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# Four senses instructions (GB119)

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Please retain these instructions for future reference. These instructions are also available in other formats.

## Inside the box

The game comes in a cardboard box, which contains the following:

* One wooden board
* 24 circular wooden pieces, eight of each shape
* Eight × single-level, flat pieces
* Eight × single-level, flat pieces with a hole
* Eight × two-level pieces, flat on one side, with a hole on the other side
* Three blindfolds.

## Object of the game

Four senses is a strategy board game with unique gameplay, where players are blindfolded and have to use their sense of touch to win the game. The first player to align four pieces in a row (horizontally, vertically or diagonally), either identically shaped (for example, all flat) or on the same level; or to align three rising steps (from single level to triple level), wins the game.

Four senses is a game that can be played by sighted and sight impaired players alike, with no advantage to either player.

## Setting up the game

You can play with two or three people. Rules for three players are further down in the instructions.

Before starting the game, place the board and the pieces nearby. Sort the pieces by type, making it easier to find them. Players need to put on the blindfolds before starting play. Alternatively, you can cover the board and pawns with a square of cloth or towel. Younger players can play with their eyes open first to familiarise themselves with the game.

## How to play

The youngest player starts the game. The game is recommended from 8+.

The starting player chooses a piece and places it into any space on the board, which consists of a four by four grid. Let your opponent know once you have placed your piece.

The next player locates that piece by touch and chooses where to place their own piece. You can place a piece in an empty location or a location containing a single level piece. There can be up to two pieces in each location. Let your opponent know once you have placed your piece. The game continues like this until one player lines their pieces up in a row. See 'How to win' below for three ways you can win.

## Rules

* You can’t place a piece on a space that already has its two levels filled. The only way to have a location with three levels is to first place a single-level piece and then a double-level piece on top of it
* If one of the players has placed a winning piece but has not noticed it and does not declare it, it is the next player's turn. If the second player does notice it, they can declare it and win the game
* Once you have placed your piece let your opponent know you have done so.

## How to win

Be the first to line up your pieces in a row. There are three ways to win.

* Line up four identical pieces in a row: this can be four solid pieces or four pieces with holes. The height of these pieces can be different
* Line up four different pieces on the same level: they can be single, double or triple level
* Line up three pieces in ascending or descending order
* They must be aligned, each one higher than the previous one. That is, a single level piece, then a double level piece, followed by a triple level piece. They do not have to be all the same shape (for example, all solid pieces).

## Rules for three players

The game unfolds in the same way: each player takes turns, clockwise, placing a piece on the board, until one of the conditions of victory is reached.

Play three rounds and take it in turns so that a different player plays first in each round. At the end of each round, players count their score.

Points are counted as follows:

* The player who won the game earns five points
* The player who played directly before the winning player gets 0 points
* The third player earns three points
* After three rounds the player with the highest score wins the game.

## Bonus

If a player wins by achieving two winning conditions at the same time (for example, four identical pieces all at the same level; or a staircase with three identical pieces) they earn one extra point.

## Warning

Keep small pieces away from small children and the cord on the eye masks. Not suitable for anyone under 3 years of age.

## How to contact RNIB

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Date: September 2023.

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