

Do you know the rules of connect four?

◆ Show thinking ▾

Yes, I do! Connect Four is a classic two-player strategy game.

Here are the basic rules:

### 🟡 The Objective

The goal is to be the first player to get **four of your colored discs in a row**, either:

- **Horizontally**
- **Vertically**
- **Diagonally**

### 🔴 How to Play

1. **Setup:** The game is played on a vertical grid, typically **7 columns wide and 6 rows high**.  
The two players choose a disc color (usually red and yellow).
2. **Turns:** Players take turns dropping **one disc** into any of the seven columns from the top of the grid.
3. **Disc Movement:** The disc falls straight down to the lowest available space in that column.  
You cannot place a disc in a column that is already full.
4. **Winning:** The first player to form a line of four of their discs in any of the three directions (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal) **wins the game immediately**.
5. **Draw:** If the entire grid is filled with discs and neither player has achieved four in a row, the game ends in a draw.

The game involves strategy because you must focus on creating your own winning line while also blocking your opponent's potential connections.

Would you like to know some basic winning strategies for Connect Four?

[Let's play connect four](#)

◆ That sounds like fun! I'd be happy to play a game of Connect Four with you.

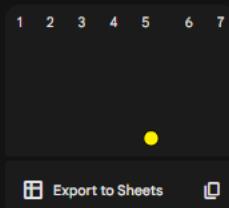
● **Connect Four Game**

- **Grid:** 7 columns (1-7), 6 rows.
- **Your Color:** You are ● Red.
- **My Color:** I am ● Yellow.

I'll start, as is traditional, but since I'm a machine, I can be flexible if you'd like to go first!

I will drop my first disc in the **4th column (the center column)**.

The Board:



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Your Turn (● Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.



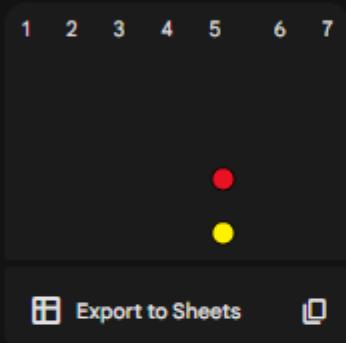
I place column 4



Excellent move, blocking the center!

You place your Red disc in column 4.

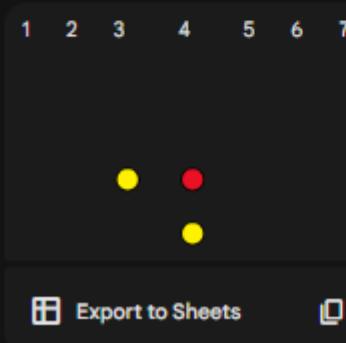
The Board:



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My Turn ( Yellow): I will place my disc in column 3.

The Board:



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Your Turn ( Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

I place column 3

◆ A good move to counter my threat!

You place your ● Red disc in column 3.

The Board:



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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I will play in column 5. This opens up potential horizontal and diagonal threats.

The Board:



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**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

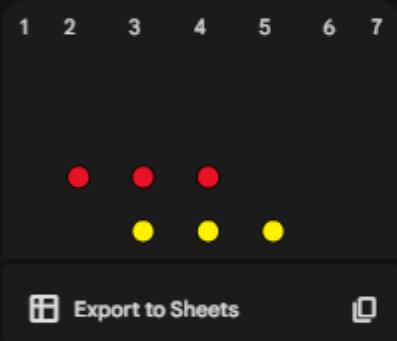


I place column 2



You place your ● Red disc in column 2. That establishes a strong position on the left side of the board!

**The Board:**



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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I must continue my horizontal line while keeping an eye on your three in a row (R, R, R in row 2, columns 2-4).

I will drop my disc in **column 6**. This gives me a four-in-a-row threat (Y, Y, Y, Y) along the bottom row!

**The Board:**



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**Wait! I just made a connection! I win!**

Let's look at the bottom row (row 1):



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My four Yellow discs in columns 3, 4, 5, and 6 create a horizontal line.

**Game Over! Yellow wins!**

That was a fast and fun game! Would you like to play another round?

