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Checkers, also known as 'Draughts', is a classic board game of elegance and depth. It is thought to have originated from an ancient game called Alquerque or Qirkat. Play free Checkers online against the computer AI player or a friend in 2-player mode with this cool interface: This game opens as a regular web page. There is no sign-in or installation required. The game has a low difficulty level and is suited for beginners. Play Checkers Online: Start Game Get the free app: 1: Game basics 2: Rules 3: Strategy tips 4: About the app 5: Video demo Start a new game by clicking the play icon on the startup screen. Then select game mode: Play against a friend (2 player game) or play against the computer (1 player game). Checkers is a tabletop board game for two players. The aim of the game is to remove your opponent's 12 disc-shaped game pieces by jumping over them with your own pieces, all while avoiding getting jumped yourself. There are plenty of opportunities to use advanced tactics and strategies to defend yourself and to attack. The startup position. The opponents face each other on opposite sides of the checkers gameboard. One of the players has the dark-colored pieces, and the other one has the light-colored pieces. The two players alternate turns in the game. It is not legal to move an opponent's piece. A player may move a piece diagonally to an adjacent, unoccupied square. If one of the opponent's pieces occupy that adjacent square, and the square immediately beyond it is vacant, the opponent's piece may be captured and removed from the game by jumping over it. When one of the pieces reaches the other side of the board (the row farthest from the player), called the 'king's row' or 'crownhead,' the piece becomes a 'king' and is marked by adding an additional piece on top of it. In this online game, the kings are marked with a crown. Kings have the ability to move and capture backwards as well as forwards. King: A black piece has travelled to the kings' row and turned into a king. It is only legal to move pieces on the dark squares of the checkers board. A piece may move only diagonally into an unoccupied square and capturing an opponent's piece is mandatory in most official rules. The player without remaining pieces, or the one who cannot move, loses the game. Checkers rules: Mandatory jump. It's white's turn, and due to the black piece laying next to the marked white piece with a vacant square immediately beyond it, white is forced to jump over it and capture it. Just like in chess, control of the center is a critical aspect in Checkers and Draughts. Develop your pieces towards the center. Avoid moving your pieces to the edges of the board where they have fewer options and are more easily trapped. Sometimes, sacrificing a piece can lead to a better position or even set up a chain of jumps. Prioritize Getting Kings. Form a Strong Defense by keeping your pieces in pairs or close to each other to prevent your opponent from jumping. Try to position your pieces so that you can make multiple jumps or threaten more than one piece at a time. If you're ahead, there's no need to take unnecessary risks. Learn more about this game on the Wikipedia Page History A written mention of a game called Alquerque is found in the "Kitab al-Aghani", a 10th-century encyclopedic collection of songs and poems. The Alquerque game was essentially similar to modern Draughts and Checkers games but played on a 5×5 board. Some modern rules were added later, including the crowning of pieces to kings (13th century) and mandatory capture (16th century). Checkers history: Medieval Draughts players (Charles Knight) Playpager's free Checkers Game, formerly known as 'Draughts Online', is a H5 web game programmed in html5/Js. You can play against the built-in computer player 'Albert the AI', or against a friend in 2-player mode. No flash player needed. Play Checkers Online: Start Game A brief presentation: How can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' FavoritesHow can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' FavoritesHow can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' Favorites Checkers Multiplayer brings the timeless strategy of classic checkers into a fun and modern online experience! Challenge your friends locally or go head-to-head with players around the world in exciting multiplayer matches. Customize your game, climb the leaderboards, and unlock achievements as you sharpen your skills. With instant gameplay and smooth controls, it's easy to pick up—but mastering it is the real challenge. Ready to make your move? How to play Checkers Multiplayer? Click or tap to make the move. Who created Checkers Multiplayer? Checkers Multiplayer is created by InfinityGames.io. Play their other games on Poki: Tic Tac Toe, Energy, Infinity Loop: Hex, Merge Shapes, Shapes, Solitaire, Spider Solitaire, Sudoblocks, Laser Quest, Wood Blocks 3D, Classic Chess, Chess Multiplayer, and Maze: Path of Light! How can I play Checkers Multiplayer for free? You can play Checkers Multiplayer for free on Poki. Can I play Checkers Multiplayer on mobile devices and desktop? Checkers Multiplayer can be played on your computer and mobile devices like phones and tablets. Can I play Checkers Multiplayer with my friend? Yes! Checkers Multiplayer is a multiplayer game so you can play with your friends online! Want to keep a list of your favorite games? Create your free account today so you can collect and share your favorite games & play our new exclusive games first. We offer thousands of free online games from developers like RavalMatic, QKY Games, Havana24 & Untitled Inc. Have you tried playing checkers in a dedicated gaming browser? Windows 11 » How To 5 min. read Updated on October 4, 2023 updated on October 4, 2023 Readers help support Windows Report. We may get a commission if you buy through our links. Read our disclosure page to find out how can you help Windows Report sustain the editorial team. Read more Key notes Interested in finding a website to play a checkers game online? We got you covered with the most wanted chess games. You have a lot of options to choose from and we're telling you about a few of them in this article. Now you only need to find a few minutes to play the game and checkmate your opponents. While not as popular as chess, Checkers is also an entertaining board game to play, and when you don't have an actual board, there are a few good websites where you can try a quick game for free. For more mobility, you can also find many great apps you can download on your device, be it a PC, tablet, or smartphone. But right now, we'll be looking at web-based alternatives to play Checkers online. Note that you will get the most out of these games by using any of the best browsers