

gems. NOTE that the red gem can move out of this position on the next turn if desired. Likewise, blue gem "D" is blocked in by red gems "E" and "F."

Objective

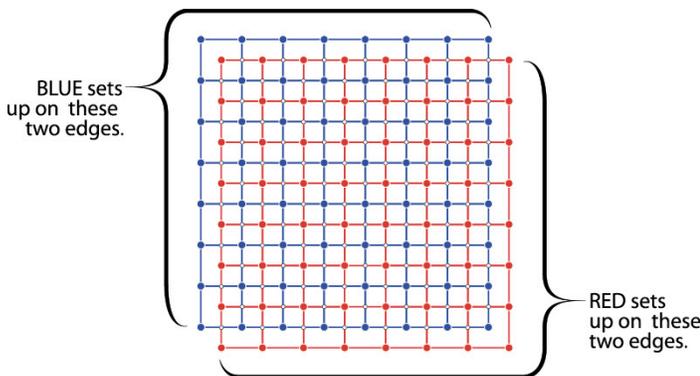
Players strive to eliminate their opponent's gems through capture and/or trap the opponent's gems so they cannot move.

Components

The game includes two boards – one for an 11-gem game and the other for a 15-gem game which is a game of longer duration. There are also gems of two colors corresponding to the grids on the boards – 15 for each player.

Setup

Each player set up his/her pawns along the outermost points of the corresponding grid on the two edges that are not surrounded by the opponent's grid.

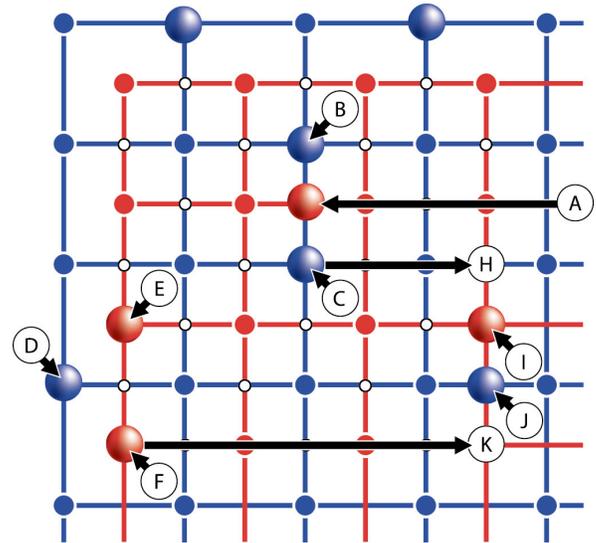


Because both players begin with the same opportunities, it doesn't matter who goes first. Choose in any way you like.

Movement

The gems may be moved along the grid lines of their own color orthogonally any distance the player wishes, or until one of the following conditions are encountered:

1. Another gem blocks the path, in which case the moving gem must stop on the grid point before it.
2. The edge of the grid is reached.
3. A pair of opponent's gems forms a blockade. A blockade is shown in the diagram as blue gems "B" and "C" which block the path of the red gem "A". Red's movement must STOP at (or before) the point between the two blue



Capturing an Opponent's Gem

Captures are made by "flanking" (also called a "custodian capture"). As shown above, red gem "I" will be captured if blue gem "C" moves to "H". This puts red gem "I" between blue gems "H" and "J." The captured red gem will then be removed from the board. Also shown above, if red gem "F" moves to position "K", this will capture blue gem "J" which is now flanked by red gems "I" and "F."

Winning The Game

Play continues, each making a move according to these rules, until one player cannot move or has lost all but one un-trapped gem (making it impossible to make any further captures).

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