

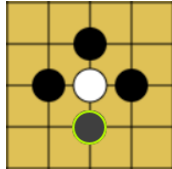
# Rules

The board consists of a 19x19 grid.

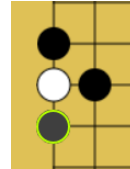
Black players first.

The players take turns to place one stone on the board, or pass their turn.

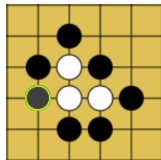
If you surround a group of opponent stones, they are taken of the board.



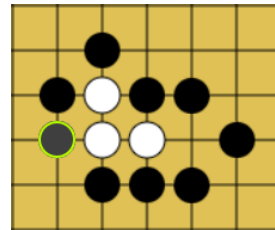
*White is surrounded*



*White is surrounded*

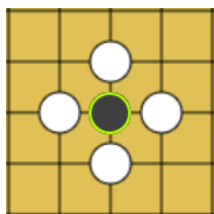


*White is surrounded*

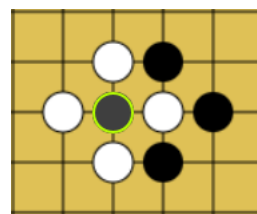


*White is NOT surrounded*

You may not place a stone in a way that you yourself become surrounded, except if you at the same time surround an opponent group of stones.



*Black cannot place stone here  
since he will be surrounded*

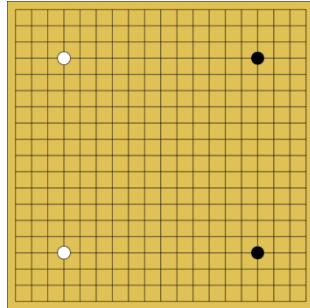


*Black can place a stone here  
since he will surround white*

If both players pass their turn the game ends. You get 1 point per stone or empty square surrounded by your stones. White get a 7.5-point handicap since black goes first.

# Tactics

Generally its best to first take the squares three diagonal squares away from the corners.

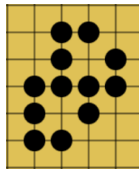


*Common start of game*

Generally, it's better to take the corners first, then sides, and last the middle of the board.

Generally, it's better to first place your stones over a larger area, and later connect them. But if you place them to spread out, they might all become surrounded.

To make sure your stone groups does not become surrounded you must create "eyes". If a group has two "eyes" it will be impossible for the opponent to capture that group and it is thus safe.



*This black group has two eyes  
and cannot be captured.*