

PROTOTYPE ALERT! - GAME MAY CONTAIN FATAL FLAWS!

Feel free to comment in this document or email jp@toomuchgames.co.uk with any thoughts you have.

Welcome to Cheyss!

A short, asymmetrical game that can be played in 20 minutes with a few pieces from any chess set.

Cheyss is a quick game that borrows from chess. So if you hate chess, you won't like Cheyss. That said, it's much quicker and has far fewer rules! One thing to note: While White has a huge numerical advantage, *Black has a dragon!*

The Pieces

Use a subset of pieces from a normal chess set to play. The new names are an homage to Cyvasse.

Chess Piece Name	Cheyss Piece Name	Cheyss Piece Capability	No. of Pieces (Black player)	No. of Pieces (White player)
Pawn	Spearman	Moves one space orthogonally or diagonally. <i>May only take pieces diagonally.</i>	2	8
Knight	Light Horse	Moves up to three spaces orthogonally. <i>May only take pieces orthogonally.</i>	1	2
Bishop	Heavy Horse	Moves up to two spaces orthogonally or diagonally. <i>May take pieces orthogonally or diagonally.</i>	1	2
Castle	Castle	May not move. <i>May not capture pieces.</i>	2	0
Queen	Dragon	May move up to four spaces orthogonally or diagonally. <i>May take pieces orthogonally or diagonally.</i> If a player's Dragon is destroyed, that player loses. <i>The Dragon also does a special thing (see below)</i>	1	0
King	King	May move one space orthogonally or diagonally. <i>May take pieces orthogonally or diagonally.</i> If a player's King is destroyed, that player loses.	1	1
		TOTAL	8	13

Playing the Game

Play like in chess, your moves take place alternately.

1. To set up, put a divider in the middle of the board and set up in secret, any way you like. For a first game, I suggest setting up as below (see 'Setup').
2. White goes first.
3. **Special Dragon Rule:** If, at the start of any Black turn, the dragon can destroy the White King (**and only the King**) in *two* moves from their current location, they may take those two moves and win the game. An example is shown below, entitled 'Death by Dragon'.

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Setup

This is a suggested setup for playing your first game. It avoids some rookie errors that might spoil the fun.

DRAGON							
	HEAVY HORSE						
	CASTLE				SPEARMAN	SPEARMAN	
KING	SPEARMAN			SPEARMAN	LIGHT HORSE		
LIGHT HORSE	SPEARMAN			HEAVY HORSE	SPEARMAN		
	CASTLE			SPEARMAN	LIGHT HORSE		
				HEAVY HORSE	SPEARMAN	KING	
				SPEARMAN	SPEARMAN		

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Death By Dragon

It is Black's turn. If they make the following move, they will win.

HEAVY HORSE	CASTLE	DRAGON			SPEARMAN	SPEARMAN	
KING	SPEARMAN		⚔	SPEARMAN	LIGHT HORSE		
	SPEARMAN		HEAVY HORSE	⚔	SPEARMAN		
LIGHT HORSE	CASTLE	SPEARMAN			DRAGON DESTROYS LT. HORSE	⇒	DRAGON DESTROYS KING
				HEAVY HORSE	SPEARMAN		
				SPEARMAN	SPEARMAN		

Yes. The dragon is very powerful. It's a useful tool to teach people how to think ahead. I PROMISE that it can be beaten, and it's so satisfying when you do!

I hope you enjoy this game!

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Hints and Tips

1. If playing against a new player, it is normally a good idea to allow the novice to play black - it's a nicer introduction to the game.

Known Issues

This is an unordered list of problems and possible solutions thrown up by the current ruleset.

1. Effective stalemate resulting from defensive play. *(possibly give black a certain number of turns with which to kill the king, or suggest a brutally set chess clock app?)*
2. Possibly need to better explain 'special dragon rule'. *(awaiting feedback)*
3. ~~Instant destruction of new players due to poor setup. *(SOLVED: have a suggested setup)*~~
4. ~~Boring, predictable endgame resulting from destruction of Black's dragon. *(SOLVED: make death of dragon a game ending event)*~~

Wait, wasn't this called Dragon Chess?

I've recently discovered 'Dragon Chess' is a game created by the creator of Dungeons and Dragons, which requires new pieces and a new board - and is also copyrighted. So I've changed the name!