

How to Play **ROBOGOYO**

The game involves a series of interconnected rings and a free oval piece. We start the game with the oval piece being separate from the interconnected rings. The objective of the game is to “lock” the oval piece through all the rings. The following write up will help players understand the rules of locking.

The rings are interconnected with one last ring standing free. This can be numbered 1 and the other rings in order can be numbered 2, 3, 4 etc for our understanding. We have 8 rings in our game, but there could be games with higher or lower number of rings.

Ring 1 can be locked and unlocked at any given point of time in the game.

Any higher numbered ring can be locked or unlocked if the previous ring is locked and all lower numbered rings are unlocked. For example, to lock ring #5, we need to have ring #4 locked and all lower rings (#1, #2, #3) unlocked. As another example, if rings #6 and #7 are locked while #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5 are unlocked, and then at this point, #7 ring can be unlocked.

The puzzle moves through a specific sequence of locking and unlocking, and the challenge is for the player to understand this sequence and use it correctly till all the rings are locked.

The uniqueness of the game is that for each additional ring that need to be locked, the number of movements (locking or unlocking) doubles. So depending on the number of rings, the number of movements needed to lock all the rings will be as shown below.

Number of Rings	Number of movements needed to lock all rings
1	1
2	2
3	5
4	10
5	21
6	42
7	85
8	170
9	341
10	682

There is also another fascinating aspect to the game, which is that at any given point in the game, the player has only two possible movements that can be made. This means that the player will have to make exactly the right movement in each of the steps to finish the puzzle in the shortest possible manner. Any mistake during the game will cause the player to take more number of steps as the wrong steps have to be retracted before the player can continue on the right sequence of moves.

Once all rings are in locked position, the same sequence has to be reversed to make the oval piece free.

Happy puzzle solving 😊