

Sprint 1 – Build the Basics

Product Owner: Benito Reyes

Scrum Master: BranDon Brown/Mekhi Green

Sprint Goal

Deliver a foundation of our FourPlay game by completing a fully functional front-end game loop and establish the backend framework for online hosting and connection.

Byte Bros

Live Demo: <https://connect-four-online-9y28.onrender.com>
Repository: <https://github.com/BenitoReyes/Connect-Four-Online>

Before Architecture

N/A

After Architecture

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# Architecture Overview
## Game Flow
1. Player connects via Socket.IO.
2. Server assigns role ('red' or 'yellow') and tracks players.
3. Players take turns dropping pieces on the board.
4. Moves are broadcast to the opponent via Socket.IO.
5. Win condition is checked locally and announced.

## Chat Flow
1. Backend generates StreamChat token using 'socket.id' as 'userId'.
2. Token and userId are sent to frontend via 'chat-auth' event.
3. Frontend connects to StreamChat using 'connectUser()'.
4. A 'gaming' channel is created or joined.
5. Players can send and receive messages in real-time.

## Security & Environment
- '.env' file stores API secrets (never committed)
- StreamChat token is generated server-side only
- Frontend receives only the token and userId through requesting get from backend

## Dependencies
- 'express' – initial HTTP server
- 'socket.io' – real-time game communication
- 'stream-chat' – chat SDK (client + server)
- 'dotenv' – environment variable management
- 'Node' – another server for browser testing

## Testing & CI
- Manual testing via browser
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