Designer Top Trumps

This exercise fosters team bonding through playful self-expression using custom trading cards. Participants design personal cards highlighting their design strengths, skills, and personality, then share them in a relaxed format.

30 minutes
Team Building
Beginner

H HOW TO RUN

1 Card Creation — 15 min

Distribute blank card templates. Have each person draw a simple self-portrait or doodle. List 3-5 design strengths or superpowers. Add skill ratings (1-10 scale) for different abilities. Include fun facts or hidden talents. Decorate and personalize the cards.

2 Card Sharing — 12 min

Each person presents their card (1-2 minutes each). They should explain their strengths and why they chose them, and share stories behind their skills or experiences. The group asks clarifying questions. Keep the atmosphere light and supportive.

3 Team Reflection — 3 min

Identify complementary skills across the team. Note any coverage gaps or learning opportunities. Display the cards in the team space. You can also play Top Trumps with the cards.

KEY TIP

Emphasize that this is about celebrating strengths, not comparing or competing.

O OBJECTIVES

› The objectives are to build team connections through creative self-expression, identify team strengths and complementary skills, create a relaxed atmosphere for sharing, and celebrate individual contributions

M MATERIALS

- ☐ Blank card templates (playing card size)
- ☐ Colored markers and pens
- ☐ Pencils for sketching
- ☐ Example card for reference
- ☐ Stickers for decoration
- ☐ Card protector sleeves
- ☐ Template with pre-printed categories
- ☐ Scoring grid (if playing game version)
- ☐ Laminator (for durable cards)

P PARTICIPANTS

4 to 12 people

F FACILITATOR NOTES

REMEMBER

- Provide an example card to set the tone – make yours lighthearted and fun.
- Remind participants that artistic ability doesn't matter; simple drawings work great.
- If anyone struggles, help them identify strengths through conversation.
- Keep the energy positive and supportive during sharing. This works well as a team kickoff or after major milestones.
- Consider keeping the cards displayed in the team workspace as an ongoing reminder of collective capabilities.
- Sometimes, participants might feel awkward sharing personal details; encourage them to focus on skills and strengths they bring to the team.