



WOODEN SPOON

QUIZZES

Games & Board Games # 05



Crafted with Care ...

... Stirred To Perfection

1. Played with 144 beautifully painted tiles and mysterious calls like pung, kong and chow — which classic strategy game are we talking about?
2. India's Geet Sethi dominated the world stage six times — but in which precision sport?
3. In the card game Pontoon, what magic number are players trying to hit without going bust?
4. To play a proper game of Contract Bridge, how many players do you need around the table?
5. At the start of every chess match, which colour gets the very first move?
6. In chess, which piece is the only one that can be promoted — and what does that actually mean?
7. In the board game Cluedo, which unfortunate doctor is murdered before the game even begins?
8. Four characters named Lizzie, Henry, Homer and Harry all appear in which classic children's board game?
9. Blink and you'll miss it — what is the current world record for solving a $3 \times 3 \times 3$ Rubik's Cube?
10. Bridge didn't just appear out of nowhere — from which earlier card game did it evolve?
11. In the standard version of Cluedo, how many suspects are there to point the finger at?
12. The infamous "Dead Man's Hand" — a pair of aces and eights — comes from which classic card game?





QUIZMASTER



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QUESTIONS

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ANSWERS

- Mahjong
- Billiards
- 21
- Four
- White
- Pawn; it can be exchanged for another piece upon reaching the far rank
- Dr Black
- Hungry Hungry Hippos
- 3.13 seconds
- Whist
- Six
- Poker

FUN FACTS

- Mahjong dates back over 2,000 years and is so serious in some countries it's played for money — and honour.
- Geet Sethi is regarded as one of the greatest cue-sport players ever, famed for astonishing precision.
- Pontoon is the British cousin of Blackjack — with stricter rules and far less mercy.
- Bridge is so complex it's officially recognised as a mind sport, right alongside chess.
- Playing white offers a small statistical advantage — which is why elite games often drift toward draws.
- Promotion usually means a brand-new queen — because one queen is never enough in a crisis.
- In the UK version of Cluedo the victim is Dr Black — Americans know him as Mr Boddy.
- Each hippo has its own name and colour, but zero table manners when the marbles start rolling.
- That record solve is faster than most people can even finish scrambling the cube.
- Whist was a favourite pastime of the 18th-century elite and even pops up in Jane Austen novels.
- Miss Scarlet, Colonel Mustard and company have been dodging accusations since 1949.
- The Dead Man's Hand is linked to Wild Bill Hickok, who was allegedly holding it when he was shot.

