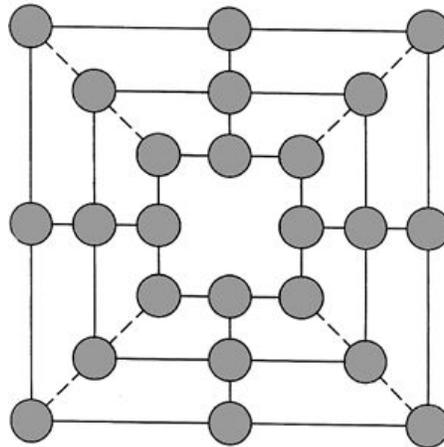


9 MEN'S MORRIS

A very popular, but also ancient, game from the colonial era was 9 Men's Morris. In camp, you will not only get to make your own board, but you will also learn how to play this game! The board is simply to make, and while the game has different phases and rules, it's fun once you get the hang of it!



- Step 1: Find the following materials from your camp kit:
 - Cardboard
 - Crayons/Markers/Pencil
 - Wooden Discs (*Playing Pieces*)
 - Paint, Paint Brush (optional)
- Step 2: Create your 9 Men's Morris board. The picture above shows you how to draw it!
 - Draw a big square, then a smaller square inside it, and then an even smaller square in the middle.
 - Draw eight lines from the middle of each outer edge to the middle of each inner edge and the same on each diagonal.
- Step 3: At each place where the lines intersect the squares OR where there's a corner, draw a circle. (See below)



- Step 5: Next take your bag of playing pieces. There should be 18 (9 for each player). Paint or color half of the pieces one color and the other half another color so you and your opponent can tell your own pieces apart from each other.
- Step 6: When the pieces are dry, follow the directions on the next page to try out the game.

HOW TO PLAY 9 MEN'S MORRIS

Setup Phase: Players taking turns laying their pieces on vacant points. You each have nine pieces, so you choose from among the 24 points on the board to place your pieces. Each player alternates placing a piece. This is where you must use strategy, seeing where your opponent is placing a piece and where it will be advantageous for you to place yours. You want to block your opponent from creating a string of three pieces on one line, or they will be able to remove one of your pieces. You are also looking for your chance to create a string of three pieces on one line.

Regular Phase: After all 18 pieces have been laid down, the regular phase begins. In this phase, a turn consists of sliding a piece along a line to a vacant point.

Whenever a player creates a string of three pieces on one line, they immediately remove one of their opponent's pieces. (This can happen during the setup phase or the regular phase.) An opponent's piece that is part of a string may not be removed unless no other piece is available.

Note: Sliding a piece one space on one turn, then back to its original space on a subsequent turn is a legal sequence.

In a common variation, once a player has only three pieces left, they can move a piece to any vacant position on the board and not just to an adjacent vacant position.

Winning Nine Men's Morris

The first player to get their opponent down to two pieces or to block their opponent from making any legal moves is the winner.