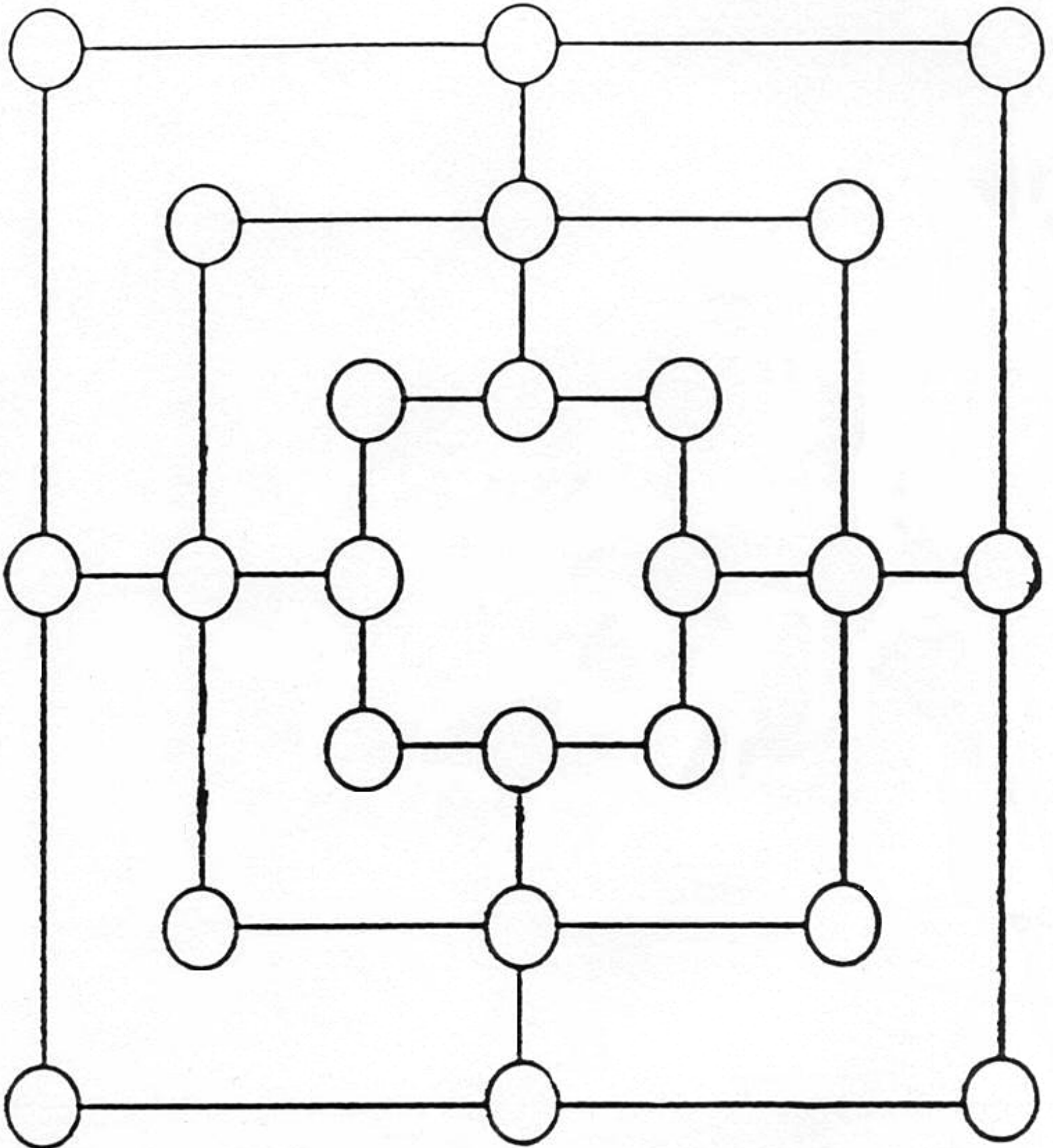


Nine Men's Morris





Clarington Museums

Nine Men's Morris has been a popular game throughout history. It was played in Ancient Rome, during the Medieval period, and by Early Canadian settlers!

Instructions:

Accompanying the board, there should be 9 black pieces and 9 white pieces. You can use two different objects like beans or coins to tell teams apart if you do not have game pieces.

Players decide who will move first. Play is in two phases.

Phase One:

Begin with the board empty. This phase is similar to tic tac toe. Players take turns to play one piece on any unoccupied point. The goal is to make "**mills**", vertical or horizontal lines of three in a row (connected by a line). If you make a mill, you can remove one of your opponent's pieces. You cannot remove an opponents piece that is part of a mill, unless **all** of their pieces are forming mills. Phase two begins when all pieces have been played.

Phase Two:

Players take turns moving one piece along a line to an adjacent point. When you make a mill, remove one of your opponent's pieces. You still cannot remove an opponents piece that is part of a mill, unless **all** of their pieces are forming mills. The game is finished when the number of opponent's pieces is less than three, or the opponent unable to play.

Variations:

Sometimes a "**hop**" rule is played for when a player is reduced to only three pieces. In this case, any player with only three pieces remaining is allowed to hop to any other point on the board regardless of lines or whether the destination point is adjacent. This was a popular way to play in the 1800's.