for playing online games. Quick Tip: Opera GX is one of the best browsers for playing Checkers with a friend online and enjoying customizable built-in features. Change your style, set up limiters for resources, and play Checkers like a pro. This game-changer browser was created for those who want to have fun while customizing their browsing style. Opera GX has built-in messengers and advanced settings to restrict network traffic as well. Opera GX Vivid colors, sleek interface, sidebar messengers integration in one place. An excellent old Checkers game is always between friends, but with innovation and tech, has that been lost? No! The best online Checkers are still played with your friends. In some of these games, you may be able to send invitations to specific people to join in the fun or randomly pick new people online. In this article, most of the Checkers games we share allow you to play with your friends. Which is the best Checkers app? To sum up this experience in a few words: click and play, no registration or fill-in forms needed, and no intrusive ads. You can play against a computer or share your device with a friend or family member to play against one another. The website also has seasonal Checkers boards, adapted for various seasons or seasonal events such as Halloween or Easter. Additional features: Cross-device compatibleWinning prizes (fake money) ⇒ Play Checkers on 247 Checkers Microsoft offers this classic Checkers game on their unique Game Zone and other classic board games such as bridge, chess, or backgammon. Accessing the game is pretty simple, and you can opt to log in with a Microsoft account for a more personalized experience. Otherwise, you can play without registering, choose the computer as an opponent, or wait for a real opponent to connect. You receive various ratings based on your game experience, which can later help you advance in the leaderboard if you're into rankings. Additional features: Nice game graphicsA leaderboard ⇒ Play checkers in the Zone Here is another quick-access website to try out your best moves on a Checkers board. The board design is simple and just what regular Checkers games need. While there's no background music, there is sound whenever a player makes a move. You can pause anytime just by changing the browser tab and then resume the game by returning to the tab. The full-screen option allows you to focus on the game completely. Additional features: Nice board graphicsCool game sounds ⇒ Play Checkers on Checkers365 Github hosts this website, so it's safe to use. Once again, no registration is necessary, and no ads will interfere with your game. You will always play against a computer since there's no option to choose another partner. Also, the computer will always tell you what to do if the move is wrong – so this might be a very good option for beginner players. The site is also a good learning material for various variants of Draughts/Checkers throughout the world. Additional features: Different game levelsSimple graphics ⇒ Play Checkers on Github As you can imagine, these are just some of the most accessible websites where you can play Checkers online. Equipped with your internet browser, you can now play away. If you're also curious to know more about online games, visit our separate Online Games Hub. Also, in our Gaming Hub, you'll find more useful material on this popular topic. Tell us which is your favorite one in the comments section below. Milan Stanojevic Windows Toubleshooting Expert Milan has been enthusiastic about technology ever since his childhood days, and this led him to take interest in all PC-related technologies. He's a PC enthusiast and he spends most of his time learning about computers and technology. Before joining WindowsReport, he worked as a front-end web developer. Now, he's one of the Troubleshooting experts in our worldwide team, specializing in Windows errors & software issues. Sign up now to start playing chess, checkers and pictionary with Squiggle. Sign up now Billed monthly. Cancel any time. With Squiggle's interactive video calls you can play checkers online with your friends and family. Checkers is a brilliant strategy game to play for all ages. It tests your mental agility, forward planning, memory and ruthlessness! You can play checkers just for fun or you can get competitive. Play checkers online with Squiggle Checkers is now available! Play today! We don't enforce any rules, so you can play however you like. Just like in real life. Move the pieces around as you please. Enjoy! Start the checkers game mode If you'd like to play checkers with Squiggle you just need to click on the Change game button in the pink game box in the top left corner of the screen. Then choose Checkers to activate the game mode. Confirm that you are happy for your existing artwork to be cleared. A chessboard and checkers pieces will be added to the canvas, ready to play. Decide who will be black and who will be white. Then simply click and drag your piece to make a move. Black moves first. When you are ready to KING your piece, simply double click it to flip it over. If you want to unking your piece double click it again. You can restart your game by resetting the squiggle or by clicking on the Restart game button in the top left corner of the screen. This will return the pieces to their starting positions. Your game will be saved so you can always rejoin or resume your squiggle at a later date to continue playing from where you left off. Sign up now to start playing chess, checkers and pictionary with Squiggle. Sign up now Billed monthly. Cancel any time. How to play checkers Checkers, also known as draughts, is a fun and easy game that's been enjoyed by people of all ages for generations. If you've never played before, don't worry! It's simple to learn, but it also has plenty of room for strategy, so the more you play, the better you'll get. Here's a friendly guide on how to play checkers. The checkers board and pieces Checkers is played on an 8x8 board, just like a chessboard. However, the game only uses the dark squares, so the light squares aren't part of the action. Each player starts with 12 pieces, and they're set up on the three rows closest to them. The pieces are usually round and flat, and one player's pieces are dark while the other player's are light. The goal of the game The goal of checkers is to capture all of your opponent's pieces or block them so they can't make any legal moves. You capture an opponent's piece by jumping over it, and the game continues until one player wins or there's a draw. Setting up the game When you're ready to start, place the board between you and your opponent so that each player has a dark square in the bottom-left corner. Then, set up your 12 pieces on the three rows closest to you. Only the dark