

Curling without Ice!

Curling has been a popular sport in Scotland for centuries but, it was originally a sport for men alone and on the 'sheet', everyone was equal. There are only two places in the UK where granite is quarried – Trefor in Wales and Ailsa Craig off the southwest coast of Scotland. Kays of Scotland in Mauchline, East Ayrshire has the mining rights to Ailsa Craig and this is the only manufacturer of curling stones for the World Curling Federation games.

[CURLING: From Island to Ice - a journey of curling stones](#) – this link will take you to a YouTube video which shows how the granite is turned in to a curling stone (4:04).

No Ice, No Problem!

Do you know that you don't need ice in order to curl? No, Really! But, before we get to how that is possible, here are the rules. The Basics - **Curling** is played within a **curling rink** on a playing surface **ice called** a 'sheet' with granite stones. The goal of the game is, after all 16 stones are played (8 by each team), to have a stone of your team's closest to the center of the house (the coloured rings), **called** the 'tee'.

[Two Minute Guide to the Sport of Curling](#)

[Table-top curling](#) – A full game of curling played on a plastic, table-top rink (6:03).

<https://www.cbc.ca/cbckids/olympics/pyeongchang2018/games-activities/make-your-own-table-top-curling-rink-and-play> - DIY curling

Make your own table-top curling rink and play!



This table-top version may not contain brooms or ice, but it's still really fun to play! Have a parent help you make this, especially with the laminating/self-adhesive sheet part, so your rink will be flat and smooth.

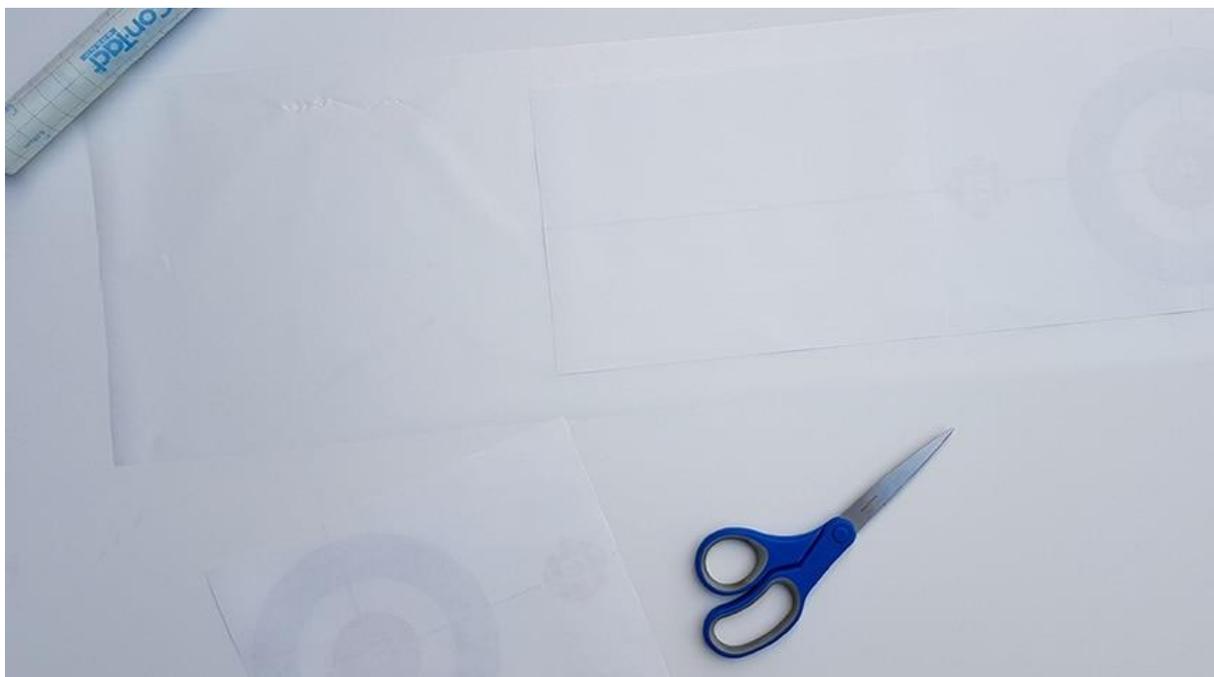
What you'll need:

- our curling sheet printable templates (you need two ends and one length)
- transparent, self-adhesive book cover sheet, or laminating sheets (and laminator).
- 16 of the same coin. Bottle tops from juice or milk bottles would work, too.
- small dot stickers — two colours



How to Make the Board:

1. Print out two, colour copies of our curling ends template and one copy of the length template.
2. Have a parent help cover your "ice" with the sticky/laminator sheet. It's best to lay the sticky sheet on a flat surface sticky side up and then place your rink pieces on top.



