

אסטרטגיה וחיבור **Go** Strategic Board Game



Go is an ancient strategy board game, invented in China about 4,000 years ago. In China Wei'Chi (Go) is considered one of the 4 accomplishments. The game arrived to Japan by a Buddhist monk or the Japanese ambassador in China. Soon after it became popular and turned into Japan's national game. In Japan it is one of the 4 arts any noble man should master. Go is both an Art and a Martial art.

In the prime era of Go, **championships** and major games were played in the Shogun's castle or Caesar's palace under their auspices

www.go-mind.com

Baduk is the Korean name of the game.

Its popularity worldwide has now exceeded 60 million players worldwide.

Go combines simple elements of wood, stones (Black & White, Yin-Yang), circle and lines, that create an amazing pattern on the goban (Go board) and infinite game sequences, which embrace creativity, aesthetics and thinking to their highest level.

The goal of the game is to surround territory. Stones may be captured as well. The game is played on a grid (19x19, 13x13, 9x9). Stones are placed on the intersections.

A built in handicap systems allows a player to play a 9 level stronger players as well as 9 level weaker.

As Go integrated into Japan's culture, many works of art, and folklore based on its history and sophistication of mind emerged, and indicate its cultural importance.

Go is considered a reflection of life and there are many eastern philosophies immersed in it.

Go has many educational benefits, as well as cognitive ones. From basic etiquette to improved thinking, concentration, creativity, but most of all Reasoning. Analysis skills, global view combined with appreciation of situations are developed.

Go is taught in several universities as part of the curriculum of MBA programs.

In Korea Baduk is studied at Myongji university.

For many years GO has been taught to gifted children only. As research and understanding of the benefits emerging from Go playing it is now recommended for all.

"Go excels the gifted one and sophisticates everyone" as Shavit Fragman phrased it.

Go is an a tool for developing executive managerial and leadership skills. It also puts promotes excellence in people who play the game. A spiral of "play, review, study, and solve Go riddles (tsumego)" embeds a unique build in excellence mechanism.

Go ranks are similar to martial arts. A beginner who knows the rules is a 30 kyu player. As you become stronger the kyu drops with rank. After 1 kyu one is promoted to 1 dan (shodan). The highest rank for amateurs is 7 dan. An 8 dan certificate is given to the winner of the World Amateur Go Champion.

The next level is for people who wish to become professionals. They must study and qualify an "insei" program. Successful candidates achieve 1 dan professional. The highest rank is 9 dan professional.

The **World Amateur Go Championship**, as well the **Korean Prime Minister Cup** are the most important annual Go tournaments for amateurs. Each country sends one representative to this Go celebration.

Many other Go tournaments take place with national associations, clubs and people who love to promote the game.



For further information, finding Go club or activity - visit our website and Forum.

www.go-mind.com

Mind Go club

We are dedicated to promoting Go/ Baduk / Weiqi.

We support Go activities and help establish new clubs around Israel and promote activity in existing ones.

Over 10,000 pupils and students attended our lectures and Go presentations.

The first three Israeli Go congresses were organized by the club.

Where to begin?

A booklet with the rules is available in our website for free.

Then there is a series of basic introduction books to learn and study.

The next step should be playing games.

Get your own set, feel the stones and enjoy the click of the stones against the board.

Then, start solving Go problems (tsumego).

We recommend playing other people at one of the clubs as well as online.

There are several Internet based Go servers.

It is very useful to join a tournament, at any level you are to get the feel, know more players and enjoy the atmosphere.

Food for thought

There is a saying that a gift tells a lot about the giver and the receiver. So, give the people you appreciate a Go set as a present. It is a special lifetime present.



Traditional Go board



Table Go board

