

How to play Nine Men's Morris:

Nine Men's Morris is the game in a box with a lid. The lid is the board and inside the box you can find the pieces. There are nine square and nine clover pieces.

Gameplay

In Nine Men's Morris, there are two two players: squares and clovers. Each player has nine pieces of their shape. The box has a divider to separate your remaining pieces or to keep the pieces you have captured.

The board is made of three squares marked with grooves, where the small square is inside the medium square, which is inside the large square. Each square has eight divots arranged along its edge where pieces can go. The grooves connecting the divots show how a piece can move between divots after they are placed on the board. There are also four grooves connecting the divots in the middle of each edge. Pieces can also move along these grooves.

Play is in two phases, where the goal of the game is to leave the opponent with only two pieces. First, players take turns to play a piece of their shape on any unoccupied divot until all eighteen pieces have been played. Second, play continues alternately but each turn consists of a player moving one piece along a line to an adjacent open divot.

To remove an opponent's piece a player must form a mill. A mill is where a player has three pieces in a row (i.e. three of the same pieces on any edge or three of the same pieces in connected middle divots).

During both phases, whenever a player achieves a mill, that player immediately removes from the board one piece belonging to the opponent that does not form part of a mill. If all the opponent's pieces form mills then an exception is made and the player is allowed to remove any piece. It is only upon the formation of a mill that a piece is captured but a player will often break a mill by moving a piece out of it and then, in a subsequent turn, play the piece back again, thus forming a new mill and capturing another piece.

Captured pieces are never replayed onto the board and remain captured for the remainder of the game. The game is finished when a player loses either by being reduced to two pieces or by being unable to move.

Variations

There are a few common variations to Nine Men's Morris.

- 1) Sometimes a "wild" rule is played for when a player is reduced to only three pieces. In this case, any player with only three pieces remaining is allowed to move from any divot to any other divot on the board regardless of grooves or whether the destination divot is adjacent.
- 2) Players can place a piece or remove a piece at any time, removing the phases.

Don't forget you can make your own variations and even an entirely different game with the board and pieces!

Have fun playing and best of luck!

How to play Towers of Hanoi:

Towers of Hanoi is typically a solo puzzle. It consists of the board with three pegs and the pyramidal stack of disks.

Gameplay

The goal is to transfer the entire stack from the first to the third peg.

To play Towers of Hanoi, you need to move disks from one peg to another following these rules:

- 1) you can only move one disk at a time
- 2) you can never place a larger disk on top of a smaller one.

Variations

There are a few common variations to Towers of Hanoi.

- 1) You can play the game with any number of rings. You can use all six disks, or you could just use five, or four, or three.
- 2) You can only move a disk to an adjacent peg.
- 3) You can only move the disks in a specific direction (clockwise or counterclockwise) around the board. (i.e. disks can only make the following movements: peg 1 to 2, peg 2 to 3, or peg 3 to 1.)
- 4) You can move the top two or three disks as a single unit as long as they are in the correct order.
- 5) The goal is to arrange the disks on the target peg in reverse order (largest on top).
- 6) You can only play up to a maximum number of moves.

Don't forget you can make your own variations and even an entirely different game with the board and pieces! The disks have two halves: smooth or with horizontal grooves. These could be used to come up with your own games!

Have fun playing and best of luck!

How to tackle the Topological Jigsaw Puzzle:

Gameplay

The jigsaw puzzle consists of 36 tiles and a tray. The finished puzzle has a smooth, continuous surface. If you need help, there is a solution tile that comes with the puzzle. The solution tile is larger than the other tiles.

Have fun playing and best of luck!