

Nine Square

A Board Game for Two Players by Devin Monnens

Description:

Nine Square is a simple board game that can either be played with a paper, pencil, and a six-sided die, or using a specially made board with two sets of tokens. Because the game can be played with only a pen and paper (or a stick and sand) and a die, it can be played anywhere and by anyone. As such, it has been given a Creative Commons license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/us/>).

Rules

The game board is designed as a grid of 3x3 Tic-Tac-Toe boards.

The object of the game is to create more lines than your opponent.

Like Tic-Tac-Toe, a line is three pieces or marks by the same player in a row on a single board. Players are granted one point for each line they make.

If a board is full of pieces or marks all by the same player, that board is worth 8 points (three horizontal, three vertical, two diagonal).

Players get three additional points for every line they get on three boards in a row.

Players alternate turns rolling the die, placing as many tokens or marks on the board as the number they rolled.

Once a Tic-Tac-Toe board has three of one player's marks in a row, that board is still not full! It is only full after the board has been completely filled with marks.

The game is over when the board is either completely full of marks or when no more lines can be made by either player.

Special Tactics

Players need not play on one Tic-Tac-Toe board at a time but may play on as many boards simultaneously as they wish.

Players can prevent their opponent from scoring on a board by creating a diagonal line.

As players place marks on a board, the corners become more valuable as they can be used to either score up to three points by placing a single piece (horizontally, vertically, and diagonally) or by locking an opponent out from scoring.