

Traditional games



Mancala



Suitable for
2 players
Aged 3 and over

What's in the Box?

Mancala board
48 stones in a little cotton storage bag
Cotton carry bag

Game of Stones

Mancala is an ancient game, with many variations played all around the world. Some historians believe Mancala was played over 5,000 years ago in ancient Sumeria and many believe it was played over 3,000 years ago in Sudan. Holes in the ground discovered in Egyptian temples lead many to believe Mancala was played in ancient Egypt before 1400 BC, travelling to other parts of Africa and the Middle East. Another theory suggests the game originated in Africa and travelled to Egypt 2,000 years ago, with ancient boards found in Zimbabwe, Uganda and Ghana.

How To Play

Many variations can be played, including the popular basic version of Mancala, also known as Kalah.

The aim is to capture more stones than your opponent. Players "sow" and "capture" seeds or stones and place them in their 'Mancala' or store at the end of the board.

- Four stones are placed in each of the 12 holes on the Mancala board. The colour of the stones is irrelevant.
- The board is placed between you and your opponent - the long side facing you.
- Each player has 6 holes and a 'Mancala' (a larger hole or store) to their right, at the end of the board.
- To begin, one player collects all 4 stones from any one of the 6 holes on their side.
- Anticlockwise, the player places the stones one by one in each hole in succession, starting with the hole next to the hole they collected from.
- If you get to your own store along the way, you may place one stone in it, but you must skip your opponent's store.
- If the last stone you place is your own store, you take a free turn.
- If the last stone you drop is in an empty hole on your side, capture that stone and any stones in the hole directly above.
- The game is over when all 6 holes on one side of the Mancala board are empty.
- The player with stones left in their side of the board captures those stones.

The Winner

Count all the stones in each player's store. The player with the most stones wins.

Little Tip;

On your first turn, play the hole 5 holes away from your Mancala. The last stone you place will be in your Mancala so you get a free turn!

Think ahead and use strategy to collect as many stones as you can.

ARE YOU a PLAY EXPERT?

Take a photo and share it with us using **#littleplayexpert** or **#bigplayexpert** and be part of our growing network of play experts! Thousands of people every day are showing us that they are truly expert at play and playing in so many different ways - are you?



42 likes

Literally jumping for joy! I think we are seriously #bigplayexpert s!
#nevertooold #foreveryoung



107 likes

@theplayexperts our niece and daughter enjoying a game at a family wedding.



94 likes

loving the hi tower challenge @theplayexperts - harder than it looks!



51 likes

The concentration on their faces! #littleplayexpert @theplayexperts

Not Just Traditional Games...

You may or may not be aware that we design and make many different kinds of garden games and play equipment. Big Game Hunters has been designing and creating games for children and families since 1997 - so by now we really do know what we are doing. Here are just a few that are great for the whole family as well as just the kids...

The Parachute Game



Wooden Skittles



Up 4 It

Whacky Ranch Playhouse

The logo to look out for...

There are many more products we have created - just look out for our Big Game Hunters logo or flower emblem to be sure you have an official product. The brand is not just a logo, it is the whole family of ideas, service and quality that are behind every product. We are not a huge corporate and do not claim to be - we are proud of who we are and what we create so look out for our brand knowing that each product carrying our logo has a special standard we aim to maintain for years and years to come...



Warning! Not suitable for children under 36 months.
Contains small parts. Choking hazard.



Please retain for future reference

+441865 392439 
sales@biggamehunters.co.uk 
biggamehunters.co.uk 
@thePlayExperts 

Garden Games Limited
Chadwick Farm • Garford
Oxfordshire • OX13 5PD • England

