

└ Nooks ─

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Nook: a secluded or sheltered place or part
Merriam-Webster (m-w.com)

Nooks is a two player abstract game of area enclosure. The standard game is played on a 8 x 8 x 8 hexagonal game board. Players take turns placing walls in an attempt to enclosure small areas called nooks.

└ Components ─

The game of Nooks requires the following components:

- 168 neutral (tan) wall stones; 60 scoring stones, 30 red stones and 30 gold stones.
- One 8x8x8 hexagonal game board.

└ Setup ─

- Two neutral wall stones are placed at b8 and n8.
- Each player takes a set of scoring stones.
- The wall stones are placed by the board in easy reach of both players.

A **wall** is created by placing four wall stones on four empty cells that are aligned and connected, forming what is equivalent to a straight tetromino. See Figure 2 for examples.

A **nook** is an enclosed area which can not contain a wall. An area can be enclosed by wall stones and/or the edge of the board. Not all enclosed areas are nooks – they could contain a wall. See Figure 3.

Players get to place scoring stones in each cell of each nook created during their turn. (If the supply of scoring stones runs low, use one stone to mark a captured nook and consider all the cells covered.) The game ends when no more walls can be placed on the game board.

The player with the most scoring stones on the board wins the game. Ties are not possible.

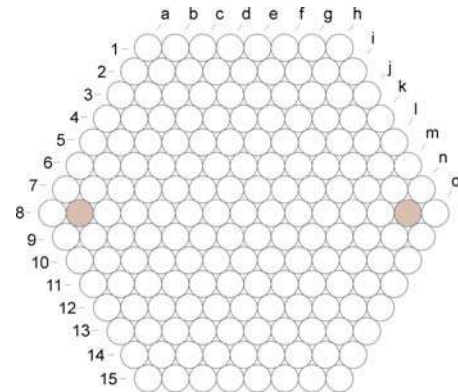


Figure 1. Game board setup
At the start of the game two wall stones are placed at b8 and n8..

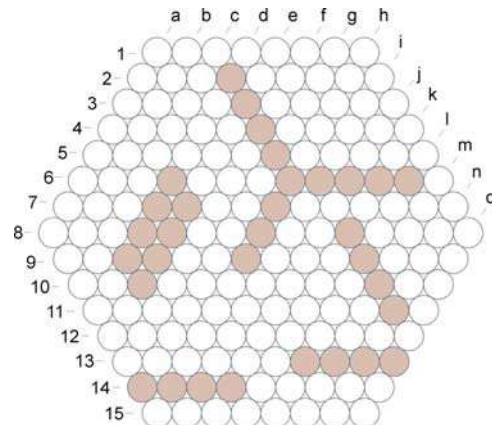
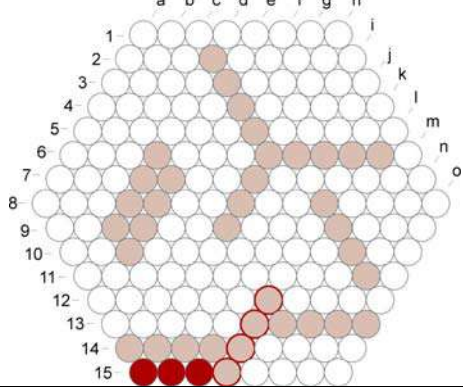
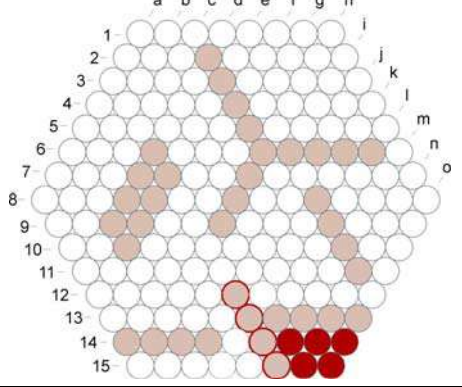


Figure 2. Wall Placement
Walls can be placed with any orientation and may touch other wall stones and the edge of the board.

	
<p>Figure 3. Nook Creation - Part 1 <i>Red plays k12-k15 creating a nook of 3 cells. The area on the right is not a nook since two walls could be placed inside it.</i></p>	<p>Figure 4. Nook Creation - Part 2 <i>A better move for Red would be j12-m15 creating a nook worth 5 points.</i></p>

└ Variant ─┘

Square board

A simpler version of Nooks can be played on a square 11x11 game board. The only rule change is that the walls must be placed vertically or horizontally; diagonal placement is not allowed.