

Four Seasons Chess

Players 4

Length 10–180 minutes

Equipment one standard piecepack

Version 1.0 (2019-05-18)

Description

Four seasons chess is an old 4 player chess variant recorded in the *Acedrex de Los Quatros Tiempos*.

Setup

Four season chess is played on an 8-by-8 board made with the backs of 16 tiles. Give each player all 8 game pieces of the same suit: 1 king (piecepack pawn), 1 horse (ace-valued coin), 1 alfil (null-valued coin), 1 rook (3-valued piecepack die or pawn saucer), and 4 pawns (remaining 4 coins face down). Place the pieces as in Figure 1. Ownership of a piece is indicated by orientation (and suit). To promote a pawn to a general flip it over. Since we use the null/ace for alfil/horse (both “leaping” pieces) this means that any number-valued coin must be a general.

External Links

- boardgamegeek.com/boardgame/104556
- www.chessvariants.com/historic.dir/4seiz.html
- www.cyclingstan.com/game/348

Credits

Game design: Traditional, adapted by Trevor L. Davis

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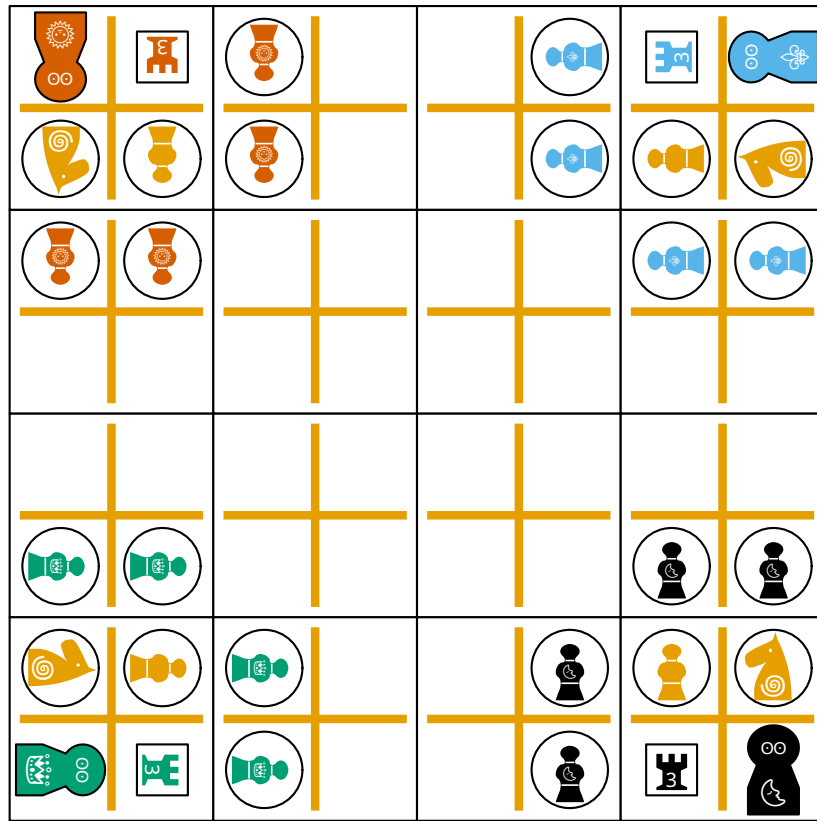


Figure 1: Four seasons chess starting diagram