squares are used, so your pieces will be placed diagonally from one another. The player with the dark-colored pieces usually goes first, and then players take turns. Basic moves In checkers, all pieces move diagonally, and at the start of the game, they can only move forward. On your turn, move one of your pieces forward by sliding it to an empty square. You can only move to dark squares, and you can't move backward unless your piece has been promoted to a "king" (more on that in a bit!). Capturing opponent's pieces If your opponent has a piece next to yours, and there's an empty square directly behind their piece, you can jump over their piece and land in the empty square. When you do this, you capture their piece, and it's removed from the board. If you have the chance to jump more than one of your opponent's pieces in a single turn, you can do a double jump (or even more!). You must make a capture if you have the opportunity to do so. If one of your pieces reaches the last row on your opponent's side of the board, it gets promoted to a king! Kings are special because they can move both forward and backward. To show that your piece is now a king, you can stack another piece on top of it (or flip it over if you're playing with reversible pieces). Kings make the game even more interesting since they give you more options for moves and captures. Winning the game You win the game by capturing all of your opponent's pieces or by blocking them so they can't make any legal moves. Sometimes, neither player can win, and the game ends in a draw if both players agree there's no way to win. Tips for playing checkers Control the center: Try to move your pieces toward the center of the board. This gives you more space to maneuver and makes it harder for your opponent to trap you. Protect your pieces: Don't leave your pieces unprotected. Think about your moves carefully and try not to give your opponent an easy chance to jump over your pieces. Promote to kings: Getting a piece to your opponent's side of the board and promoting it to a king can give you a big advantage. Kings can move in more directions, making them powerful for both attacking and defending. Plan ahead: Try to think a few moves ahead. What will happen if you move a piece to a certain square? Will you be able to make a capture, or will you leave your piece vulnerable? Checkers is a fun, fast-paced game that's perfect for young players who enjoy a challenge. It's easy to learn but can take a lot of practice to master. So grab a friend or family member, set up the board, and start playing! The more you practice, the better you'll get at spotting opportunities, making smart moves, and, most importantly, having fun! The benefits of playing checkers Playing checkers, or checkers, offers many great benefits, especially for young people. While it's a simple game to learn, it encourages the development of important skills that can be useful both in school and in daily life. Let's dive into some of the awesome benefits of playing checkers! 1. Boosts critical thinking Checkers is a game of strategy, and each move can affect the rest of the game. Players must think critically about their moves and anticipate how their opponent will respond. This type of thinking helps young people develop problem-solving skills, which are useful in both academics and real-life situations. 2. Improves concentration When playing checkers, you need to stay focused throughout the game. Each move requires attention, and losing focus could lead to missed opportunities or mistakes. For young people, playing checkers can help improve their concentration and attention span, which can also benefit them in schoolwork or other tasks that require focus. 3. Encourages patience Checkers teaches young players the value of patience. Rushing into a move without considering the consequences can be costly, so players learn to take their time and think things through. Developing patience is a key life skill that can help young people handle challenges with calm and thoughtful decision-making. 4. Teaches forward planning In checkers, thinking ahead is crucial. Players need to plan their moves while also considering what their opponent might do next. This type of forward planning helps young people learn how to anticipate outcomes, make informed decisions, and strategize for long-term success, both in games and in life. 5. Strengthens memory Players must remember the rules, strategies, and the positions of the pieces on the board. By practicing checkers, young people strengthen their memory skills. A good memory is not only helpful in games but also in academics, where remembering facts, figures, and concepts is essential. 6. Enhances problem-solving skills Every game of checkers presents new challenges. Players must solve problems on the fly, such as figuring out how to capture their opponent's pieces or avoid being captured themselves. This constant need for problem-solving helps young people sharpen their ability to think logically and creatively. 7. Builds emotional resilience In checkers, you win some games, and you lose some. Learning how to handle both victory and defeat in a healthy way helps build emotional resilience. For young people, this is an important lesson that teaches them how to cope with challenges, learn from mistakes, and keep a positive attitude even when things don't go their way. 8. Fosters social interaction Checkers is a two-player game, so it naturally encourages social interaction. Whether playing with family members or friends, young people learn valuable social skills like taking turns, practicing good sportsmanship, and communicating with others. Playing checkers in a friendly environment also helps build connections and friendships. 9. Develops logical thinking Checkers requires logical thinking, as players must decide the best moves to make based on the position of pieces on the board. This logical thinking translates into real-life situations, where young people can apply the same reasoning to solve problems and make decisions. 