

Beginner Version

(traditionally "Women's and Children's Version")

(the other versions are based on the this one but more confusing at start)

	Back row
	Player B
	Front row
	Front row
	Player A
	Back row

Setup: Put 2 seeds in every hole.

Moving: You need at least 2 seeds in the hole you are starting with. Start a move by taking all the seeds out of one hole and spread them in one direction of your row, one in each hole, starting with the nearest hole.

When you end up in one of your holes in the back row or in a whole where you cannot eat (**-Eating**), but in that hole was at least one seed before you put that last seed there, you take all the seeds out of that hole and spread them one by one, keeping the direction, starting with the next hole.

When you are moving and you reach the 8th hole in the front row from any direction, and you cannot eat there, you continue with the next hole in the back row and then follow the back row.

Eating: When you put your last seed in one of your first row holes, you check the nearest hole in your partner's first row. If there is at least one seed in there, take it/them (all) and start over at the very left or the very right hole of your first row (depends from which direction you are coming, → read **Borders**).

In every round, you have to eat with the first move (meaning: when you pick the seeds out of the hole at the beginning of each round, the last one has to eat). If you cannot eat in that very first move, you are not allowed to eat the whole round (just spreading).

A move ends: When you end up in one of your holes in which was no seed before you put your last one there, the move is over.

Borders between 6th and 7th front-row-hole: After eating you always start spreading the eaten seeds in the first hole of the front row (meaning: when you are moving to the left and eat, you start spreading the eaten seeds in your very right front-row-hole, then one by one to the left again - if you come from the right it's the other way around). When you eat the 7th or the 8th hole of that direction (meaning: when you are moving to the left, the first and second hole from the left in the front row), from where you start spreading the seeds in the first front-row-hole of the new direction (former 8th hole). (Different explanation → **Borders** in advanced version).

Finish: When you empty the front row of your partner **or** take most of his seeds so that he has a maximum of 1 seed in each of his holes (which means he cannot move anymore).

Advanced Version

(traditionally "Men's Version")

Setup: Put 8 seeds in the square hole in your front row (it's called "house") - fourth front-row-hole from the right) Put 2 seeds in each of the two holes on the right side of your house.

To count you put the rest of the seeds either 4 each in 5 holes or 5 each in 4 holes (just to count 20 seeds for each player). Take these 20 seeds (in the following called "extra seeds") out again and put them to the side.

Starting a round: You start a round by putting one of the extra seeds in one of your front-row-holes, that already has at least one seed in it. This means that move ends here (as it's the last seed in your hand) and you either eat or spread (→ **Moving/Eating**, → **Spreading your house**)

Only the very first round of a game: you can also take one extra seed and the 4 seeds you put in the holes next to the house, and put these five seeds **anywhere** on your side of the board. The second player can also take his 5 seeds and put them anywhere on his side (or defend his house rightaway (if he is attacked) by putting his extra seed in his house and eat right away or do any other standard move of course).

Setting the direction: When, in the beginning of a move, you put the extra seed in one of the holes (to move or eat) there is no direction set. You can freely choose it but then it is set for the whole round. (After you ate, you spread the seed(s) along the front row, one in each hole, starting either in the very left or the very right hole. If you're just spreading (meaning you cannot eat when putting the extra seed in) you start spreading the seeds one in each hole, starting with the hole next to the one you put the extra seed it).

Moving / Eating: You have to eat with the extra seed you put in - if you can't, you are not allowed to eat for the whole round which means that you only spread the seeds (on your two rows).

You always have to put your extra seed in one hole you already have a seed in:

-If there is at least one seed in your partner's hole next to it, you can eat his seed(s) and start spreading them along the front row, starting with the very left or the very right hole. (You can choose which one because there is no direction set → **Setting the direction**).

-If there is no seed in your partners hole next to it, you can spread the seeds in any direction (→ **Setting the direction**).

-If you have no seeds in any of the front-row-holes but the house and cannot eat, you take one of your extra seeds and one out of the house and spread them in the two holes next to the house (any direction, along the front row).

But: If you only have 8 seeds in your house, you take the 8 out of the house and the extra seed and spread them in any direction (one by one, starting with the next hole in the front row).

Spreading your house: You can move your house (but don't have to) only if you have eaten in the same round already. If you have not (only spreading), and you end up in your house, your move ends there.

As soon as the last extra seed is played, the rules are exactly the same as in the beginner version, the house (if it is not already eaten/spread anyways) is a normal hole.

If one of the front rows is cleared before the last extra seed is played, the game is over as well.

Same rules like Beginner Version:

A move ends: When you end up in one of your holes in which was no seed before you put your last one there, the move is over.

Borders: When you come from one side you always spread the seeds in the same direction you were moving until you have reached the 7th or the 8th hole (in the front row). If you end up in one of these holes and eat, you change the direction, means you start over at the front row of the same side these hole are on (in the very right/left hole).

"Ntchuwa" Version

For setup put one seed in every front-row-hole. The rest is exactly like the Advanced Version but without the house.

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Any further questions or completions? Please contact www.jacks.cc

This game was first played along the lakeshore of the Lake Malawi. Traditionally it is common to dig 32 holes in the soil or sand and use 64 seeds or stones to surf the avalanche.

It might first be confusing

to play

Baŵo

but there is a simple system and only some extra rules to know.

We tried to keep the instructions as short and clear as possible and we think, it is best to keep re-reading them step by step them when playing the first games.

Anything is allowed that's not forbidden in here.
You just have to count and eat ... if you can!