

Traditional Hungarian Folk Games

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1. Ring Throwing

A wooden cross with vertical rods in the middle and at the end is placed on the ground. The throwing line is marked.

The player gets 5 rings, these should be thrown onto the rods of the cross.

The rods are worth different points.

The winner is the player who has collected the most points.







2. Puli Run

This is a competition of speed.

There are two puli dog toys made of yarn. (A puli is a special Hungarian herding dog.) A wooden handle is connected to each yarn puli with twine.

The players have to roll the twine onto the handles with two hands.

The winner is the player whose puli arrives at the goal (the end of the carpet) sooner.





3. Horse Shoe Holding

Two players have to hold rods with their stretched out arms.

Horse shoes will be placed onto the rods one by one.

There are 5 horse shoes altogether for each player.

The winner is the one who can hold the most horse shoes for the longest time.







4. Flying beanbags

At the far end of a seesaw there is a basket with a beanbag.

If the player stands on the near end of the seesaw, this beanbag will fly up.

The player should catch it with a "catcher".

The game can be made more difficult if the player uses two beanbags and two catchers, as the bags will fly into different directions.





5. Buzzer

The toy named buzzer is widely used in the whole Hungarian language area.

You take it by the two ends and spin it until the string gets twisted.

When pulled apart, the piece of wood start spinning.

While it spins outwards, the string is pulled, at which point the momentum will carry it over and once again it gets rolled up, then is released.







6. Waist Pulling

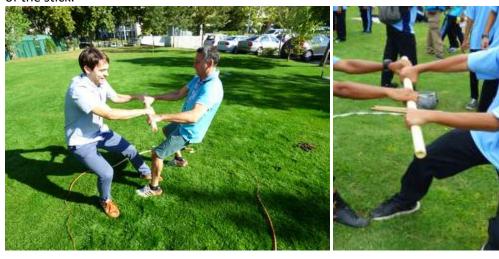
In the middle of a circle, two players are facing each other. A strong sling is placed around the two of them. At a signal, the competitors try to pull each other out of the circle with the help of the sling without touching it.



7. Pulling the Stick

This game was a typical derring-do game for boys in the countryside.

The two contestants stand facing each other in a circle, while holding onto a stick held horizontally. At a signal they have to try to pull the opponent out of the circle without letting go of the stick.





8. Hungarian Whip Cracking

Hungary has a lively pastoral culture on the Great Plain where the horsemen, "csikósok", crack their whips over herds of galloping horses.





9. Nine men's morris / the mill game

Strategy board game for two players. Each player has nine pieces (or "men") usually coloured black and white. Players try to form 'mills'—three of their own men lined horizontally or vertically—allowing a player to remove an opponent's man from the game. A player wins by reducing the opponent to two pieces (where he could no longer form mills and thus be unable to win), or by leaving him without a legal move.





10. Wooden skittles

Played by two people against each other. The point of the game is to push the wooden ball, which bypasses the standing skittles on the base, and the return ball has to hit the skittles and knock out the most. After the knock, you have to catch the ball and don't let it go to the center again.

You can play it in two ways:

- 1. You have one or two shots and you have to knock out the most. The winner is who could knock more skittles.
- 2. You have to knock out all skittles. The winner is who could knock them out by less shots.





11. Chicken beat

With a wood stick you have to hit the chicken into the basket.





12. Folkball

This game could be played by six players against each other. With your huge wooden spoon you have to push the ball across the enemies holes and keep three holes on your side.



13. Woodenfishing

In a water filled tub there are many fishes. The players have to fish out all of them. There are two fisher and the winner is who could fish out more fish at the end.