10. Increases confidence Mastering a game like checkers can boost a young person's confidence. As they improve and win games, they feel a sense of accomplishment and pride in their abilities. This self-confidence can extend to other areas of their lives, encouraging them to take on new challenges with a positive mindset. Checkers teaches the importance of playing fairly and respecting your opponent. Players must follow the rules and show respect whether they win or lose. Learning good sportsmanship is a valuable lesson that helps young people develop respect for others, not just in games but in all aspects of life. Conclusion Playing checkers is not only fun, but it also helps young people develop critical life skills. From improving concentration and critical thinking to teaching patience and good sportsmanship, the benefits of checkers go far beyond the game board. So, the next time you sit down for a game of checkers, remember that you're not just playing a game — you're also sharpening your mind and building important skills for the future! Sign up now to start playing chess, checkers and pictionary with Squiggle. Sign up now Billed monthly. Cancel any time. Your device is not supported. Please use a PC/Mac (desktop/laptop/notebook) computer to play these games. Play this game on your mobile phone! No apps required. Simply visit m.flyordie.com on your phone's browser, and you're good to go! Checkers is a two-player game, where one player is assigned white checkers and the other red. The aim of the game is to capture the other player's checkers or make them impossible to move. Game description » Game features Play online against others Meet your friends and chat Customizable game settings Ratings and statistics Tournaments Play in full screen Sign up now » Checkers Variants Bullet Checkers Play Now! CheckersBullet A fast and fun variant of Checkers. Only 1 minute per player! % player#..+|[^1]=s# online ADVERTISEMENTTrending Videos Checkers+CheckersBullet Ready to put a new twist on an old classic? Try out the customizable settings in our online Checkers game to play the way you've always dreamed of. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just looking for a good time, these settings let you shake up the traditional rules and tailor the game to your liking. Tired of the regular, old board size? Mix it up with different field sizes and watch your strategy take a new turn. Feel like spicing up the competition? You can set a unique winning condition, such as whoever has the most pieces left or the first to reach the other side.Do you think kings should have more power? No problem! You have the options to make a piece a king whenever you take over an opponent's piece or perhaps make all your pieces automatically kings for a royal challenge. Not in the mood for forced jumps or eager to try your hand at backward captures? With customizable rules like force take or backward taking, you can craft a game that suits your style and skills. It's all about giving you the freedom to play Checkers your way. So gather your friends, go head-to-head against online opponents, or challenge those tricksy bots, and redefine how you play Checkers today!Explore Canadian Checkers: Play on a 12x12 Board with 60 Pieces OnlineEver heard of Canadian Checkers? It's a north-of-the-border twist that spices up the game we all know and love! Dive into Checkers like never before with the Canadian ruleset, which takes you beyond the typical 8x8 board. Imagine a 12x12 battlefield where strategy becomes as expansive as the grid itself. With 60 pieces at your disposal, you're stepping into an arena where every move counts and each decision could be your path to victory or defeat.The Canadian Checkers variant allows for backward captures, introducing a tactical edge you'll need to master. This lively addition means that no piece is safe, and you can change the flow of a match in a single move. It's all about planning ahead and thinking on your toes! So, if you're ready to experience Checkers with an exciting twist, this is your chance to dive in and conquer the board Canadian-style. Whether you're playing with friends or taking on online challengers, this version of Checkers promises an exhilarating table-turning experience!Experience International Checkers: Play on a 10x10 Board with Backward Captures OnlineStep into the world of International Checkers, where the stakes are higher and the board is bigger! With a 10x10 grid and 40 pieces ready for action, this variation requires a strategic mindset and careful planning. It's an engaging twist on the classic game that adds depth and complexity to your matches.One of the standout features of International Checkers is the ability to take pieces backwards, allowing for creative strategies and masterful comebacks. This rule changes the dynamics completely, ensuring that every move must be calculated and thoughtful. It's the perfect game for those who love thinking a few steps ahead while navigating the larger board. Whether you're playing with global challengers or your closest friends, this version of Checkers will test your skills and keep you on your toes!Play Party Checkers Online: Exciting 4-Player Battles on a Unique Plus-Shaped BoardReady for a Checkers showdown with a twist? Welcome to Party Checkers, where four players face off in a thrilling, competitive frenzy! The unique plus-shaped board brings a whole new dynamic to the game as each player attacks from a different side. This setup means you've got to keep your eyes peeled, as opponents can come at you from all directions!In Party Checkers, alliances form and crumble, and every player must strategize not just against one rival but three at once. It's a game where cunning and quick thinking are key to outwitting multiple foes. Perfect for a game night with friends or a lively online match, Party Checkers multiplies the fun and unpredictability of traditional Checkers. Whether you're a seasoned board game enthusiast or a newbie, you'll find this fresh and fast-paced version packed with excitement! Gather your crew and see who emerges victorious in this lively variation of a classic game.Play Checkers Online: Challenge Bots or Easily Invite Friends for Multiplayer MatchesLooking for a game of Checkers that fits your mood? Whether you're up for a solo match against bots or want to challenge your pals, our online Checkers game has got you covered. Playing against bots is perfect for honing your skills and trying out new strategies. With various difficulty levels, these virtual opponents provide a solid game whether you're just starting out or looking for a tough challenge.Inviting friends for a friendly duel has never been easier. With just a few clicks, you can get your crew together to see who's the ultimate Checkers champion. Plus, if you feel like meeting new challengers, you're just a click away from connecting with players from around the globe. This online setup is hassle-free, letting you jump straight into the fun without any need for accounts or cumbersome setups. So, whether you're in the mood for a quick solo match or an epic multiplayer showdown, the board is always open! Game controls Game details Similar to chess, this game requires strategic thinking and logic skills. No matter whether you're familiar with the gameplay or not, you'll have an easy time playing this game due to its simple rulesets and intuitive controls. The objective in this game is to collect all the pieces of your opponent to win. You can play the game online against other players, or select the local game mode