

Peg Solitaire Help Index

How to Play

[Playing the Game](#)
[Strategy and Hints](#)

Commands

[Game Menu Commands](#)

How To Play

The following topics explain how to play Peg Solitaire:

[Playing the Game](#)
[Strategy and Hints](#)

Game Menu Commands

New Game

Begins a new game. You can issue this command at any time. If you choose it before completing a game, the current game is terminated and a new one is started.

Exit

Terminates the Peg Solitaire program.

Playing the Game

At the beginning of a new game, all the holes are filled with pegs. The objective of the game is to remove all pegs except for the one at the top center of the board.

To begin play, you first click on a peg to remove it from the board. You can remove any peg. (Varying your choice from game to game will alter the strategy required to win the game and will add variety to your playing.)

After the first peg, you remove pegs by jumping over them. To do this, use the mouse click-and-drag procedure to remove a peg from its hole, have it "jump" over an adjacent peg, and then drop the peg into the empty hole on the far side of the peg you want to remove. When you do this, the computer eliminates the jumped peg. If you drop a peg at an invalid position, the program returns the peg to its hole.

Note: You can click and drag using either mouse button.

When no more moves are possible, the computer ends the game and displays the number of pegs remaining. The program also rates your performance: If a single peg remains at the top center position, you see the message "genius!" displayed in the game's message area. A single peg remaining at another position is rated as "outstanding!" Other final arrangements are rated with diminishing degrees of acclaim.

Strategy and Hints

You will probably develop your own strategy for playing Peg Solitaire. If you are strongly left-brained, you might be able to choose an optimal move by planning two or three moves ahead. If you are strongly right-brained, you might do better by playing rather quickly and observing the pattern of the pegs. In general, try to avoid leaving isolated pegs. One approach is to work from one edge toward the opposite edge, without leaving any pegs behind.