

History:

This is a truly ancient game; played by the Romans, possibly predating them, and then spreading throughout Africa and Europe. Then through trade routes made its way into Scandinavia. In modern day it goes by the name "Nine Men's Morris".

Setup:

The board is empty to begin the game. Each player begins with 9 game pieces. Players flip a coin to determine who goes first.

Gameplay:

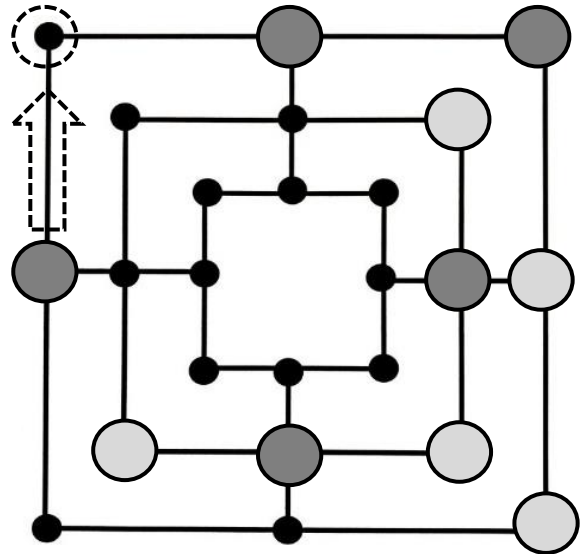
Players take turns placing their pieces on empty points, trying to create a row of three pieces on a single line called a "mill". If a player creates a mill, they remove 1 of their opponent's pieces from the board, except any piece within a mill. If an opponent only has pieces within a mill, then one piece within a mill may be captured.

When all the pieces are placed, players take turns moving a piece to an open adjacent point (dot) on the board, trying to form a mill. Each time a mill is formed, an opponent's piece is removed. Players can "break" and "remake" mills.

When a player has only three pieces left, their pieces gain the ability to "jump" to any vacant point on the board rather than only moving pieces to adjacent points.

Winning:

Play ends when one player wins by reducing his opponent to only two pieces.



Example:

Black moves in a straight line between 2 dots along a line. In doing so a mill is created and Black may remove one White piece from the game board as long as it is not in a mill itself.