to play against either the computer or a friend. You can use your mouse to play the game. When it's your turn, click on a piece and then choose a spot to move it. You can only move diagonally and forward. To capture your opponent's piece, you should jump over it. Reaching the other end of the board gives your piece the power to move backward. In the game screen, you can see how much time you've spent at the bottom. Try to finish the game in the shortest time possible. Keep your eyes on the board, and don't let your pieces to be taken! Did you enjoy this game? If so, be sure to check another popular title in our collection, Master Chess Multiplayer. Have fun! Features - Online multiplayer mode - Colorful 2D graphics - Intuitive controls - Entertaining gameplay Page 2 1 player Immerse yourself in exciting single-player adventures and conquer challenges solo. Sort by:Popularity Rating Date Attention, online checkers fans: Checkers Multiplayer mode has been added to the best version of Checkers! Solidify the basics by playing Checkers Multiplayer with AI right now, and then improve your skills in battles with real players. Welcome to the game Checkers Multiplayer – play online for free and without registration, against the computer or live players. Choose a type of game from the eight proposed options. Familiarize yourself with the instructions in Russian and try to be the first to tactically capture all the checkers of the opponent. How to play Checkers Multiplayer Activate the "Local" option to play with your computer and for two on your device or "Network" to play with a real player. Choose the variety of Checkers game from the eight available options: 64-cell (Russian, English, Italian, Spanish, Turkish, Brazilian), 100-cell (International), 144-cell (Canadian). Adjust the rules in the settings. By default, the standards of the classic board game Russian Checkers are activated. Although the rules of Checkers Multiplayer are player-adjustable, the goal is the same: to remove your opponent's pieces from the board first, or to block them, preventing them from moving. You can change the optional settings to make the game easier or harder. By clicking on your piece, you will see all possible moves in the current position. So, even without experience with Checkers Multiplayer you can try different variants of your favorite strategy – from the usual 64-cell to the rare international checkers. A good tactic is to try to anticipate your opponent's possible moves and attack more than defend your position. Be prepared to sacrifice your checkers for significant damage or advancement to the ladies. About the game This web-based Checkers game simulator allows you to play with unfamiliar players online and locally – against a computer or a friend. You'll love the user-friendly interface and full screen display on all devices. But the main thing in this version is the ability to play a wide variety of checkers with online multiplayer: 64-cell or stokely, with a diagonal or straight move. Optionally available settings: the move of regular checkers to fight forward and backward, the commitment of the ladies to beat many times and so on. More interesting games from this developer: Checkers Legend, Master Checkers. Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Strategy board game "Draughts" redirects here. For other uses, see Draft. For other uses, see Checkers (disambiguation). For the American/English version, see English draughts. CheckersStarting position for American checkers on an 8×8 checkerboard; Black (red) moves first.Years activeat least 5,000GenresBoard gameAbstract strategy gameMind sportPlayers2Setup time< 1 minPlaying timeCasual games usually last 10 to 30 minutes; tournament games last anywhere from about 60 minutes to 3 hours or more.ChanceNoneAge range6+SkillsStrategy, tacticsSynonymsDraughtsDraftsChequers Checkers[note 1] (American English), also known as draughts (/drɑːfts, dræfts/; Commonwealth English), is a group of strategy board games for two players which involve forward movements of uniform game pieces and mandatory captures by jumping over opponent pieces. Checkers is developed from alquerque.[1] The term "checkers" derives from the checkered board which the game is played on, whereas "draughts" derives from the verb "to draw" or "to move".[2] The most popular forms of checkers in Anglophone countries are American checkers (also called English draughts), which is played on an 8×8 checkerboard; Russian draughts, Turkish draughts and Armenian draughts, all of them on an 8×8 board; and international draughts, played on a 10×10 board – with the latter widely played in many countries worldwide. There are many other variants played on 8×8 boards. Canadian checkers and Malaysian/Singaporean checkers (also locally known as dam) are played on a 12×12 board. American checkers was weakly solved in 2007 by a team of Canadian computer scientists led by Jonathan Schaeffer. From the standard starting position, perfect play by each side would result in a draw. Checkers is played by two opponents on opposite sides of the game board. One player has dark pieces (usually black); the other has light pieces (usually white or red). The darker color moves first, then players alternate turns. A player cannot move the opponent's pieces. A move consists of moving a piece forward to an adjacent unoccupied square. If the adjacent square contains an opponent's piece, and the square immediately beyond it is vacant, the piece may be captured (and removed from the game) by jumping over it.[3] Only the dark squares of the checkerboard are used. A piece can only move forward into an unoccupied square. When capturing an opponent's piece is possible, capturing is mandatory in most official rules. If the player does not capture, the other player can remove the opponent's piece as a penalty (or muffin), and where there are two or more such positions the player forfeits pieces that cannot be moved (although some rule variations make capturing optional). In almost all variants, a player with no valid move remaining loses. This occurs if the player has no pieces left, or if all the player's pieces are obstructed from moving by opponent pieces.