### **Mathematics Games**

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## **NEVER TOUCH!**

#### **Equipment:**

#### 2 pencils

#### A set of playing squares

#### **Rules:**

This is a game for two people using noughts and crosses on a square board.

The player going first places a cross in one square.

Then the second player has his/her turn, placing a nought in a square.

This continues, but no two crosses are allowed next to each other with a common edge. The same rule applies for the noughts. (Diagonal touching is allowed.)

| X | 0 |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | X | 0 |  |
|   | 0 |   |  |
|   | Х |   |  |

| Χ | 0 |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | X | 0 |   |
| X | 0 |   | X |
| 0 | X |   |   |

| X | 0 |   | X |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | X | 0 |   |
| Х | 0 |   | Χ |
| 0 | X |   | 0 |

The winner is the player who makes the last correct mark on the square, forcing the other player to put a cross (or nought) next to one that has already been drawn. In the above game 0 wins because x would have to place his next x in a square already next to a cross.

On the next page you will find a set of squares. Begin with the small square and work up!

Now, is it better to go first or second?

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