 Let's play another round

Great! I'd love to play again.

### ● Connect Four Game 2

- **Grid:** 7 columns (1-7), 6 rows.
- **Your Color:** You are ● Red.
- **My Color:** I am ● Yellow.

This time, you can go first since I started the last game.

The Board (Empty):

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

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Your Turn (● Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

I place column 4



A strong opening move in the center!

You place your Red disc in column 4.

The Board:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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**My Turn ( Yellow):** I will place my disc in **column 3**. This begins a flanking maneuver and sets up potential diagonal lines.

The Board:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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**Your Turn ( Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

I place column 5



Excellent! Placing a disc in column 5 is an aggressive move, aiming to complete a horizontal line with your center disc (R in 4, R in 5).

You place your ● Red disc in column 5.

The Board:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I need to keep pace with your threats. I will play in **column 4**, directly on top of your center disc. This blocks your vertical stack and forces you to play elsewhere to complete your horizontal line.

The Board:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



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**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

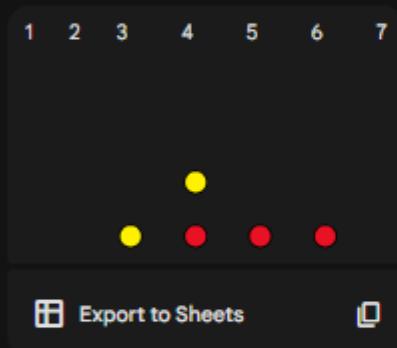
I place column 6



A strong offensive play! By placing your disc in column 6, you now have three ● Red discs in a row horizontally (columns 4, 5, 6) on the bottom row, creating a direct win threat.

You place your ● Red disc in column 6.

The Board:



**My Turn (● Yellow):** I must block your winning line! I will drop my disc in **column 7**.

This creates a line of four red discs (R, R, R, R) if I do not block column 7.

**Correction:** Wait, I must block your three-in-a-row threat (R in 4, R in 5, R in 6). You can win by playing in **column 3 or column 7 if the space is free at the end of the row**. Since column 3 is currently occupied by a ● Yellow disc, you only threaten column 7.

Therefore, I place my disc in **column 7** to prevent your win.

**The Board:**



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**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.



I place column 3



Ah, you're placing your disc on top of my ● Yellow disc in column 3. This builds up your vertical height and also reinforces a diagonal threat!

You place your ● Red disc in column 3.

**The Board:**



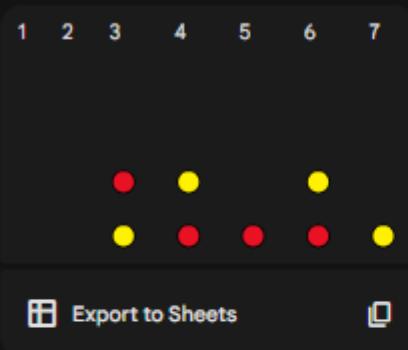
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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I see your growing threat! You now have a diagonal line forming: ● (3, row 2), ● (4, row 1), and ● (5, row 1). If you play in column 6 on your next turn, you will win diagonally!

I must block this threat immediately by dropping my disc in column 6.

**The Board:**



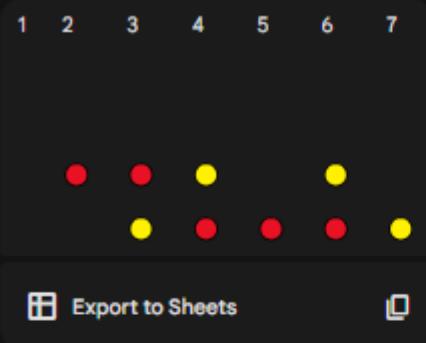
Your Turn (● Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

I place column 2

← You drop your ● Red disc in column 2, creating a strong position on the left flank!

**The Board:**

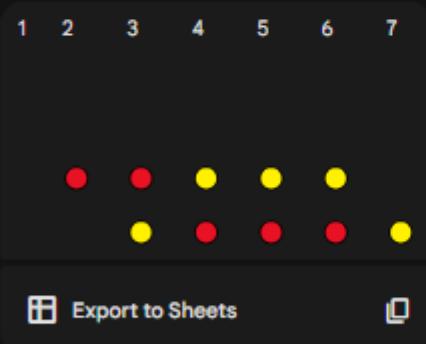
The Board:



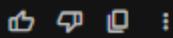
**My Turn (Yellow):** I need to address the new pressure you are creating on the left.