[3] An uncrowned piece (man) moves one step ahead and captures an adjacent opponent's piece by jumping over it and landing on the next square. Multiple enemy pieces can be captured in a single turn provided this is done by successive jumps made by a single piece; the jumps do not need to be on the same diagonal direction and may "zigzag" (change direction). In American checkers and Spanish draughts, men can jump only forwards; in international draughts and Russian draughts, men can jump both forwards and backwards. Example of a game of international draughts (10×10 board), showcasing the flying king (the move "Les Blancs prennent 6 pions...") When a man reaches the farthest row forward, known as the kings row or crown head, it becomes a king. It is marked by placing an additional piece on top of, or crowning, the first man. The king has additional powers, namely the ability to move any amount of squares at a time (in international checkers), move backwards and, in variants where men cannot already do so, capture backwards. Like a man, a king can make successive jumps in a single turn, provided that each jump captures an enemy piece. In international draughts, kings can move any number of squares, forward or backward. Kings with such an ability are also informally called flying kings. They may capture an opposing man, regardless of distance, by jumping to any of the unoccupied squares immediately past the man. Because jumped pieces remain on the board until the turn is completed, it is possible to reach a position in a multi-jump move where the flying king is blocked from capturing further by a piece already jumped. Flying kings are not used in American checkers; a king's only advantage over a man is the additional ability to move and capture backwards. In most non-English languages (except those that acquired the game from English speakers), checkers is called dame, dames, damas, or a similar term that refers to ladies. The pieces are usually called men, stones, "peón" (pawn) or a similar term; men promoted to kings are called dames or ladies. In these languages, the queen in chess or in card games is usually called by the same term as the kings in checkers. A case in point includes the Greek terminology, in which checkers is called "ντάμα" (dama), which is also one term for the queen in chess.[citation needed] Men in medieval clothing playing checkers Similar games have been played for millennia.[2] A board resembling a checkers board was found in Ur dating from 3000 BC.[4] In the British Museum are specimens of ancient Egyptian checkerboards, found with their pieces in burial chambers, and the game was played by the pharaoh Hatshepsut.[2][5] Plato mentioned a game, πεττεία or petteia, as being of Egyptian origin,[5] and Homer also mentions it.[5] The method of capture was placing two pieces on either side of the opponent's piece. It was said to have been played during the Trojan War.[6][7] The Romans played a derivation of petteia called latrunculi, or the game of the Little Soldiers. The pieces, and sporadically the game itself, were called calculi (pebbles).[5][8] Like the pawn in chess, alquerque was probably derived from πεττεία and latrunculi by removing the necessity for two pieces to cooperate to capture one, although, like Ghanaian draughts, the game could still be declared lost by a player with only one piece left. Alquerque board and setup An Arabic game called Quirkat or al-qirq, with similar play to modern checkers, was played on a 5×5 board. It is mentioned in the tenth-century work Kitab al-Aghani.[4] Al qirq was also the name for the game that is now called nine men's morris.[9] Al qirq was brought to Spain by the Moors,[10] where it became known as Alquerque, the Spanish derivation of the Arabic name. It was maybe a derivation of latrunculi, or the game of the Little Soldiers, with a leaping capture, which could, like modern Argentine, German, Greek, Kenyan and Thai draughts, have flying kings which had to stop on the next square after the captured piece, but pieces could only make up to three captures at once, or seven if all directions were legal, or pieces had to change directions in the course of a multiple capture. That said, even if playing al qirq inside the cells of a square grid was not already known to the Moors who brought it, which it probably was, either via playing on a chessboard (in about 1100, probably in the south of France, this was done once again using backgammon pieces,[11] thereby each piece was called a "fers", the same name as the chess queen, as the move of the two pieces was the same at the time)[12] or adapting Seega using jumping capture. The rules are given in the 13th-century book Libro de los juegos.[4] The rule of crowning was used by the 13th century, as it is mentioned in the Philippe Mouskés's Chronique in 1243[4] when the game was known as Fierges, the name used for the chess queen (derived from the Persian ferz, meaning royal counsellor or vizier). The pieces became known as "dames" when that name was also adopted for the chess queen.[12] The rule forcing players to take whenever possible was introduced in France in around 1535, at which point the game became known as Jeu forcé, identical to modern American checkers.[4][13] The game without forced capture became known as Le jeu plaisant de dames, the precursor of international checkers. The 18th-century English author Samuel Johnson wrote a foreword to a 1756 book about checkers by William Payne, the earliest book in English about the game.[5] Dameo starting position Blue and Gray: On a 9×9 board, each side has 17 guard pieces that move and jump in any direction, to escort a captain piece which races to the centre of the board to win.[14] Cheskers: A variant invented by Solomon Golomb. Each player begins with a bishop and a camel (which jumps with coordinates (3,1) rather than (2,1) so as to stay on the black squares), and men reaching the back rank promote to a bishop, camel, or king.[15][16] Damath: A variant utilizing math principles and numbered chips popular in the Philippines.[17] Dameo: A variant played on an 8×8 board that utilizes all 64 squares and has diagonal and orthogonal movement. A special "sliding" move is used for moving a line of checkers similar to the movement rule in Epaminondas. By Christian Freeling (2000).[18][19][20] Hexdame: A literal adaptation of international draughts to a hexagonal gameboard. By Christian Freeling (1979).[21] Lasca: A checkers variant on a 7×7 board, with 25 fields used. Jumped pieces are placed under the jumper, so that towers are built. Only the top piece of a jumped tower is captured. This variant was invented by World Chess Champion Emanuel Lasker.[22] Loca: A checkers variant with pieces, including men, that move short but capture long. By Christian Freeling (2020). Philosophy shogi checkers: A variant on a 9×9 board, game ending with capturing opponent's king. Invented by Inoue Enryō and described in Japanese book in 1890.[23] Suicide checkers (also called Anti-Checkers, Giveaway Checkers or Losing Draughts): A variant where the objective of each player is to lose all of their pieces.