



# Latrones

Latrones, which means *Bandits* in Latin was a popular Roman board game which soldiers stationed on the Antonine Wall may have enjoyed.

It's easy to recreate yourself – you need a standard chess board and sixteen identical pieces for each of two players. You could use beads or buttons or you can print off the set below and play a paper version, using the rules set out below.

Archaeologists have unearthed versions of this kind of games at sites all over the Roman world. It's likely that visitors to the bath house at Bothwellhaugh would have relaxed with a game like Latrones with their friends.

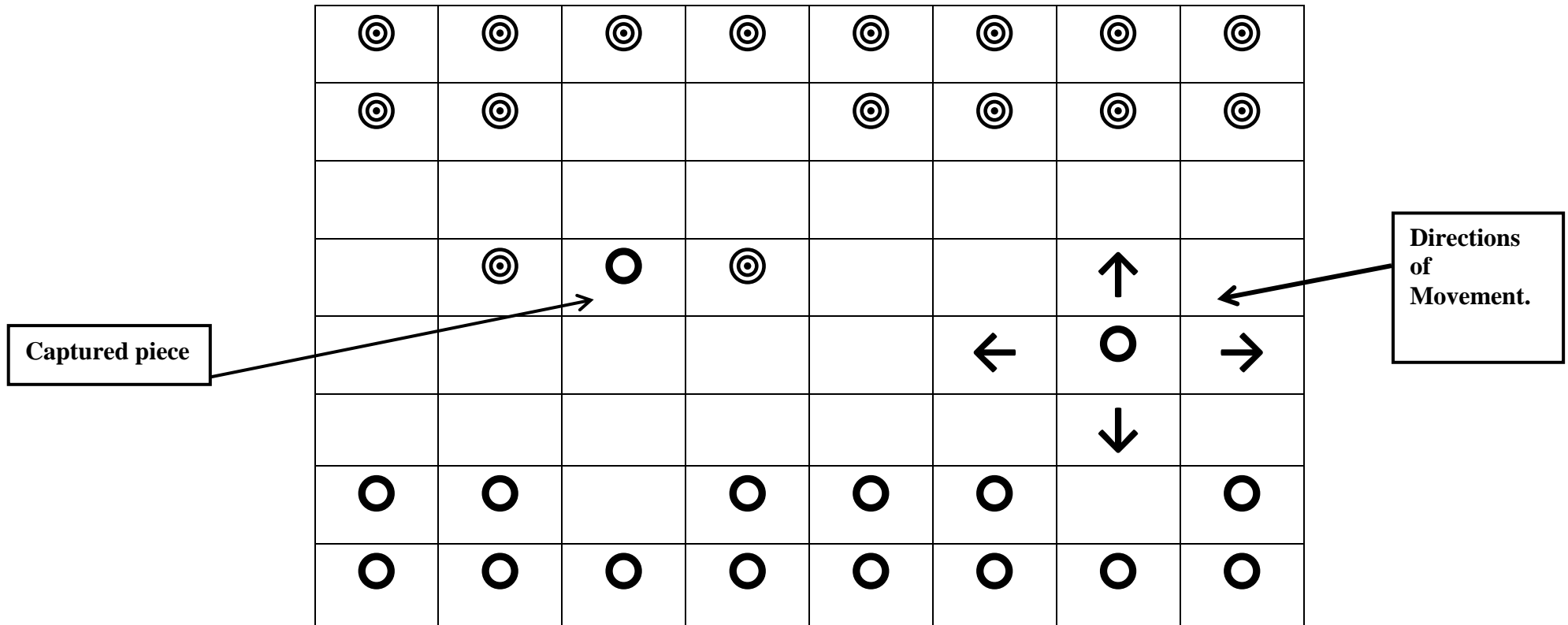
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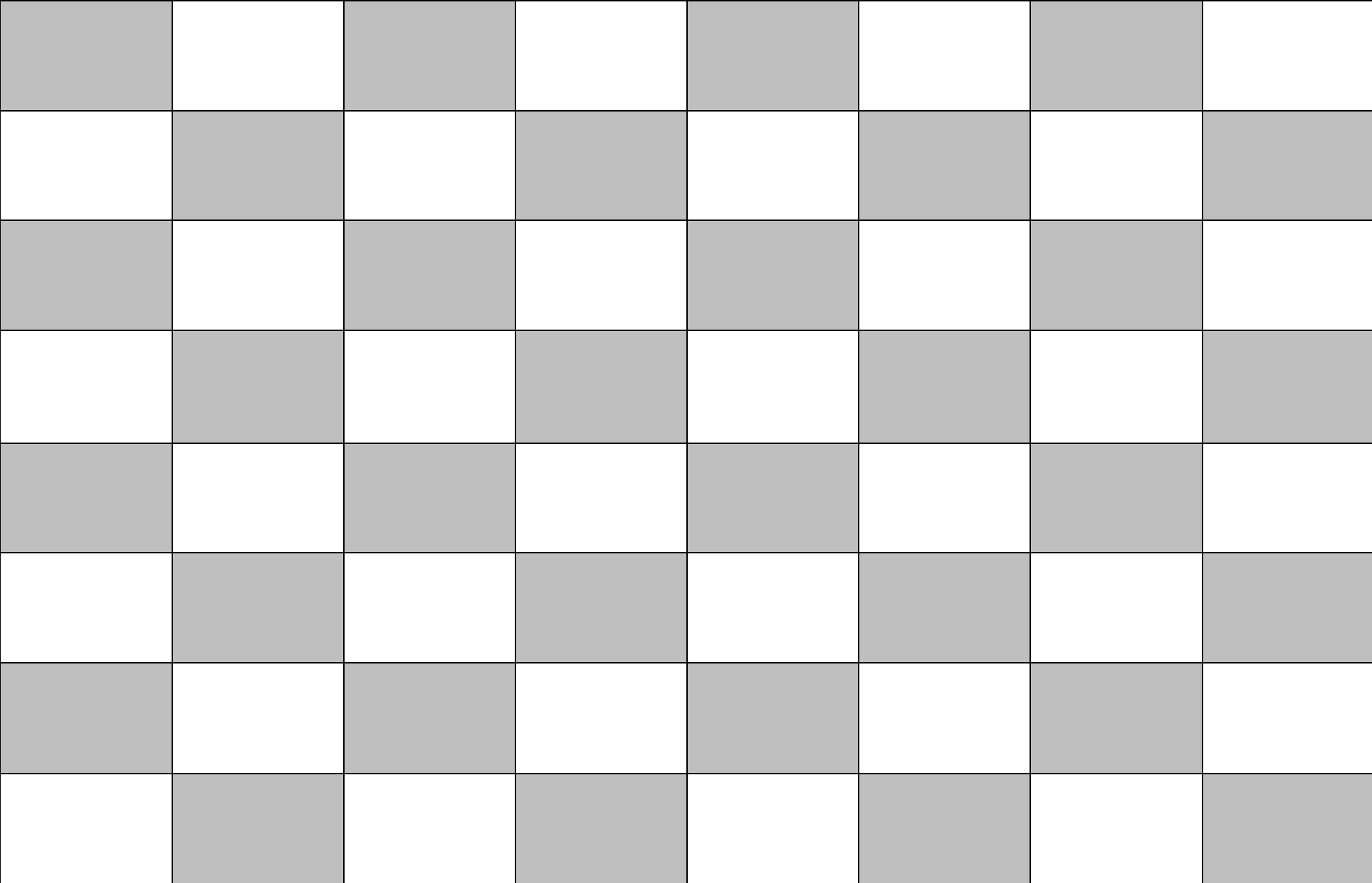