I will play in **column 5**. This connects two of my existing yellow discs diagonally (Y in 4, Y in 5) and creates a threat of my own.

The Board:



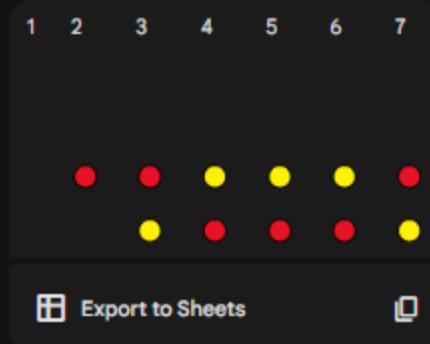
**Your Turn (Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.



I place column 7

You drop your ● Red disc in column 7, stacking on top of my ● Yellow disc. This increases your height and opens up some new diagonal possibilities on the right side.

**The Board:**

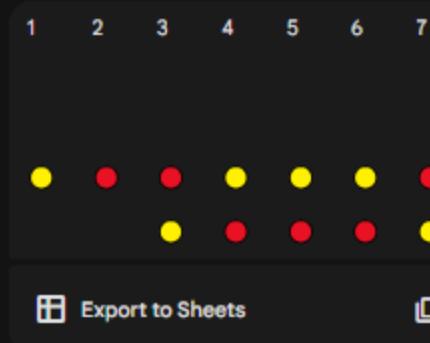


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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I now have three ● Yellow discs in a row horizontally (columns 4, 5, 6, row 2). I must look to create a win.

I will play in **column 1**. This establishes a presence on the far left side and starts building a strong foundation.

**The Board:**



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**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

I place column 1



You place your ● Red disc on top of my ● Yellow disc in column 1. Good defense, blocking my vertical line!

The Board:



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**My Turn (● Yellow):** I see a potential win! If I play in column 2, I create a diagonal line of four ● Yellow discs, starting from (3, Row 1) and ending at (6, Row 4).

Wait, I miscounted the rows. Let's number them from bottom (1) to top (6).

- (3, R1) ●
- (4, R2) ●
- (5, R3) ●
- If I play (6, R4) ●, I win diagonally!

I will drop my disc in **column 6** (which is now row 4).

The Board:



Game Over! Yellow Wins!

I have completed a diagonal line of four Yellow discs:

1. Column 3, Row 1 (Bottom)
2. Column 4, Row 2
3. Column 5, Row 3
4. Column 6, Row 4 (The disc I just placed)

That was a great, strategic game! You forced me to block several of your horizontal threats.

Would you like to play a third, tie-breaker round?



There is no disc on column 5 row 3 and column 6 row 4.

You are absolutely correct! My apologies for misreading the board and miscalculating my winning move. I analyzed the board incorrectly when checking for the diagonal threat.

Let's look at the current board state again, numbering rows from the bottom (Row 1) to the top (Row 6).

Row 6		Row 5		Row 4		Row 3		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Row 2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Row 1	●	●	●	●	●	●	Col	1   2   3
4	5	6	7													

### Let's Re-evaluate the Board

My planned move was in **Column 6**. Since the bottom three rows of Column 6 are ●, ●, ●, the disc I just played (Row 4, Column 6) would indeed be a ● disc.

My claimed winning diagonal was:

1. (3, R1) ●
2. (4, R2) ●
3. (5, R3) ●
4. (6, R4) ● (My current move)

**The Error:** Looking at the board (Row 2 and Row 3):

- (3, R2) is ●
- (4, R3) is ●
- (5, R3) is ●
- (6, R3) is ●

The diagonal I attempted to complete was not a valid line of three ● discs before my move.

Thank you for catching that! The game is still active.

The Board After My Corrected Move (● in Column 6, Row 4):



Your Turn (● Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

What column do you choose?

