

MAKING MARBLES



A common game played throughout history was marbles. For enslaved people, it was not easy, if sometimes impossible, to get marbles. So, people had to make their own using natural materials. Clay is a natural material that, once shaped, will dry on its own. Today, we will make our own marbles using clay and learn how to play a game with them.

- Step 1: Locate the following materials in your camp kit:
 - Clay
 - Table Covering
- Step 2: Taking your clay, knead it in your hands for a few minutes to warm it up. This will make it easier to mold things out of it.
- Step 3: To make your marble, take a penny-size clump of clay and roll it into a ball using your hands. You want your marble to be as circular as possible. An oval shaped marble won't roll as well!
- Step 4: Once your marble is the shape you want, place it on your table covering.
- Step 5: Continue to make your marbles. As can be seen in the image above, you can change the size of your marbles. Just remember that it will take longer for the large marbles to dry.
- Step 6: Leave the marbles for 24 hours or until they have hardened in the air.
- Step 7: Once done, use the instructions on the next page to play a basic game of marbles!

NOTE: You can also use the glass marbles in your kit to try out the game right away.

HOW TO PLAY MARBLES



1. Set up your marbles in a circle; if you and another person are playing, distribute your marbles throughout the circle, making sure you can keep track of whose marbles are whose! If you're outside, you can draw a circle in the dirt, or with chalk on a hard surface. If you are inside, you can make a circle with tape or string. Traditionally the game calls for a ring or circle ten feet in diameter, but if you're a beginner we suggest something smaller – perhaps four or five feet.
2. Players take turns with their “shooters” (larger marbles) trying to knock one or more of the marbles out of the ring. They must shoot from outside the ring (hands and all body parts must be outside), but can shoot from anywhere outside the ring.
3. If, when shooting you...
 - strike a marble and knock it out of the ring, and your shooter stays in the ring, you may take another shot and you “win” the marble you hit. As long as you keep knocking marbles from the ring and your shooter stays in the ring you may keep shooting!
 - strike a marble and knock it out of the ring, but your shooter also goes out of the ring, you “win” the marble but your turn is over.
 - strike a marble but do not knock it out of the ring, and your shooter stays inside the ring you do not win any marbles and your turn is over;
4. The game ends when all of the marbles have been knocked out of the circle; the player with the most marbles at that point is the winner.