

These corner marks indicate the standard diner placemat size, 10 inches by 14

Morris

a 10-minute board game for two players

EQUIPMENT:

You will need 2 sets of 9 markers each; coins work fine.

HOW TO PLAY:

There are two stages to the game: adding and subtracting.

ADDING STAGE:

First players take turns adding one marker to the board. Markers may go only on the spots. Once placed, the markers may not move until the subtracting stage.

If a player places 3 markers in a straight line, she may take one of her opponents' markers.

This continues for 9 turns.

SUBTRACTING STAGE

The first player's 10th turn is the beginning of the subtracting stage.

Players take turns moving one marker, along one of the lines, from one spot to a spot adjacent to it.

If moving a marker makes 3 in a row, one opponent's marker is removed.

WINNING:

The first player to take 7 markers wins.

STRATEGY:

Try to make 2x2 blocks of markers, so that you can capture every turn.

HISTORY:

This game is very old, but nobody knows how old. The board's pattern is found on the roof of the ancient Egyptian temple at Qurna-- as though it was played by the stoneworkers. Certainly it was very popular in medieval England.

