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CIS-5

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Project 2

#### What Is Ludo?

Ludo is a simple race-and-capture board game for 2 to 4 players. Each person rolls a single die to move their tokens from the "yard" onto a cross-shaped track, aiming to bring all pieces safely home. Landing on an opponent's token sends it back to its yard, combining luck and light strategy in every turn.

#### **Origins and Evolution**

Ludo traces its roots to the Indian game Pachisi (6th century AD), where cowrie shells and cloth boards defined royal pastimes. In 1896, British colonists formalized it as "Ludo" (Latin for "I play"), replacing shells with a cubical die and standardizing rules. From Britain, it spread worldwide, adapting to local materials and player styles.

#### Ludo in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, লুডু boards—often plastic or chalk-drawn—are staples of monsoon nights and festive gatherings. Families and neighbors crowd verandahs or street corners, sipping tea as dice clatter and laughter fills the air. Impromptu matches bridge generations, blending friendly rivalry with casual storytelling.

#### A Core Family Memory

Growing up in Bangladesh, Ludo was the game my brother, cousins, and I would always play. I must have whiled away thousands of monsoon-drenched evenings clustered around that battered plastic board in our courtyard. Grandparents would hover, gently guiding our tokens; cousins would erupt in laughter after each cunning "cut"; and my grandmother's soft scolds came whenever I forgot to say "thank you" after rolling a six. Those countless games—just dice, tokens, and shared stories—wove a bond between us that still brings a smile whenever I think back.

### **Project Overview**

This project is a complete, modular, and professional C++ simulation of Ludo. It demonstrates all required CIS-5 programming concepts, incrementally introduced over six versions.

The final version supports 2–4 players, uses arrays, functions, file I/O, searching, sorting, and more, all while maintaining a clean style and thorough documentation.

# How to Play Ludo (Final Version Instructions)

#### Welcome to Ludo – CIS-5 Advanced Edition!

#### How to Play:

- 2–4 players (or you vs friends/AI).
- Each player has two tokens starting at tile 0 ("home").
- On your turn, press Enter to roll a die (1–6).
- Choose which of your two tokens to move.
- Special Rules:
  - Cut rule: Land on another player's token, and that token goes back to the start.
  - Safe-stop: Tokens never move past tile 50.
  - Triple six penalty: Roll three 6's in a row? You lose your turn!
- First player to get both tokens to tile 50 wins.
- Every action, roll, and cut is logged to a file. Progress, leaderboard, and stats are shown at the end.

#### Sample Game Screen:

## **Version-by-Version Evolution**

Each version builds on the last—see the pseudocode and code snippet for each.

## Version 1: Modular Roll-and-Move (2 Players, Functions Only)

#### Features:

- Two players, each with two tokens (no arrays—just int variables).
- Modular design using separate functions for:
  - Rolling the die.
  - Moving a token.
  - Checking for a win.
  - Printing status.
- Turn-based game loop, switches between Player 1 and Player 2.

Simple input and output.

#### **Key C++ Concepts:**

Functions, local variables, input/output, basic control flow.

#### Pseudocode:

```
* 1. Initialize player tokens to 0 (start position)

2. Seed the random number generator

3. Set Player 1 as current player

4. While no one has won:

a. Roll the die (call rollDie())

b. Ask current player to pick which token to move (1 or 2)

c. Move selected token by the die roll (call moveToken())

d. Print both players' token positions (call printStatus())

e. Check if current player has both tokens at or past finish (call checkWin())

- If yes, announce winner and exit loop

f. Switch to the next player

*/
```

#### **Code Snippet:**

Modular with functions—no arrays yet.

```
// --- Function prototypes ---
int rollDie();
void moveToken(int &token, int roll);
bool checkWin(int t1, int t2);
void printStatus(int p1_1, int p1_2, int p2_1, int p2_2);
```

## **Version 2: Using 1D Arrays and Functions Passing Arrays**

- Tokens for each player are now stored in 1D arrays (p1[2], p2[2]).
- Functions now accept arrays (demonstrates passing by reference).

- Win check and print functions generalized to arrays.
- Still 2 players, improved structure, and maintainability.

1D arrays, passing arrays to functions, modular design, pass by reference/value.

#### Pseudocode:

```
* 1. Declare int arrays for player tokens: p1[2], p2[2]

* 2. Functions for roll, move, print, win now take arrays (by value/ref)

* 3. Main loop: roll, pick token, move (using function), print, check win

* 4. No global variables/constants

*/
```

#### **Code Snippet:**

Move tokens with arrays, pass by reference:

```
// Moves a specific token (array by ref, index, roll)
void moveToken(int tokens[], int idx, int roll)
{
    const int FINISH = 50;
    tokens[idx] += roll;
    if (tokens[idx] > FINISH)
        tokens[idx] = FINISH; // optional safe-stop
}
```

## Version 3: 2D Arrays, 2–4 Players, Full Modularization

- The game supports 2–4 players (user input for the number of players).
- All tokens stored in a 2D array (tokens[4][2]).
- All logic (move, check, print) is generalized for any number of players.
- Dynamic turn order, cycles through players.

2D arrays, parallel arrays, loops, scalable code, and input validation.

