

# Pentomino Blockade

This is a game for two opponents.

**Goal:** To place more of your pentomino pieces on the board than your opponent.

**How to play:** Place all of the pentomino pieces in a pile. Play rock, paper, scissors to decide who will go first. The first person may select any of the pentomino pieces in the pile. Alternate selecting pieces until there are none left in the pile. Once all of the pieces have been chosen, play rock, paper, scissors a second time to decide who will place the first pentomino shape on the game board. Alternate turns until one player can no longer put a pentomino piece completely inside the 6 inch by 10 inch grid. The remaining player may continue to play until they can no longer place one of their pentomino pieces completely within the grid.

**How the game ends:** The game ends when neither player can put a pentomino piece completely within the grid. The person with the fewest number of pentomino pieces at the end of the game is the winner. If both player have the same number of pieces at the end of the game, play a tie-breaking round.

## Things to think about:

Are there ways to place the pentomino pieces that will give you an advantage?

Are there ways to place the pentomino pieces that will make it harder for your opponent to use all of their pieces?

## Something to try:

Invent a pentomino game of your own. Write directions and teach somebody how to play your game.