



Five Stones

Depending on what part of India you're in, people may call this game "Kuzhangal," "Anchankal," or "Kallankal."

Equipment needed

Five small stones or small bean bags.

How to Play

Players sit in a circle on the ground. If you have more than five players, split the circle into separate groups to allow more play time. The first player to complete the eight steps of the game wins. Choose a player to begin the game. That player starts with Step 1, and will complete as many of the steps, in order, as he/she can, until he/she fails one. Then, the player next to them starts from Step 1 and completes as many steps as they can. As play rotates around the circle, each player picks back up on the step they failed on from the last turn. For most steps, players will use the same hand to toss stones as to catch them.

Step 1

Throw all five stones out onto the ground in front of you. Choose one of the stones. Toss that stone straight up into the air. While that stone is in the air, grab another stone from the group sitting on the ground, catching the stone tossed in the air before it hits the ground. Keep both stones in your hand, tossing one of them in the air and grabbing another stone on the ground before the stone tossed in the air hits the ground. You should have three stones in your hand now. Do this for each of the stones on the ground until they are all picked up.

Step 2

Throw all five stones out. While tossing a stone in their air, pick up two stones at a time, catching the tossed stone before it hits the ground. Do this for the other two also.

Step 3

Throw all five stones out. While tossing a stone in their air, pick up one stone, catching the tossed stone before it hits the ground. Do this for the remaining three stones at once.

Step 4

Throw all five stones out. While tossing a stone in their air, pick up all four stones at once, catching the tossed stone before it hits the ground.

Step 5

Hold all five stones in your hand. While tossing a stone in their air, place the four stones from your hand on the ground, catching the one stone tossed before it hits the ground. While tossing a stone in their air, pick up all four stones on the ground at once, catching the tossed stone before it hits the ground.

Step 6

Throw all five stones out. Pick two stones and while tossing one, exchange the stone in your hand with one on the ground, catching the tossed stone before it hits the ground. Do this for the other three stones on the ground. (You will only have two stones at most in your hand each time.)

Step 7

Throw all five stones out. While tossing up two stones, pick up one on the ground and catch two falling stones with each hand. Do for all the 3 stones. (You will catch both falling stones with two separate hands.)

Step 8

Throw all five stones out. One of your opponents chooses one stone for you to toss. Toss the stone in the air and pick up the remaining four stones.

These are the traditional steps of "Five Stones." Feel free to have fun creating your own steps, or modifying to your group's ability.

To watch someone playing, click here: https://youtu.be/FPuiZ_fQnPA