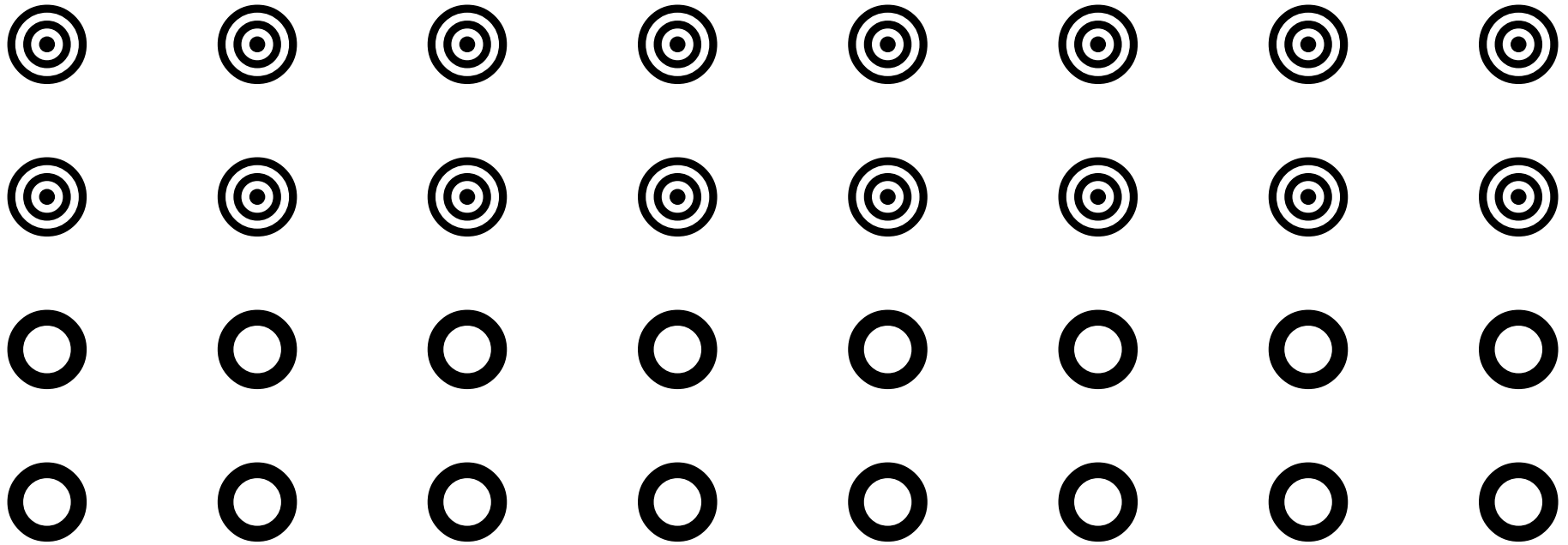
## Brigands (*latrones*)

Many different versions of this game were played, with different numbers of pieces and squares. These rules are from the Museum Quintana of Archaeology, in Künzing, Germany.

1. Two players have sixteen pieces each, which are arranged in two rows facing each other. The goal of the game is to capture all of the opponent's pieces.
2. The pieces move horizontally or vertically any unobstructed distance.
3. A piece is captured when it is caught between two opposing pieces on adjacent squares in a rank or file. The captured piece is removed from the board. Victory is by capturing more pieces than one's opponent, or by hemming in the opponent's pieces so that movement is impossible.







Cut out the board and all 32 pieces. Why not glue everything to pieces of card to make them sturdier?