Noughts and Crosses

Noughts and Crosses is a simple game played by two people.

The object of Noughts and Crosses is to get a winning line of three Noughts or three Crosses in either a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row.

The Noughts and Crosses board is a square grid containing nine squares arranged in threes.

The game is played by two people who either play as Noughts (Os) or Crosses (Xs). They can either be drawn or objects resembling these two options can be used. In giant noughts and crosses for example, the two objects are the noughts and crosses themselves.

The player with the Xs starts the game by positioning his X in a square. The player with the Os follows and both players take turns to move and occupy the squares of the grid trying to make a row of three and at the same time also block their opponent.

In Noughts and Crosses the opening player has a slight advantage so it is advisable to alternate who starts first in order to keep the games fair. There is only a maximum of nine moves in any game so due to the speed and brevity of a Noughts and Crosses game, every turn counts.

Despite the simple form of Noughts and Crosses it has been calculated that there are in excess of 255,168 possible layouts on the board.