

Noughts and negatives



Play this game with a partner.

1. Draw a noughts and crosses grid each.
2. Choose where to write three ‘noughts’ or zeros. Fill the other six spaces with any numbers between 0 and -10.

*The numbers will be made by subtracting a number between 1 and 6 from another number between 1 and 6. What numbers do you think you should put on your grid?*

1. Take it in turns to roll two 1–6 dice. Subtract one number from the other and ring the answer on your grid if you have it. You can use the dice in either order.
2. Take turns until one person has three rings in a line in any direction, horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
3. Now that you have played the game, spend some time thinking about how you could improve your grid to make it easier to win.
4. Play at least three more games.
* Player A’s old grid v Player B’s new grid
* Player A’s new grid v Player B’s old grid
* And the final big test: Player A’s new grid v Player B’s new grid!

How did you get on with your new grids? You could play this game against someone who has not done the research and impress them with your skills!

Challenge

Play the game with 0–9 dice instead of 1–6 dice. How might you change your grid?