## Game of the Goose

## Background

The exact origin of the game is uncertain; however, Francesco I de' Medici gave a version of the game to King Philip II of Spain sometime between 1574 and 1587 . It is a board game for two or more players played on a specially designed board with a spiraling line of 63 squares. A pair of dice are also needed as well as tokens representing each player. This game was often played in taverns by commoners as well as in parlors of the wealthy.


## Objective

The first player to reach the last square (square 63) wins.

## Winning

The player most land exactly on space 63. If the player throws too many, the piece counts the extra points backwards. If that causes the player to land on a goose space, the piece continues moving the same amount backwards. The player who lands exactly on Space 63 wins.

## Before the Game Begins

The order of players is determined by whatever means desired and a token is given to each player. All tokens remain off the board.

## Betting

The game may be played without betting; however, if gambling is desired, a pre-determined amount of money is designated to value one chip. Each player places 4 chips into the pot before the game begins. Any player who lands on a special square with a picture on it must place one chip into the pot. If a player lands on another player's piece, both pay one chip to the pot. The winner of the game takes the pot.

## Play

Each player tolls the dice and moves their token the number of squares shown on the dice.

* On the player's first throw:
$>$ If it is a 6 \& 3, the player moves to space 26.
$>$ If it is a $4 \& 5$, the player moves to space 53.
* If the roll causes a player's piece to land on another player, the other player's piece is moved back to where the first player's piece was.
* If a piece lands on a square with a picture of a goose, it moves forward the same amount.
* If it lands on another goose, it moves the same amount again.
* If it lands on a special space, do the following:
$>$ Space 6 - The Bridge - Go to space 12
$>$ Space 19 - The Hotel - Stay and miss one turn
$>$ Space 31 - The Well - Fall in and wait until someone else Iands on that space to pull you out - then they take your place in the well
$>$ Space 42 - The Maze - Go back to space 39
$>$ Space 52 - The Prison - Wait until someone else lands on that space to take your place
$>$ Space 58 - Death - Return to the beginning of the game

