

Taipei Help Index

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To learn how to use Help, choose Using Help from the Help menu, or press F1.

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How to Play

This section contains information about how to play Taipei.

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Overview

Taipei is a modern, solitaire version of the ancient oriental game, Mah-Jongg. The game begins with an initial configuration of [tiles](#). The object of the game is to remove all the tiles from the playing area.

Winning a game is much like solving an intricate puzzle. One false move at the beginning could ruin your chances at victory. And, while every game has a solution, finding it often takes hours of diligent play.

Related Topics

- ◆ [Playing the Game](#)
- ◆ [Rules of the Game](#)
- ◆ [Strategy and Hints](#)

Playing the Game

The object of Taipei is to remove all the [tiles](#) from the playing area. The following section explains how to play the game.

To Choose a Board Layout:

- From the Options menu, choose Layout. You have a choice of seven board layouts.

To Start a New Game:

- From the Game menu, choose New, or press F2.

To Start a Specific Game:

- 1 From the Game menu, choose Select Game.
- 2 Type the number of the game you want to play, and choose OK.

Note: Every game of Taipei is numbered, so you can play the same game as often as you like.

To Select a Tile:

- Point to the tile, and click the left mouse button.

Note: Point to the tile again, click the left mouse button, and the tile is no longer selected.

To Remove a Matching Pair of Tiles:

- 1 Select a tile.
- 2 Select a matching tile.
If the matching tile is free, both will disappear.

Note: The pointer changes shape depending on whether a tile is free or not. When a tile is free, the pointer changes to a cross. When a tile is not free, the pointer looks like an arrow.

To Back Up a Move:

- From the Game menu, choose Backup, or press the BACKSPACE key.

To Start the Current Game Over:

- From the Game menu, choose Start Over.

To Receive a Hint:

- From the Game menu, choose Hint, or press H.

To Play Out the Board

- From the Game menu, choose Autoplay and the computer will play out the board, removing pairs of tiles for you.

Related Topics

- ◆ [Rules of the Game](#)
- ◆ [Overview](#)

Rules of the Game

Taipei Rules:

- The game begins with an initial tile configuration. The object of the game is to remove all the tiles.
- A tile is considered free in any of the following cases:
- There is no stack of tiles immediately to the right of the tile.
- There is no stack of tiles immediately to the left of the tile.
- The stack of tiles immediately to the right of the tile is lower than the tile's stack.
- The stack of tiles immediately to the left of the tile is lower than the tile's stack.

Note: The pointer changes shape depending on whether a tile is free or not. When a tile is free, the pointer changes to a cross. When a tile is not free, the pointer looks like an arrow.

- ➔ Two tiles match if they have the same pattern. There are two exceptions to this rule: the Season tiles and the Flower tiles. Any Season tile matches with any other Season tile, and any Flower tile matches with any other Flower tile.
- ➔ The only way to remove tiles is to select them in pairs. You can remove any matching pair of free tiles.
- ➔ The game ends when all the tiles have been removed or no pairs of matching free tiles remain.

Related Topics

- ➔ [Playing the Game](#)
- ➔ [Strategy and Hints](#)

Taipei Tiles

The tiles used in Taipei are taken from the ancient game of Mah-Jongg. There are seven categories or "suits" in the Mah-Jongg tile set:



...
The Characters



...
The Dots



...
The Bamboos



The Four Winds



The Seasons





The Flowers



The Dragons

Commands

This section contains information about the menu commands in Taipei.

[Game Menu Commands](#)

[Options Menu Commands](#)

Game Menu Commands

New

Starts a new game of Taipei.

You can start a new game at any time, even in the middle of a game.

Select Game

Displays a dialog box where you can type the number of the specific game you want to play.

Note: Every game of Taipei is numbered, so you can play the same game as often as you like.

Backup

Backs up one move.

You can continue to back up until you reach the initial tile configuration.

Hint

Displays a legal move. The suggested move is briefly highlighted.

Start Over

Resets the current game to its initial tile configuration.

Autoplay

When you choose this command, the computer plays out the board, removing pairs of tiles for you.

Note: You will not be congratulated for winning the game if the last pair of tiles is removed using the Autoplay command.

Exit

Exits Taipei.

You can exit at any time, even in the middle of a game.

Options Menu Commands

Layout

Changes the configuration of the tiles. There are seven tile configurations provided with Taipei:

Standard	The standard tile configuration.
Bridge	An experiment in civil engineering.
Castle	Destroy the castle, and capture the King!
Cube	Rubik never had it this good.
<u>Glyph</u>	The Glyph of Bogosity.
Pyramid	Beware the mummy's curse!
Spiral	An intergalactic virus destroys the cosmos.

Color

Turns color on or off.

Note: You should turn on color only if you have a color monitor.

Messages

Displays an error message when you attempt an invalid move. A check mark beside the command name shows it is active.

The Glyph of Bogosity



A strange and unpredictable rune, which appears unexpectedly in time and space. Although much historical information has been gathered on the glyph, little is known about its origins and even the most erudite magicians have not discovered the source of its power. Legend has it that if anyone reveals the true nature of the arcane glyph the known universe will come to an end.

Excerpted from *Arcane Runes and Symbols* by Mon Hu, University of Ten'Stor (by the Sea).

Keyboard

A mouse is required to play Taipei. However, the following keyboard moves may be useful:

Key[s]	Action
BACKSPACE	Backs up one move
H	Offers a hint
ESC	Minimizes the Taipei window to an icon
F1	Opens the Help Index
F2	Starts a new game
F3	Pauses or resumes a game

Related Topics

- ◆ [Playing the Game](#)
- ◆ [Game Menu Commands](#)

Strategy and Hints

This section contains helpful hints for playing Taipei successfully.

- ◆ Remove the outer tiles as soon as you can. These tiles block more than one tile.
- ◆ If all four tiles in a matching set are free, you should remove all four immediately.
- ◆ Try to work from the outside inward.
- ◆ Remember that the pointer changes shape depending on whether a tile is free or not. When a tile is free the pointer changes to a cross. When a tile is not free, the pointer looks like an arrow.

Related Topics

- ◆ [Playing the Game](#)
- ◆ [Rules of the Game](#)

Season Tiles



The Seasons

Flower Tiles



The Flowers