

Julia Robinson  
Mathematics Festival<sup>®</sup>

## JRMF Game of the Week

At the beginning of each week, JRMF will be publishing one of our favorite 2-player games in English and Spanish. Although some games will involve manipulatives, all of them will be accompanied with instructions for how to play with just pencil and paper, so that you can play anytime and anywhere!

If you like what you see here, check out our activities library at [jrmf.org](http://jrmf.org) and our weekly webinars for even more content.

Happy mathing!

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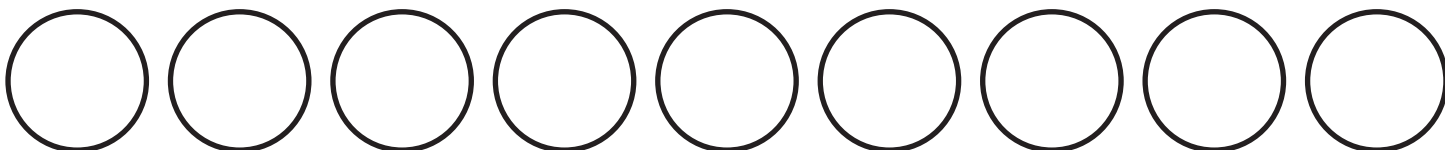
# Game of the Week: 9 Dots

## Objective:

Cross out the last dot.

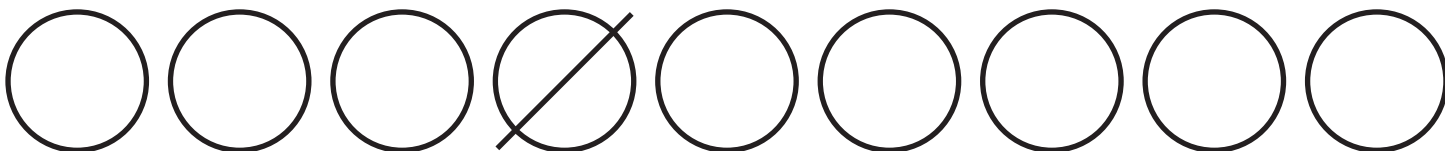
## Set-Up:

Draw 9 dots in a straight line.

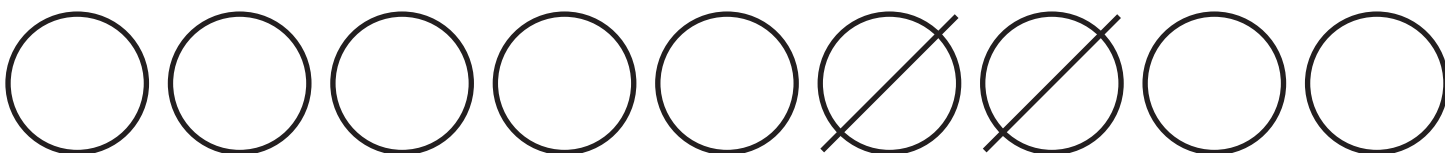


## Rules:

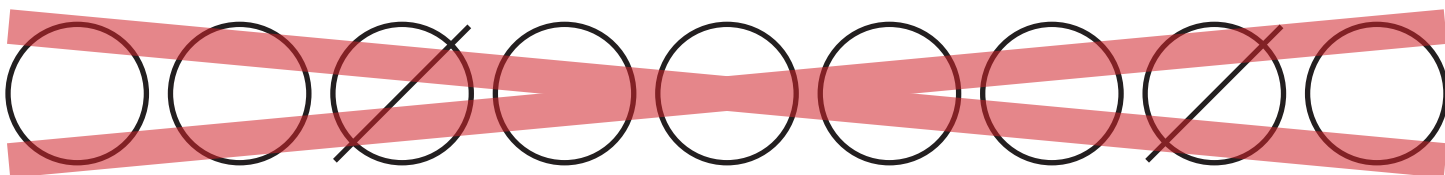
1. Players take turns crossing out dots. A player must cross out either **1 dot** or **2 dots** that are right next to each other.



**OR**



2. Players **cannot** cross out two dots that are **not** next to each other.



## Endgame:

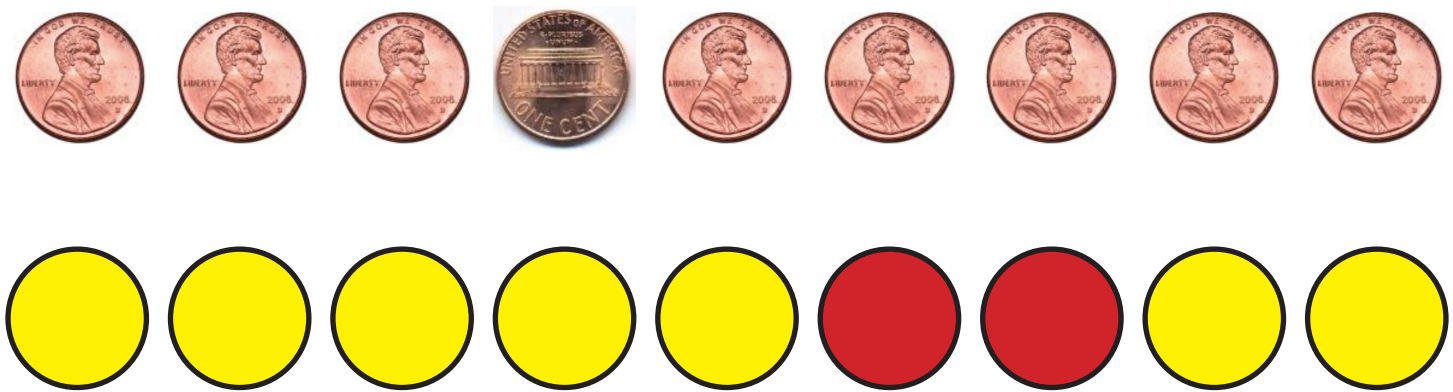
The game ends when all the dots are crossed out. The player who crosses out the last dot *wins*.



## Notes:

1. If you have coins or two-color counters, you can play the same game by starting with 9 coins or counters with the same side face-up (e.g. heads or yellow). Players take turns flipping these over using the same rules as the original game. The player who flips over the last one *wins*.

Example of Rule 1 using Pennies and Two-Color Counters



2. There's nothing special about the number 9. Try playing this game with more or fewer dots.