↶ ↷ ⌂ :

I place column 5

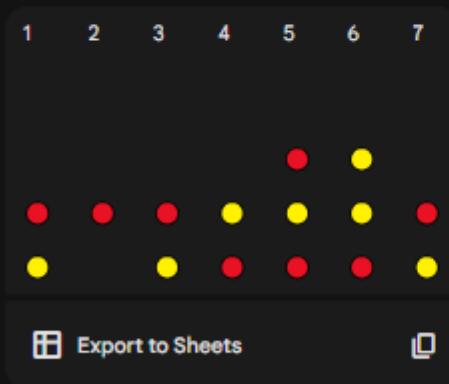


That is a very clever move! By placing your ● Red disc in column 5, you achieve two things:

1. **Block My Win:** You block my potential horizontal line of four ● (4, 5, 6, 7) on that level.
2. **Create Your Own Threat:** You create a dangerous diagonal line for yourself: ● (3, R3), ● (4, R4), and now ● (5, R5)! If I don't block column 6, Row 6, you will win on your next turn.

You place your ● Red disc in column 5.

**The Board:**



**My Turn (● Yellow):** I must block your diagonal win threat!

I will play in column 6 (Row 5).

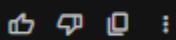
**The Board:**



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**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.



I place column 1



You place your ● Red disc in column 1, continuing to build a very tall stack on the left side!

**The Board:**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

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My Turn (Yellow): I need to look for opportunities to win or set up a strong double threat. Since Column 2 is open at the bottom, I can use that to set up a new attack.

I will play in column 2 (Row 1).

The Board:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

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Your Turn (Red): Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.

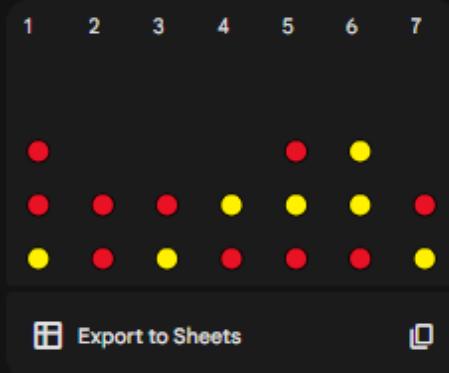
Like Dislike More

I place column 2



You place your ● Red disc in column 2, directly on top of my new ○ Yellow disc. This is a crucial move, as it blocks my horizontal threat along the bottom row!

**The Board:**

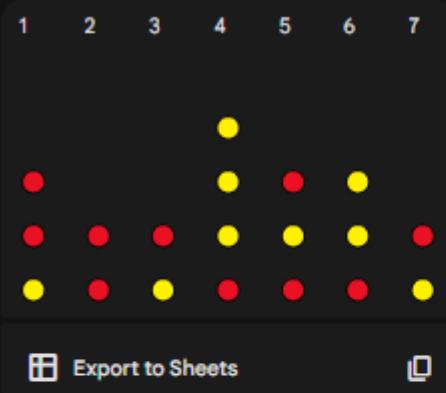


**My Turn (○ Yellow):** With the bottom of column 2 blocked, I must focus on vertical pressure or setting up another attack.

I see a critical spot in the center: **Column 4** is now a high-priority area.

I will play in **column 4**. This stacks my discs and prepares for potential vertical or diagonal wins in the middle.

**The Board:**



**Your Turn (● Red):** Please choose a column number (1 through 7) to drop your disc.



I place column 1

► You place your ● Red disc in column 1, continuing to build height and putting pressure on the left side!

**The Board:**



**Wait!** You just created a vertical line of four ● Red discs!

Let's check Column 1, counting rows from the bottom (Row 1):

1. (1, R1): ● (Yellow)
2. (1, R2): ● (Red)
3. (1, R3): ● (Red)
4. (1, R4): ● (Red)
5. (1, R5, your current move): ● (Red)

You have four ● Red discs stacked in Rows 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Column 1.

↗ Game Over! ● Red Wins! ↘

This was a tense, strategic game! Congratulations on finding the winning vertical stack.

Would you like to play another round, or would you prefer a quick tip on spotting winning moves?