

How to Play Tic-Tac-Toe

Tic-tac-toe is a simple, two-player strategy game played on a grid. The objective is to align three symbols in a row, either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

Objective

The goal of tic-tac-toe is to be the first player to form a straight line of three of your symbols either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally on a 3x3 grid.

Game Setup

The game is played on a grid made of 9 squares arranged in a 3x3 pattern.



Each square is initially empty. Players take turns selecting an empty square and marking it with their symbol.

Symbols

- **Player 1** uses the symbol "X".
- **Player 2** uses the symbol "O".

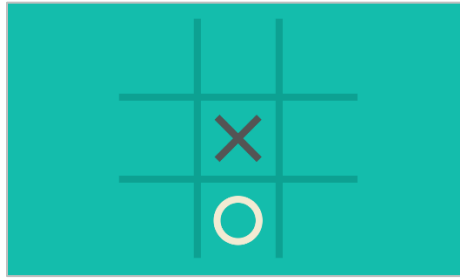
How to Play

1. **Choose who goes first:** Decide who will play as "X" and who will play as "O". The player with "X" always goes first.
2. **Take turns:** A player selects any empty square on the grid and marks it with their symbol on each turn.

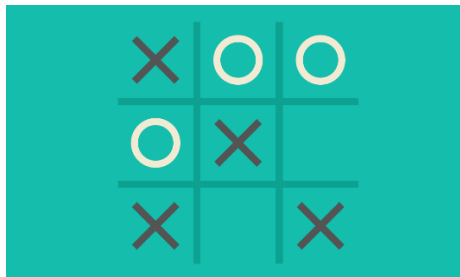
For example:

- If Player 1 chooses the center square (5), they mark it with an "X".
- Player 2 can then choose square 8 and mark it with an "O".

The grid might look like this:



3. **Winning the game:** The first player to get three of their symbols in a straight line (either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) wins the game. A winning grid might look like this:



In this case, Player 1 (with "X") wins by creating a diagonal line from the bottom left to the top right.

4. **Draw:** If all 9 squares are filled and neither player has formed a line of three, the game ends in a draw, often called as "cat's game."

Example of a draw:



Tic-tac-toe is an excellent game for quick, casual fun. With just a pencil and paper, you can play anywhere, anytime!