

Senet Egyptian Board Game



Senet was a very popular board game in ancient Egypt. Archaeologists have found lots of Senet boards and counters in tombs. We know that the games were popular because there are also paintings of people playing Senet.

We do not know what the exact rules of Senet were because they weren't written down. People have had to guess what the rules were based on the evidence dug up by archaeologists and what is shown in the paintings. We have included a common set of rules below for you to have a go playing the game. Why not see if you can think up your own version of the game too?

How to play:

- * Ask an adult to help you cut the Senet board and counters out of this sheet
- * The aim of the game is to move all of your counters off of the board before the other player
- * Put the counters in the starting position. One player puts their counters on the odd numbered squares from 1 to 13. The other player puts their counters on the even number squares from 2 to 14
- * Square 15 is the "House of Rebirth"- the starting square, you must start each new counter from here
- * Pick a player to start and roll the dice. You can pick any of your counters to start with but you must start on the "House of Rebirth" square. Move your counter forward the number you rolled
- * Take turns to throw the dice and move. You don't have to move the same counter each time. If you land on a square where the other player is, take their counter and put it on the "House of Rebirth" square
- * Keep going until you have moved all of your counters off the board by landing on the end - square number 30
- * If you land on a special square follow the instructions below

Special Squares:

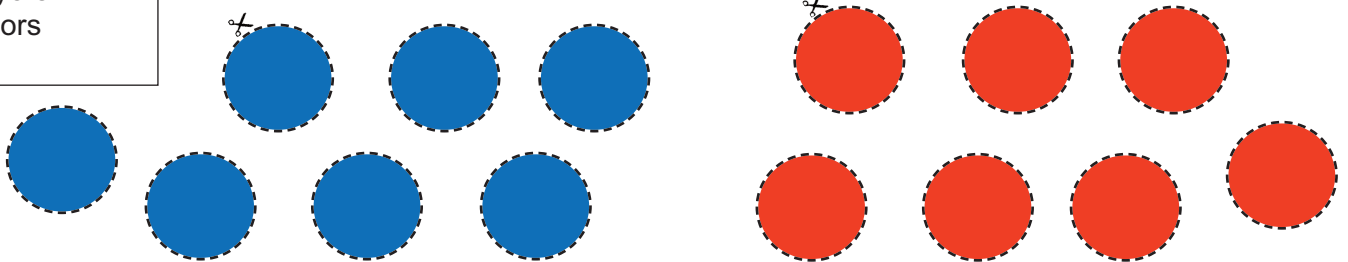
- ☪ 15 "The House of Rebirth"- the starting square. Return to here when landing on the "House of Water"
- 🦅 26 "The House of Happiness"- finish your move here, even if you throw enough to pass it
- 🌊 27 "The House of Water" - if you land here you must go back to "The House of Rebirth"
- 28 "The House of Three Truths" - if you are on this square you can only leave the board if you throw a 3
- 👁️ 29 "The House of Re-Atoum" - if you are on this square you can only leave the board if you throw a 2



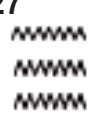


What you need:

- * 2 players
- * Scissors
- * Dice

Player 1's counters

Player 2's counters



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	19	18	17	16	15 	14	13	12	11
21	22	23	24	25	26 	27 	28 	29 	30