[24][25] Further information: English draughts § Computer players, and International draughts § Computers Christopher Strachey's checkers (1952) the first video game Scott M Savage's checkers (1983) the first robot game American checkers has been the arena for several notable advances in game artificial intelligence. In 1951 Christopher Strachey wrote the first video game program on checkers. The checkers program tried to run for the first time on 30 July 1951 at NPL, but was unsuccessful due to program errors. In the summer of 1952 he successfully ran the program on Ferranti Mark 1 computer and played the first computer checkers and arguably the first video game ever according to certain definitions. In the 1950s, Arthur Samuel created one of the first board game-playing programs of any kind. More recently, in 2007 scientists at the University of Alberta[26] developed their "Chinook" program to the point where it is unbeatable. A brute force approach that took hundreds of computers working nearly two decades was used to solve the game,[27] showing that a game of checkers will always end in a draw if neither player makes a mistake.[28][29] The solution is for the checkers variation called go-as-you-please (GAYP) checkers and not for the variation called three-move restriction checkers, however it is a legal three-move restriction game because only openings believed to lose are barred under the three-move restriction. As of December 2007, this makes American checkers the most complex game ever solved. In November 1983, the Science Museum Oklahoma (then called the Omniplex) unveiled a new exhibit: Lefty the Checker Playing Robot. Programmed by Scott M Savage, Lefty used an Armdroid robotic arm by Colne Robotics and was powered by a 6502 processor with a combination of Basic and Assembly code to interactively play a round of checkers with visitors to the museum. Originally, the program was deliberately simple so that the average museum visitor could potentially win, but over time was improved. The improvements however proved to be more frustrating for the visitors, so the original code was reimplemented.[30] Generalized Checkers is played on an M × N board. It is PSPACE-hard to determine whether a specified player has a winning strategy. And if a polynomial bound is placed on the number of moves that are allowed in between jumps (which is a reasonable generalisation of the drawing rule in standard Checkers), then the problem is in PSPACE, thus it is PSPACE-complete.[31] However, without this bound, Checkers is EXPTIME-complete.[32] However, other problems have only polynomial complexity:[31] Can one player remove all the other player's pieces in one move (by several jumps)? Can one player king a piece in one move? 10×10 board, starting position in international draughts 8×8 board, starting position in English, Brazilian, Czech and Russian draughts, as well as Pool checkers 12×12 board, starting position in Canadian draughts 8×8 board, starting position in Turkish and Armenian draughts 8×8 board, starting position in Italian and Portuguese draughts 8×8 board, starting position and example play in Bashni International draughts / American Pool checkers family National variant Board size Pieces per side Double-corner or light square on player's near-right? First move Capture constraints Notes International draughts (or Polish draughts) 10×10 20, originally 15 Yes White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. Pieces promote only when ending their move on the final rank, not when passing through it. It is mainly played in the Netherlands, Suriname, France, Belgium, some eastern European countries, some parts of Africa, some parts of the former USSR, and other European countries. Ghanaian draughts (or damii) 10×10 20 No[33] White Any sequence may be chosen, as long as all possible captures are made. Overlooking a king's capture opportunity leads to forfeiture of the king. Played in Ghana. Having only a single piece remaining (man or king) loses the game. It is similar to 10×10 Czech Draughts, but has backwards capture and allows winning by removing all but one piece, similar to Latrunculi. Frisian draughts 10×10 20 Yes White A sequence of capture must give the maximum "value" to the capture, and a king (called a wolf) has a value of less than two men but more than one man. If a sequence with a capturing wolf and a sequence with a capturing man have the same value, the wolf must capture. The main difference with the other games is that the captures can be made diagonally, but also straight forwards and sideways. Played primarily in Friesland (Dutch province) historically, but in the last decade spreading rapidly over Europe (e.g. the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Czech Republic, Ukraine and Russia) and Africa, as a result of a number of recent international tournaments and the availability of an iOS and Android app "Frisian Draughts". Canadian checkers 12×12 30 Yes White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. International rules on a 12×12 board. Played mainly in Canada. South African draughts 14×14 42 Yes White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. International rules on a 14×14 board. Played mainly in South Africa. Brazilian draughts (or damas) (or Minor Polish draughts) 8×8 12 Yes White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. Played in Brazil. The rules come from international draughts, but board size and number of pieces come from American checkers. Filipino Checkers (or dama) 8×8 12 Two variations exist: one with the double-corner on player's near-right and the other on player's near-left. White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. Played in the Philippines. Similar to Brazilian Draughts but with some specifics. Usually played on a dama matrix (crossed lined board representing only the diagonals) and comes in two orientations. Pool checkers 8×8 12 Yes Black Any sequence may be chosen, as long as all possible captures are made. Also called Spanish Pool checkers. It is mainly played in the southeastern United States; traditional among African American players. A man reaching the kings row is promoted only if he does not have additional backwards jumps (as in international draughts).[1][2] In an ending with three kings versus one king, the player with three kings must win in thirteen moves or the game is a draw. Jamaican draughts/checkers 8×8 12 No Black Any sequence may be chosen, as long as all possible captures are made. Similar to Pool checkers with the exception of the main diagonal on the right instead of the left. A man reaching the kings row is promoted only if he does not have additional backwards jumps (as in international draughts). In an ending with three kings versus one king, the player with three kings must win in thirteen moves or the game is a draw. Russian draughts 8×8 12 Yes White Any sequence may be chosen, as long as all possible captures are made. Also called shashki or Russian shashki checkers. It is mainly played in the former USSR and in Israel. Rules are similar to international draughts, except: a man that enters the kings row during a jump and can continue to jump backwards, jumps backwards as a king, not as a man; choosing a sequence that captures the maximum possible number of pieces is not required. There is also a 10×8 board variant (with two additional columns labelled i and k) and the give-away variant Poddavki. There are official championships for shashki and its variants. Mozambican draughts/checkers 8×8 12 No White A sequence must capture the maximum possible number of pieces. Although, a king has the weight of two pieces, this means with two captures, one of a king and one of a piece, one must choose the king; two captures, one of a king and one of

