

Digital Escape Room Tips

Format

Decide between an in-person or all-digital format. Numerous online resources exist to assist with digital builds. These tips are for an in-person hybrid model where technology was used to complete the escape room.

Step 1: Planning the Room

- **Theme & Goal:** Set a clear scene (e.g., zombie apocalypse, pirate ship) and establish tangible objectives for both player victory and learning outcomes.
- **Puzzle Count & Group Size:** Aim for groups of 5–8 players. Balance puzzle volume so players can work in parallel without becoming overwhelmed or bored.
- **Puzzle Variety:** Mix puzzle types (decoding, mazes, crosswords, searches) to engage different skill sets, incorporate digital literacy components, and also make it align with your theme.

Step 2: Building the Room

- List and acquire all required props and supplies.
- Arrange materials seamlessly within the environment so puzzles match the setting (e.g., treasure chests or maps for a pirate theme).

Step 3: Testing & Iteration

- Run test sessions with small, diverse groups before launching.
- Observe player progression, clarify confusing elements, monitor completion times, gather feedback, and refine as needed.

Step 4: Launching

- Pilot the room with a small group or community partner.
- Offer snacks or prizes as completion incentives.
- Ensure all devices are charged, resetting materials between runs.
- Check space beforehand (do you need Wi-Fi, a projector, etc.) and give ample time to set up.