

Games of the 1920s: Marbles



Marbles can be played indoors or outside with two or more players.

Did you know?

People have enjoyed playing with marbles since ancient times - the earliest examples were polished river stones. Since 1922, kids have competed in an annual four-day National Marbles Tournament held in Wildwood, New Jersey.

How to Play

- Place thirteen marbles (mibs) inside the circle in the shape of a cross.
 - If you're outside, draw a circle with a stick on packed dirt or with chalk on a hard surface. Inside, make a circle with string or tape.
- Players take turns trying to knock mibs out of the circle using their shooter (a larger marble).
 - Shoot from anywhere outside of the circle, but all body parts must remain outside.
- If when shooting,
 - you knock a mib out of the ring and your shooter stays in, you win the mib and you may take another shot. Keep the mib; it equals one point.
 - you knock a mib out of the ring and your shooter goes out of the ring, you win the mib and your turn is over.
 - you do not knock any mibs out of the circle and your shooter stays in the circle, your turn is over. Your shooter stays where it is until your next turn.
 - you do not knock any mibs out of the circle but your shooter exits the ring, your turn is over. You may shoot from anywhere outside of the circle on your next turn.
- If you knock your opponent's shooter out of the circle, you win all of the mibs he or she has collected.
- The game ends when all 13 mibs have been knocked out of the circle. The person with the most mibs wins!