

# **Contents for Magic Squares Help**

To learn how to use the Windows Help system, press F1.

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## Best Times

A record is kept of the 10 best times for each level. To see these select **Best Times** from the **Game** menu. You score in Magic Squares by being among the quickest to complete a square.



An LED timer records the amount of time in seconds each player takes to complete a square. If you take longer than 999 seconds to complete a magic square then the timer will stop counting.

## About Magic Squares

The game, **Magic Squares**, is an educational program aimed at primary school children aged 7 to 11 years, and involves the use of addition and subtraction.

### What is a Magic Square?

A magic square is a 3 by 3 grid consisting of 9 numbers where each row, column and diagonal all add up to the same number. This number is known as the Magic Number.

5	6	1
0	4	8
7	2	3

In the Magic Square on the left each row, column and diagonal add up to the number 12. On starting a new game you are shown a 3 by 3 Magic Square with numbers in 3 or 4 of the squares, the rest of the squares will contain question marks. The object of the game is to replace the squares that have a question mark in them with a number, so that each row, column and diagonal add up to the same number.

## How To Start a New Game

To start a new game click on the button labelled **Start** or pull down the **Game** menu and select **New**. If you are already playing a game then the caption on the button will be **Stop**, pressing it once will stop the current game and change the caption to **Start**. Pressing it again will start a new game.

*See also*

**How to Stop a game**

## How To Stop a Game

Once a game has started the caption of the **Start** button will have changed to **Stop**. If you press this button the current game will end **without** the Magic Square being completed.

*See also*

**How to Start a game**

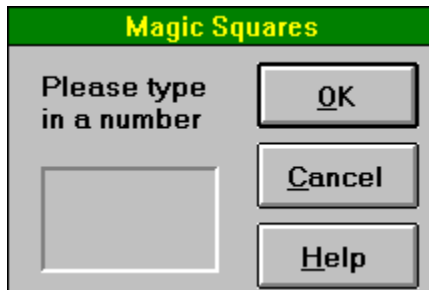
## How To Change the Level

<b>Game</b>
<b>New</b>
<u>E</u> asy
✓ <u>M</u> edium
<u>H</u> ard
✓ <u>S</u> how 'Magic' Number
<u>B</u> est Times
<u>E</u> xit

You can change the playing level from the **Game** menu. Select from one of the three options provided, easy, medium or hard. A tick will appear next to the level you have chosen. The new level will **not** come into effect until you start a new game.

## How To Change The Number In a Square

To change a number in a square simply use the mouse pointer to click on the square you wish to change and the Input Number dialog box will pop-up asking you to type in the new number.



The image shows a dialog box titled "Magic Squares" with a green header. The main area is light gray and contains the text "Please type in a number" above an empty rectangular input field. To the right of the input field are three buttons: "OK", "Cancel", and "Help", each with a small underline under the first letter.

Enter a number in the box provided and click **OK** or press the **ENTER** key. If you change your mind just click on the **CANCEL** button.

## Enter Your Name

Your time has placed you in the top 10 scores. Type in your name & press **RETURN** or click the **OK** button.



## Hints For Playing

- To quickly find the Magic Number multiply the number in the middle square by 3.
- In the Easy and Medium levels all the numbers in a Magic Square will be in sequence e.g. 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8. However, when the Hard level is selected this may not be true.
- When you replace all the question marks in a Magic Square and one or more of your numbers are incorrect then a message box will appear at the bottom of the screen telling you how many are wrong.

## **The Magic Number**

The Magic Number is the sum of each row, column or diagonal.

## Rows

$$5 + 6 + 1 = 12$$

$$0 + 4 + 8 = 12$$

$$7 + 2 + 3 = 12$$

## Columns

$$5 + 0 + 7 = 12$$

$$6 + 4 + 2 = 12$$

$$1 + 8 + 3 = 12$$

## Diagonals

$$5 + 4 + 3 = 12$$

$$1 + 4 + 7 = 12$$

## How to See the Magic Number

<b>Game</b>
<b>New</b>
Easy
✓ <b>Medium</b>
Hard
✓ <b>Show 'Magic' Number</b>
Best Times
Exit

To see the Magic Number click on the **Show Magic Number** option in the **Game** menu. This option will **not** come into effect until you start a new game.

## Easy

Numbers in this level are in the range 0 to 18.

## **Meduim**

Numbers in this level are in the range 11 to 48, also includes some negative numbers.

This level is available only with the registered version.



## Hard

Numbers in this level are in the range -40 to 199. The numbers in a square at this level may not be in sequence.

This level is available only with the registered version.

## **Problems, Bugs etc.**

For further information, problems, bugs etc. please contact:-

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