

## MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES



*Mexican Train is a popular domino game played with a double-twelve set. The objective is to be the first player to get rid of all your dominoes by playing them on your personal "train" or the shared "Mexican train" that starts from a central hub. Points are scored by the pips on dominoes left in a player's hand, and a round ends when a player has no dominoes left.*

### **How to play**

- **The setup:** *Players use a set of double-twelve dominoes and a centre hub, often with markers to indicate whose train is open.*
- **Starting the game:** *A central "engine" domino is placed on the hub, and players draw their initial hand of dominoes. The first round starts with the double-twelve, with subsequent rounds starting with the next highest double.*
- **Playing your turn:**
  - *On your turn, you can play a domino to your personal train or the public Mexican train by matching the number of pips on the last tile.*
  - *You can play as many dominoes as you can on your very first turn.*
  - *After the first turn, you typically play only one domino unless it's a double, which gives you another turn.*
- **The Mexican train:** *This is a public "train" that anyone can play on at any time after it's started.*
- **Marking your train:** *If you cannot play a domino, you place a marker on your train, which opens it up for other players to play on.*
- **Winning a round:** *The first player to play all their dominoes wins the round. All other players add up the spots on the dominoes remaining in their hands. The winner of the match is the player with the lowest score at the end of a series of rounds.*

*This video explains how to play Mexican Train Dominoes with two players:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxeIR8HCSYI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSo4GucICbE>

### **Key features**

- **Strategic gameplay:** *The game is strategic, as you can play on your own train, the public Mexican train, or another player's open train to try and empty your hand first.*
- **Educational value:** *It's a fun and easy-to-learn game suitable for children and adults.*
- **Adaptable:** *The game can be played with two to eight players simultaneously.*
- **Variety:** *Different variations exist, with some including a special hub with sounds to add to the fun.*