



Travel Games for the Trail Less Traveled

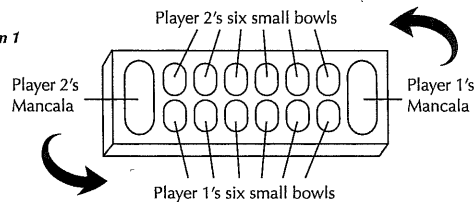
MANCALA INSTRUCTIONS

Object:

Collect the most stones in your 'Mancala', or the large bowls at each end of the board.

Set Up: Place 4 stones in each small bowl—there are 12 in total. Please note that the color of the stones do not matter in the game. Do not place stones in the mancalas (large bowls). Set aside any extra stones (these will not be used). Place the board between the players, with the mancalas on the left and right. The youngest player begins play. To play, use the General Rules below. For variations, use one of the other sets of rules that follow.

Diagram 1



General Rules:

Each player 'owns' the mancala on his right, and the six small bowls closest to him (see Diagram 1). Player 1 starts by scooping up all the stones from any one of his 6 small bowls (players may never start from a mancala or from the opponent's 6 bowls).

Player 1 then drops one stone into the next bowl on the right, one stone into the second bowl on the right, continuing around the board (counterclockwise) until he has no more stones left in his hand. If Player 1 reaches his own mancala, he drops a stone into it.

Players do not drop stones into their opponent's mancala. If they reach their opponent's mancala, they skip it and continue dropping stones, starting with the next small bowl, one at a time from their hand until they run out of stones.

Players take turns moving until one player has no more stones in their small bowls; when this happens, the game is over. After counting the stones in their mancalas, the player with the most stones is the winner.

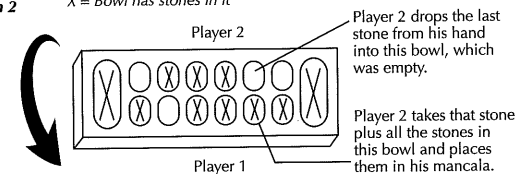
Egyptian Rules:

Use all General Rules above. If a player drops the last stone from his hand into his own mancala, he immediately gets another turn. If a player drops the last stone into one of his own empty bowls, he takes that stone plus all of the stones in the opponent's bowl directly across from his bowl, and places them in his mancala (see Diagram 2). As with General Rules above, the game ends when one player no longer has stones in any of his small bowls.

The other player then places all remaining stones from his small bowls into his own mancala. (It is not necessarily an advantage to be the first player to empty the bowls). Players then count their stones, with highest number winning.

Diagram 2

X = Bowl has stones in it



Ethiopian Rules:

Use all General Rules plus all Egyptian Rules per above. Players may choose to move either to the right or to the left on each turn (counterclockwise or clockwise). Players may never start from a bowl with only one stone.

Nigerian Rules:

Use all General Rules, except that players must drop a stone into their opponent's mancala when passing it. When a player drops the last stone from his hand into a bowl on either side of the board that is not empty and does not (after dropping the stones) have exactly 4 stones, that player picks up all the stones from the last bowl a stone was dropped into and continues play.

A player's turn is over when he drops the last stone from his hand into either: 1. A mancala; 2. An empty bowl; or 3. A bowl that now, (after dropping the stone) has exactly 4 stones.

Any time during a move that a bowl has 4 stones, regardless of who dropped the last stone into the bowl, the player who owns that bowl puts these stones into his own mancala. For example, while Player 1 is dropping stones into the small bowls on Player 2's side, he drops a stone into a bowl that already has 3 stones. Player 2 picks up the 4 stones and puts them into his own mancala.

The game ends when one player has no stones remaining in his 6 bowls. The remaining stones on the opponent's side are not placed in their mancala, and thus are not counted when determining the winner.

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WARNING:
CHOKING HAZARD—Small parts.
Not for children under 3 years.