#### Pseudocode:

```
* 1. Prompt user for number of players (2-4).
* 2. Declare 2D array: tokens[4][2].
* 3. Game loop:
    a. Current player rolls.
    b. Select token.
    c. Move token (with safe-stop at finish).
    d. Print all players' positions.
    e. Check for win (both tokens finished).
    f. Advance to next player.
*/
```

#### **Code Snippet:**

Generalize for any player, with 2D arrays:

```
// Move a token, with safe-stop at finish
void moveToken(int tokens[][2], int plIdx, int tokIdx, int roll, int finish)
{
   tokens[plIdx][tokIdx] += roll;
   if (tokens[plIdx][tokIdx] > finish)
        tokens[plIdx][tokIdx] = finish;
}
```

## **Version 4: Cut Rule, File Logging**

- Implements "cut" rule: if you land on an opponent's token, they return to start.
- Generalized cut logic for any number of players using arrays.
- Logs every roll, move, and cut to a text file.
- Functions for cutting and logging.

Conditional logic, file I/O (ofstream), more advanced function use, and array manipulation.

#### Pseudocode:

```
* 1. Initialize 2D array for tokens, open output file.

* 2. Main game loop:

a. Player rolls (log to file).
b. Player selects token.
c. Move token (log to file).
d. Check for and perform cuts (log to file).
e. Print all positions.
f. Check for win.
g. Advance to next player.

* 3. Close log file on exit.

*/
```

#### **Code Snippet:**

Cut logic:

## Version 5: Statistics, Sorting, Searching, Leaderboard

- Tracks statistics: number of moves, turns, and cuts per player (parallel arrays).
- After the game ends:
  - Bubble sort to show players by fewest moves.
  - Selection sort for the fewest turns.
  - Linear search to find the player with the most cuts.
  - Leaderboard output (to file and console).
- Uses STL vector demo for leaderboard.

Bubble sort, selection sort, searching arrays, STL vector basics, and formatted output.

#### Pseudocode:

```
* 1. Declare 2D arrays for tokens and moves, 1D arrays for stats (turns, cuts).

* 2. Input player names.

* 3. Game loop:

a. Player rolls.
b. Select token.
c. Move token (record moves).
d. Perform cuts (update cuts stat).
e. Print status.
f. Check for win (record turns, time, etc.).
g. Advance player.

* 4. When game ends:
a. Sort all players by performance (moves/cuts).
b. Search for player with most cuts.
c. Print stats/leaderboard.
d. Write stats to leaderboard file.

*/
```

#### **Code Snippet:**

Bubble sort for leaderboard:

## **Version 6: The Ultimate, Checklist-Full Ludo**

- All required C++ features: No globals, function prototypes, pass by value/reference, overloading, defaulted parameters, static variables, exit().
- Full user instructions and formatted output.
- Switch statement (for die roll output).
- Conditional (ternary) operator in status.
- Math library functions (pow, abs), type casting, use of sizeof.
- Advanced input validation everywhere (do-while, flags).
- Hand-tracing output, code heavily commented with checklist callouts.
- Leaderboard and stats for all players (arrays, vectors, searching, sorting).
- All code is modular, maintainable, and professional.

Everything from previous versions, plus: function overloading, defaulted arguments, static variables, STL vector, math functions, conditional/switch statements, explicit checklist demonstration.

#### Pseudocode:

```
// [2.7] Formatted output (setw, setprecision)
```

#### **Entire Code Snippet:**

Instruction output, triple six penalty, function overloading, vector demo, etc.:

```
#include <iomanip> // [2.3, 2.7, 3.7] Output formatting (setw/setprecision)
#include <cmath> // [2.3, 3.9] Math functions (pow, abs)
#include <cstdlib> // [2.3, 3.5] Random, casting
#include <ctime> // [2.3] Random seed
#include <fstream> // [2.3, 5.11] File input/output
#include <string> // [2.3, 2.8] Player names
#include <vector> // [7.12] STL vector for demo of passing/parallel arrays
using namespace std;
void moveTok(int tokens[][2], int plIdx, int tkIdx, int roll, int finish, ofstream @logF); // [pass by reference]
int cutTok(int tokens[][2], int plCnt, int plIdx, int tkIdx, int start, ofstream &logF); // [pass by reference, returns int]
void printStat(const vector<string> &names, const vector<int> &moves);
int findMax(const int arr[], int sz);
void showSize();
```

```
string names[MAXP];
```

```
ofstream logF("ludo_v6_log.txt");
```

```
if (win)
vMoves.push back(moves[i]);
```

```
bSort(names, moves, plCnt);
```

```
tokens[op][t] = start;
```

```
float avgMoves(const int moves[], int sz)

(
  int sum = 0;
  for (int i = 0; i < sz; ++i)
      sum += moves[i];

return sz > 0 ? static_cast<float>(sum) / sz : 0.0f;
}
```

## **How Did Version 6 of Project 1 Work?**

Version 6 from Project 1 was a robust, two-to-four player Ludo game built without arrays or functions (except for logging). Each player had two explicit int variables for tokens. Major features included:

- **Start-to-finish progress:** Each turn, the player rolled, picked a token, moved, and checked for a win.
- Three-six penalty: Rolling three sixes skipped your turn.
- Cut rule: Land on any opponent's token? They're cut and sent home.
- Safe-stop: Tokens could never move past tile 50.
- Full logging: Every roll, move, cut, and safe-stop was recorded to a file.
- **Progress report:** Each turn, token percentages toward home were printed.
- Victory check: Game ended instantly on a win.

Version 6 was modular in logic but not in code—each feature had to be repeated for every player/token.

Project 2 V6 uses arrays, functions, sorting/searching, and all CIS-5 concepts for a much more advanced, maintainable, and scalable Ludo.

## Conclusion

This Ludo project not only brought childhood nostalgia to life, but also allowed me to master key C++ concepts—from modular programming, input validation, and file I/O, to sorting/searching, vectors, and professional code structure. Each version added new depth and polish, culminating in a final product that is robust, maintainable, and fun to play.

**Flowchart** 









