

Connect 4 Rules Guide

A Beginner's Guide for Game Night

PREMIER DISCO • GIANT GAMES & GAME NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

PLAYERS	AGE	PLAY TIME
2	6+	5-10 min

How to Set Up

- 1 Stand the grid upright on a flat, level surface.
- 2 Each player picks a colour — one plays red, the other yellow.
- 3 Decide who goes first however you like — a coin toss, a dice roll, or simply whoever called it first.

How to Play

- 1 Players take turns dropping one of their own coloured discs into any column of their choice.
- 2 The disc falls straight down to the lowest available space in that column.
- 3 The aim is to be the first to connect four of your own discs in an unbroken row — horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.
- 4 If the grid fills up completely and nobody has connected four, the game is a draw.

Quick Tip

Don't just watch the straight lines — diagonal wins are the ones that catch most players off guard.

Winning the Game

The first player to line up four of their own discs in a row — in any direction — wins on the spot. Horizontal, vertical, and diagonal all count equally, so it's worth scanning the whole board each turn, not just your own most recent move.

A Few Strategy Tips for Beginners

- **Start in the middle column.** A disc in the centre sits on more potential winning lines than a disc played on the edge.
- **Always check for your opponent's three-in-a-row.** Scan the board before every move and block any line of three that a single disc would complete.
- **Set up a double threat.** The strongest position is having two different ways to win on your next turn — if your opponent can only block one, you win with the other.
- **Think a move ahead on column choice.** Dropping a disc also creates a new lowest space for whoever goes next, which can hand your opponent a square they were hoping for.

Fun Variations

- **Best of Three.** Play a short series and keep score — first to three wins overall takes the match.
- **Blind Drop.** Close your eyes before dropping your disc for a round of pure chaos and maximum giggles.
- **Big Board Challenge.** With two sets, join them together for a super-sized grid and a longer, more epic match.

Did You Know?

Connect 4 first went on sale in the UK in the 1970s, and it's been sparking friendly family arguments ever since.

Premier Disco

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