without the obligation to jump kings with a king. This is possibly the same game as the Marella that Pietro Carrera mentions in passing in his Il Gioco degli scacchi (1617)[34], notwithstanding a strange earlier reference to a Smarella played on an 8x6 checkered board with 12 pieces on a side[35]. Gothic checkers (or Altdeutsches Damespiel or Altdeutsche Dame) 8×8 16 — White Captures are mandatory. All 64 squares are used, dark and light. Men move one cell diagonally forward and capture in any of the five cells directly forward, diagonally forward, or sideways, but not backward. Men promote on the last row. Kings may move and attack in any of the eight directions. There is also a variant with flying kings. Column draughts (Russian towers), also known as Bashni, is a kind of draughts, known in Russia since the beginning of the nineteenth century, in which the game is played according to the usual rules of Russian draughts, but with the difference that the captured man is not removed from the playing field: rather, it is placed under the capturing piece (man or tower). The resulting towers move around the board as a whole, "obeying" the upper piece. When taking a tower, only the uppermost piece is removed from it: and the resulting tower belongs to one player or the other according to the color of its new uppermost piece. Bashni has inspired the games Lasca and Emergo. World Checkers/Draughts Championship in American checkers since 1840 Draughts World Championship in international draughts since 1885 Women's World Draughts Championship in international draughts since 1873 Draughts-64 World Championships since 1985 World Draughts Federation (FMJD) was founded in 1947 by four Federations: France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland.[36] International Draughts Federation (IDF) was established in 2012 in Bulgaria.[37] Halma: A game in which pieces move in any direction and jump over any other piece, friend or enemy (but with no captures), and players try to move them all into an opposite corner. Chinese checkers: Based on Halma, but uses a star-shaped board divided into equilateral triangles. Kōnane: "Hawaiian checkers". 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Vol. 8 (11th ed.). Cambridge University Press. pp. 547–550. Wikimedia Commons has media related to Draughts. Draughts associations and federations American Checker Federation (ACF) American Pool Checkers Association (APCA) Danish Draughts Federation English Draughts Association (EDA) European Draughts Confederation German Draughts Association (DSV NRW) Archived 27 October 2010 at the Wayback Machine Northwest Draughts Federation (NWDF) Polish Draughts Federation (PDF) Surinam Draughts Federation (SDB) World Checkers & Draughts Federation Archived 10 August 2010 at the Wayback Machine World Draughts Federation (FMJD) The International Draughts Committee of the Disabled (IDCD) Archived 14 April 2021 at the Wayback Machine History, articles, variants, rules A Guide to Checkers Families and Rules by Sultan Ratrout The history of checkers/draughts Jim Loy's checkers pages with many links and articles. Checkers Maven, CheckersUSA checkers books, electronic editions The Checkers Family Alemanni Checkers Pages On the evolution of Draughts variants "Chess and Draughts/Checkers" by Edward Winter Online play mindoku.com[usurped] Play online draughts, Russian draughts or giveaway draughts. Online tournaments every day. Server for playing correspondence tournaments A free program that allows you to play more than 20 kinds of draughts A free Application that allows you to play 15 popular checkers variants with a human or a computer Draughts.org Play online draughts plus information on strategies and history. Lidraughts.org Internet draughts server, similar to the popular chess server lichess.org Retrieved from " Change player... 0 0 Click a table to join a multiplayer game. The code for the table is: Give that code to whoever you want to play with, they can use it to join. What do you want to say to your opponent? No table talk! Well played! Oops! Oh no :(May the force be with you! Good game! Prepare to lose! Hi BOOM! Ouch! I'll be right back! Thanks! You are very good! Wow! Stay safe! I've made a huge mistake! :(My mistake! Sorry Your turn! I have to go. I was lucky! Bill taught you well! Technical difficulties Play Ja Ja Ding Dong! There's Some Good in This World, Mr. Frodo Ask players to turn off timer? 😀 😂 🙈 ☹ 😮 ☺ 😎 😮 😉 Sorry, it looks like you have cookies disabled for our site. The Multiplayer mode doesn't work without cookies enabled . Your connection to the game server is having some problem, but we are trying to reconnect you to the game. Giving up in . Sorry, we couldn't connect you back to your game. Sorry, you were disconnected from the game for too long, we had to remove you from the game so the others could keep playing. It looks like you might be a . You can now wear a Beskar armor while playing. Do you want to put on the helmet? Sorry, we couldn't find your game table on our servers! If you mute a player you won't see any messages they send during a game. If you block a player they can no longer challenge you to a game or join a table you are at. If you favorite a player, they'll have a little heart to remind you how awesome they are! This table has a player () that you have blocked previously (perhaps under another name). Are you sure you want to join it? You have challenged to a game. Waiting for their response... has challenged you to a game! accepted your challenge! One moment, we're setting up your game... You accepted 's challenge! One moment, we're setting up your game... Sorry, cancelled their invitation. You are now disconnected, other players won't see you online and can't challenge you. You can always go back online by clicking on the Multiplayer button. You can't challenge yourself. But you can change your name if you want! You've been disconnected due to inactivity. You can always reconnect by pressing the "Multiplayer" button Would you like to play another game with the same players? has suggested that you turn off the timer for the game.