

# How to play Alquerque



## What is Alquerque?

Alquerque (al-ker-key) is a board game originating in the middle east in the 11th century, It travelled around with medieval conquerors and their armies.

The game was especially popular in Spain and Africa, It developed over thousands of years to the game we have today, called Draughts.

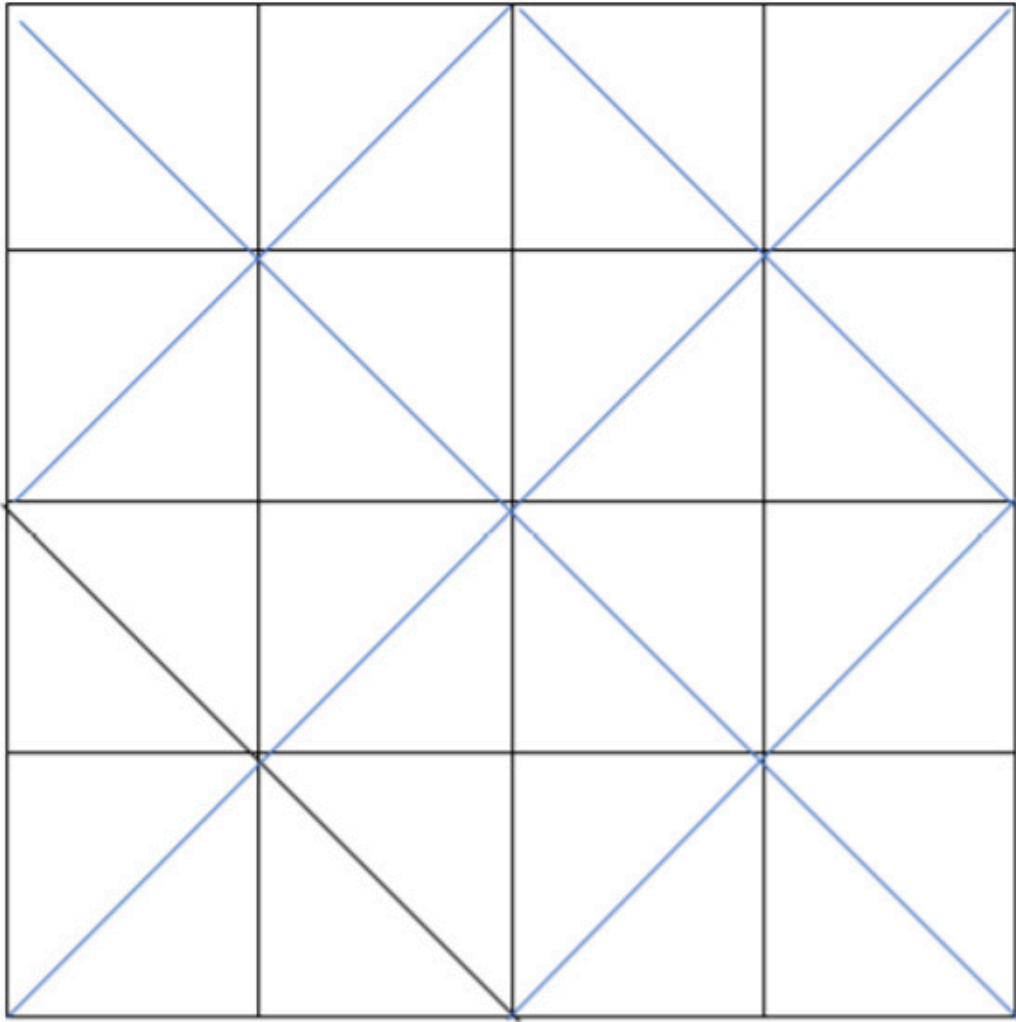
***Now you know where the game is from you can make it!***

## You will need:

- 1** Piece of paper
  - 1** Pen or pencil
  - 1** Ruler
  - 1** Rubber
  - 12** black counter and 12 white counters  
(you can use other colours if you don't have these but black and white are traditional)
  - 1** You and someone to play with
- You can of course use compasses as well.

# How to play Alquerque

Draw your board out it looks like this



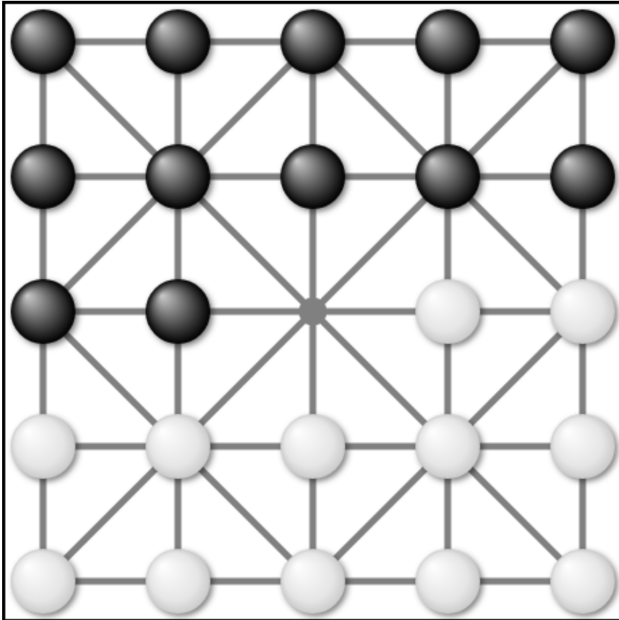
Mark out four squares by four squares and then draw the crosses in.  
Collect your pieces and you are ready to play!



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## How to play

Start by sitting opposite each other.  
Lay the counters out like this:



- Decide who is going to play first.
- The aim of the game is to capture as many of the other players pieces as possible.
- You can move any of your pieces one space along to the next empty point. You can move forwards, sideways, diagonally or even backwards, only if there is a line for you to travel along.
- Take other players pieces by jumping over them with your own piece.
- You can jump, forwards, backwards, sideways or diagonal.
- You can take multiple pieces in one go but you need to make sure that it is on the same line you have travelled along.
- If you can take a piece, then you need to take it.
- If you cannot take any pieces the other player can remove any of your pieces!
- The game ends when a player has no pieces left or when both players agree to tie.

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## Want to make the game a bit quicker?

A later rule, which was added in the 1970s (so it's really a late rule) is that you can't go backwards. So, the game can be quicker as you will both cross the board and then add up who has most pieces left.

