

How to Play Mancala

Collect as many seeds in your store as possible. The player with the most seeds in his/her store at the end of the game wins.

Set Up:

Place four seeds in each of the six pits on your side of the game board. Your opponent should do the same.

Playing: Basic Rules:

On a turn, pick up all the seeds in a pit along your side and “sow” them to the right, placing one seed in each pit along the way. If you come to your store, then add a seed to your store (but not their store) and continue. You may end up putting seeds in your opponent’s pits along the way.

If there are seeds in the pit where you place your last seed then take those and sow again. If the last seed in your hand lands in your store, take a free turn.

- Play anticlockwise
- The store on your right belongs to you. That is where you keep the seeds you win. Only put seeds in your own store, not your opponent’s store.
- The six pits near you are your pits.
- Only use one hand to pick up and put down seeds.
- Once you touch the seeds in a pit, you must move those seeds.

Ending the Game:

The game is over when one player’s pits are completely empty. The other player takes the seeds remaining in her pits and puts those seeds in her store. Count up the seeds. Whoever has the most seeds wins.

Advanced Rule:

When the last seed in your hand lands in one of your own pits, if that pit had been empty you get to keep all of the seeds in your opponents pit on the opposite side. Put those captured seeds, as well as the last seed that you just played on your side, into the store.

