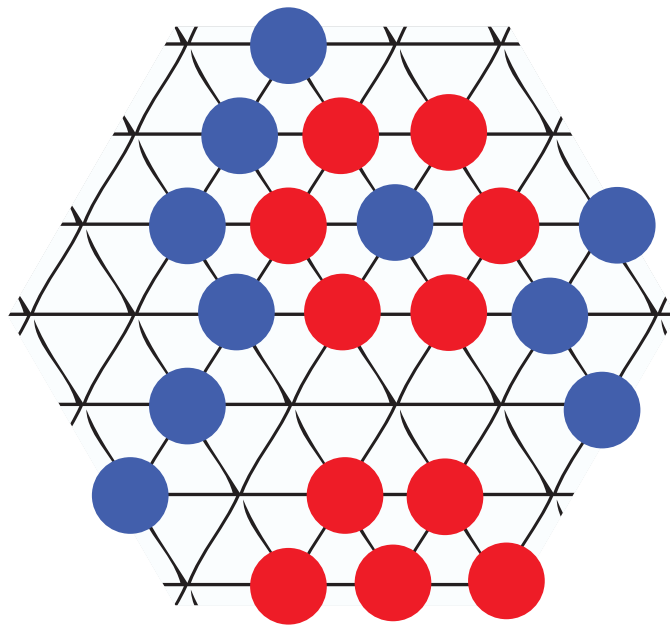


LOOPS

A very simple game for two players. Beginners will probably want to start on the 5x5x5 hexgrid, and the pie rule should be used to keep it balanced.

Definitions:

Loop - a contiguous group of one color that completely surrounds one or more spaces, separating parts of the board. The surrounded space(s) can be empty or occupied by either player's color.



Here we have four loops. (Edges count toward loops, so notice that it could take as little as 3 occupied spaces in a corner, 4 on a side, or just a line across the board to form a loop)

Play:

The board begins empty. On a player's turn they must put their color on an empty space.

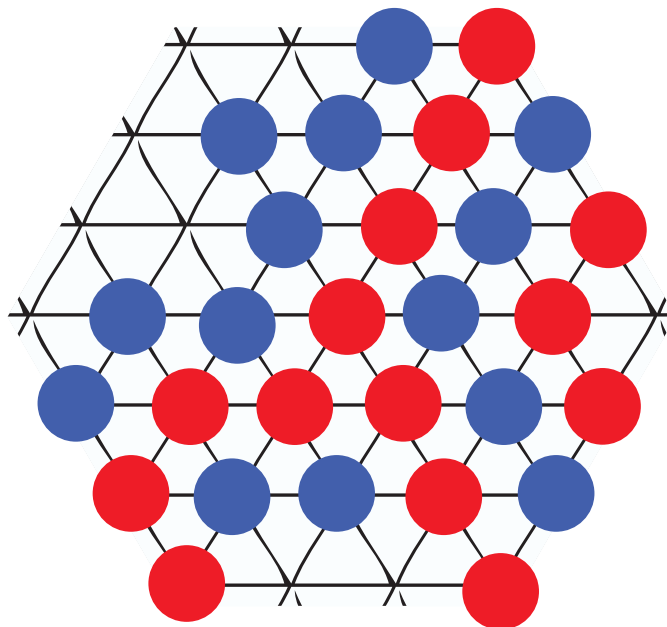
The game ends when every space is occupied (or a player resigns).

Once the game is over a player's score is calculated as follows:

Every space occupied by your color that is part of a loop

+

Every space occupied by the enemy-color that is NOT part of a loop



Here blue's score is 18, and red's score is 19. So red wins.
(it's clear that no new loops can be formed in the empty spaces)