting balance of $0.40. Any additional money you gain will be added to this starting balance, and losses will be subtracted from this balance.

In this HIT, you will make decisions over 4 rounds. For each round, you will see a 5x5 grid containing 25 boxes, an example of which is shown below.

Most of these boxes are empty, but 1 of them contains a “bomb.” The placement of the bomb is completely random – each of the 25 boxes is equally likely to contain the bomb.

You can choose to open as many boxes as you like, from 0-25 (Note: This means you are not required to open any boxes if you do not wish to do so). If you open the box that contains the bomb, you will lose $0.10. However, if you only open empty boxes, you will gain $0.02 per box opened.

You will click on all the boxes you wish to open, and then progress to the next page to reveal which box contained the bomb. You will NOT see whether a box contains the bomb until you’ve made ALL your choices on which boxes to open and have progressed to the next page. That is, if you’ve clicked on the bomb, you will not learn that immediately. You will see the bomb placement after you’ve opened all of the boxes you want to open and you progress to the next page.
You will make these decisions over 4 separate rounds. [However, after the 3rd round, we will finalize your earnings up until that point by adding your earnings to your account balance or withdrawing your losses from your account balance. So if you have positive earnings, we will add those to your $0.40 starting balance, and we will finalize this account balance before Round 4. If you have negative earnings, we will subtract these from your $0.40 starting balance, and then finalize your account balance before Round 4.]

We will tell you your balance before you start Round 4. Then, we will transfer your earnings to your account (in the case of positive earnings) or away from your account (in the event of losses), and then you will participate in one final round. Your earnings from the last round will be transferred separately at the end of the task. Note: You can still earn money by opening empty boxes in Round 4, and you will still lose $0.10 from your balance if you open a bomb in Round 4. But in Round 4, we will have already taken money out of your balance (if you’ve clicked on a bomb) and we will have added money to your balance (if you’ve opened empty boxes).]

The placement of the bomb is completely random across these 4 rounds, so the bomb is equally likely to be behind any of the boxes in any of the rounds.