

# Let The Games Begin

Share culture and fun with the young people in your life. It's time to play some Norwegian games!

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What games do you play with your children or grandchildren? Maybe you've tried the classics, such as Bingo or chess. But have you ever played Norwegian Bingo? How about *Hnefatafl*? Or *Kubb*? Not only are these Norwegian games fun for all ages, they also provide a great opportunity to teach children about Norwegian culture. With three different games or *spill* to choose from, you're sure to find something everyone will enjoy.



## Activities for Young People

### PRESCHOOL

#### Norwegian Bingo

Calling out the numbers in Norwegian—one (*ehn*), two (*tooh*), three (*treh*)—gives this game some Norwegian flair. It's also a fun way to teach preschoolers Norwegian counting. Five in a row makes 'Bingo!' Using a pencil and ruler, help your child draw a grid on a sheet of paper to make the Bingo board. Number the grid and use coins as game pieces.

**EXPAND IT:** Ready to practice the Norwegian alphabet? Instead of numbering your preschooler's Bingo board, write and call out Norwegian letters—a (*ah*), b (*beh*), and so on.

### LEARN MORE!

- Find game rules for Norwegian Bingo and Hnefatafl (plus a printable Hnefatafl board) at [sofn.com](http://sofn.com). Click on "Programming," select "Idea Bank" and scroll down to the Games section. [sofn.com/members/PDF/IdeaBank/ID65\\_Hnefatafl.pdf](http://sofn.com/members/PDF/IdeaBank/ID65_Hnefatafl.pdf)
- For Kubb game rules and an instructional video, visit [usakubb.org](http://usakubb.org). Check out KubbNation magazine at [wisconsinkubb.com/kubbnation-magazine.php](http://wisconsinkubb.com/kubbnation-magazine.php).
- Purchase a plastic Hnefatafl board and pieces, or a pine Kubb, set at [ingebretsens.com](http://ingebretsens.com).



To see Family Matters pages from previous issues, go to [sonsofnorway.com](http://sonsofnorway.com), log in and select "Family Matters."

### ELEMENTARY AGES

#### Hnefatafl

Hnefatafl (pronounced NEF-uh-tahf-ahl), is similar to chess. The Vikings played this game to sharpen their minds for battle. The goal is to capture your opponent's pieces before the 'king' reaches safety. For full rules and a printable game board, see the "Learn More" section below.

**EXPAND IT:** Spend some time together doing research on the Vikings. Check your local library for children's books or search online. Find kid-friendly Viking information at [bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/vikings](http://bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/vikings).

### TEENAGERS

#### Kubb

Kubb, (pronounced KOOB) is a lawn game that is played with three types of wooden pieces: kubbs, batons and a king. Using your batons, the point of the game is to knock down the other team's kubbs, and finally the king. Challenge your teen to a one-on-one game, or get the whole family involved. Kubb can be played with two teams of up to six people.

**EXPAND IT:** If you're handy with tools, work with your teen to make your own Kubb set. Find step-by-step instructions and a video from This Old House at [thisoldhouse.com/toh/video/0,,20397808,00.html](http://thisoldhouse.com/toh/video/0,,20397808,00.html).

**Fun Fact**  
You can play Kubb on grass, concrete, sand and snow.

