

Anna's Adventures

Directions for NINE MEN'S MORRIS Board Game

HISTORY People have been playing Nine Men's Morris for thousands of years. The game can be traced back to 1400 B.C.! Ancient Nine Men's Morris game boards have been found carved into walls of buildings in Egypt, Sri Lanka, Greece and Ireland. It became a widely popular game in Europe during the 14th century. Nine Men's Morris even got a mention in William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." You are about to learn a very old, popular and fun game!

GOAL The goal of the game is to make "mills" – vertical or horizontal lines of three pieces. Ultimately, a player wants to get his/her opponent in a position that does not allow him/her further moves.

PLAYERS 2

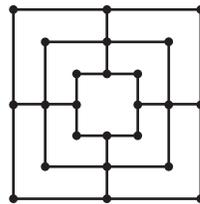
PLAY TIME

Less than an hour

EQUIPMENT

- Game board (use the one provided or make your own)
- 9 pieces for each player (checkers, coins, rocks, paper bits, etc.) – each player's pieces should be a different color

THE GAMEBOARD The board is made up of three concentric squares that are connected by straight lines at the midpoints along all four sides of the squares.



HOW TO PLAY Players take turns putting their pieces on available points on the board until all 18 pieces have been placed. Pieces can be placed at the corners of each square and at the points where the squares intersect with the

straight lines. The possible places you can put your pieces are represented by the points seen on the diagram.

Once all the pieces have been placed, players take turns sliding their pieces along the lines to neighboring, unoccupied points. Only one piece may be moved per turn. Keep in mind, you must move horizontally or vertically, no diagonal moves are allowed.

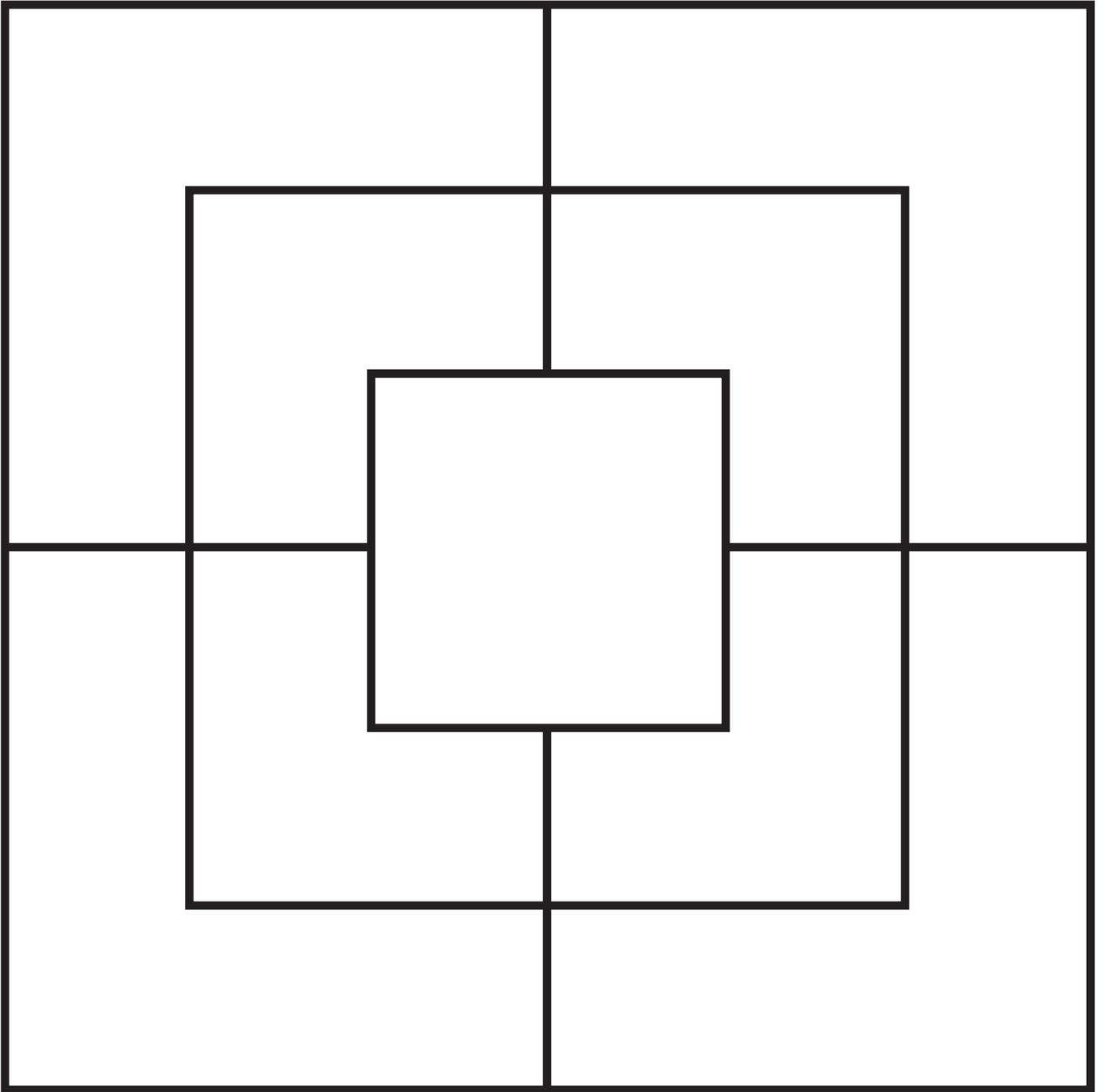
When a player creates a row of three of their pieces on one vertical or horizontal line it is called a mill. He/she gets to remove one of his/her opponents pieces from the board.

EXCEPTION: An opponent's piece which is part of a line of three pieces (their own previously created mill) may not be removed. If all of the opponent's pieces are part of mills, then an exception is made and the player is allowed to remove any one of their opponent's pieces.

NOTE: A mill can occur when the pieces are being placed on the board at the beginning of the game – this is allowed, so pay close attention to where your opponent is placing their pieces!

Removed pieces remain out of play for the remainder of the game. The game ends when the losing player is left with only two pieces on the board, or cannot make any legal moves.

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