

Island or Bridge

Walter Joris, *Brain Games* (2024)

O	O		X	X	O	O	O	X	O
X	O	X	O	X	X	O	O	X	
X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	X
O	O	O	O	O	X	O	O	O	O
O	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X	O

IN TURNS, X AND O PUT THEIR MARKS ON A FIELD OF 5 BY 5.

One square is left open, so each player has 12 turns. The winner is the one with a connection from side to side, horizontal or vertical. OR, when that is not possible, the largest contiguous area of squares that border each other straight (so not diagonally).

Examples: A. It's clear that on the fourth row, O has such a connection. She wins. B. No connection here. But X has an area of 9 squares. And O only 6. He wins.