3. Flip over your rink and cover the other side with contact paper as well. This creates a sort of laminated effect.
4. Trim the edges of your "ice".

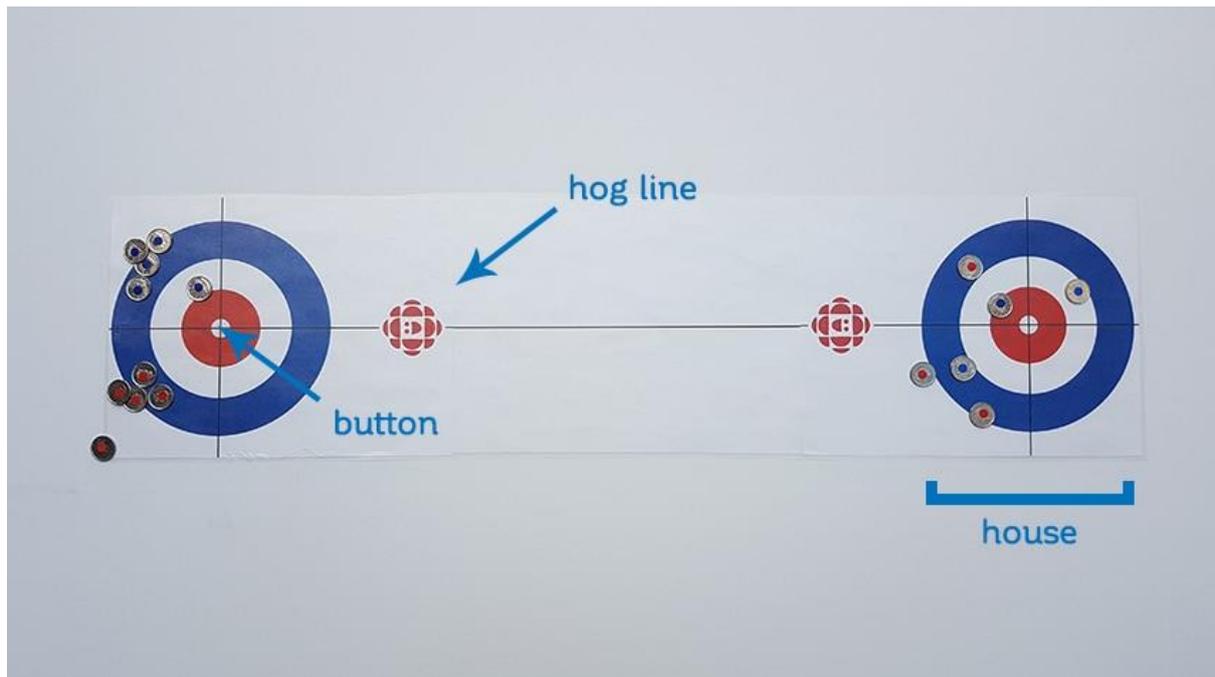
5. Apply dot stickers to your coins; eight should be one colour and eight should be another. These are your "stones".



How to Play (4 players):

We have slightly modified the rules for our table-top version.

1. Divide into two teams and decide who will go first (keep in mind that in curling, there is a disadvantage to going first). Assign each team a set of "stones".
2. Sit at a table with the "ice" between you. You want to sit across from your teammate.
3. Whoever goes first flicks or slides their first "stone" down the "ice". The goal is to get your "stone" as close to the centre of the circle as possible. The centre of the circle is called the "button".
4. The other team then flicks or slides their first "stone" towards the same "button". Game play rotates between the two players at the same end of the table until each player has flicked their eight "stones".
5. After all sixteen "stones" are "thrown", whichever colour stone is closest to the "button" scores one point for every stone closer to the button than the opposing teams' stones. Only stones within the "house" (the circles) can score points.
6. Play now shifts to the players on the other side of the table, and continues the same as above.
7. Whichever team has the most points after 8 "ends" (or rounds) wins!



Important Rules

- A player's hand cannot cross the "hog line" while they are flicking or sliding. For our purposes, the hog line is the edge of the curling endpaper, or the bottom of the CBC Kids logo.
- A stone must cross the hog line on the other end of the ice to be "in play". If it does not cross the hog line or if it goes out of bounds (off the "ice"), remove it from the game until the next round.
- A stone sitting on the edge of the hog line or the borders of the ice surface, even just a bit, is considered out of bounds, and is removed from the game.
- A stone can be knocked out of bounds by the other team's stone, or by your own team's stone.

You can also play with two people! Simply sit side by side, and take turns "throwing" your "stones" as outlined above.