

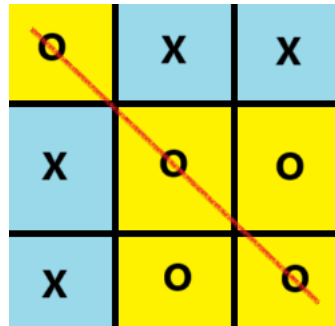
About Tic-Tac-Toe

Tic-Tac-Toe (also known as Noughts and Crosses) is a two-player game. Its origins date back to the Roman Empire, around the 1st century B.C. It went by the name “*terni lapilli*,” which translates to “three pebbles” in Latin. It is a fun game that sharpens your mind and enhances cognitive skills.

It requires:

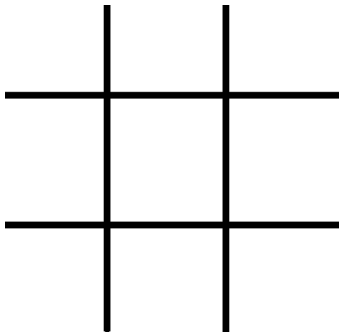
- Paper
- Pen/pencil

The game is played on a 3 x 3 grid and resembles a hash sign #. The grid is marked with either **X** or **O** symbol. Each player selects their symbol and takes turns to mark the vacant cell. To win, the players must try to get their symbol in a row, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally.



Getting Started

1. Draw a 3 x 3 grid with 9 vacant cells.



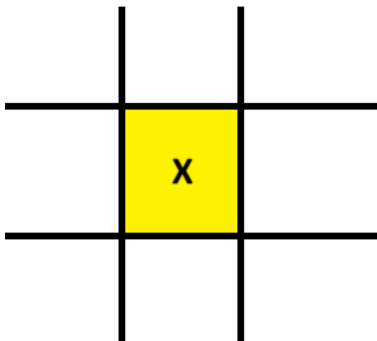
2. Select your symbol. If you select **X**, your opponent gets **O**.
Note: Ideally, the player who selects the **X** symbol should start the game.
3. In alternate turns, mark your symbol in the vacant cells.
Note: Aim to place your symbol in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally).

4. Play until all nine cells are filled.

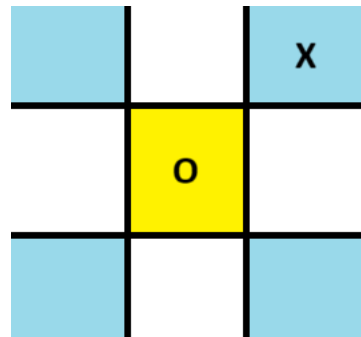
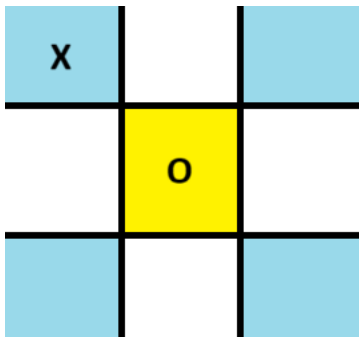
The first player to mark three symbols in a row (vertically, horizontally, or diagonally) wins. If neither player forms a row before all cells are filled, the game ends in a tie.

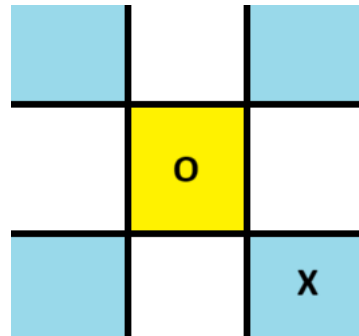
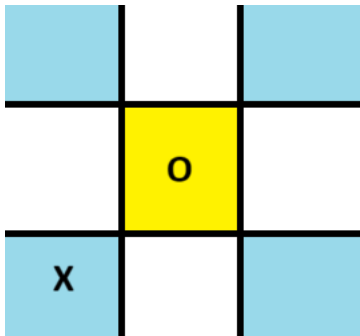
Maximizing your chance of winning

- If you are the first player, always try to mark the center cell. This improves your chances of forming a row in all four directions (horizontal, vertical, and two diagonals).

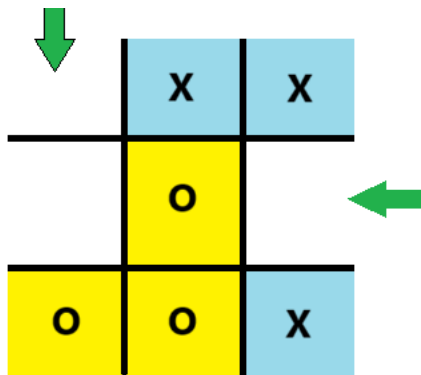


- If your opponent marks the center cell, mark one of the four corner cells. This improves your chances of forming a row in two directions (horizontal and vertical).

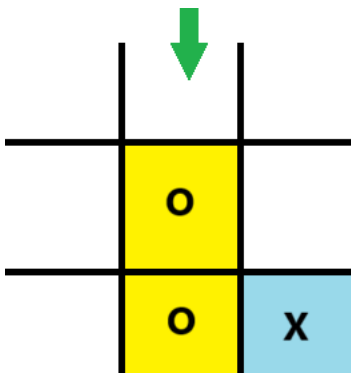




- Create two winning opportunities so that when your opponent blocks one cell, you can win with the other cell.



- When the opponent has marked two consecutive cells, mark the next empty cell in that row and block the opponent's move.



- Always anticipate the opponent's two possible moves. The trick is to predict your opponent's move with quick analysis and decide on your next move.

Is playing on a 3 x 3 grid repetitive and boring? Consider playing a 4 x 4 grid or a 5 x 5 grid.

Boosting brain development with Tic-Tac-Toe

Tic-Tac-Toe is a strategic game that stimulates the mind to think ahead. Anticipating your opponent's next move by practicing foresight:

- builds concentration
- improves overall brain function
- boosts logical and analytical skills