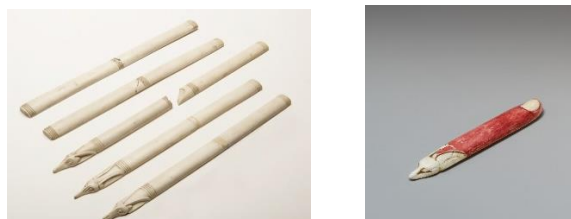


An Ancient Egyptian Yahtzee!

We'll confess – the Ancient Egyptians did not, in fact, play Yahtzee. There weren't any dice, to begin with. Instead, they moved the pieces of their board games using knucklebones (a bone from the back leg of a sheep or goat) or game sticks.

Since not everybody butchers their own sheep, let's have a closer look at the game sticks.

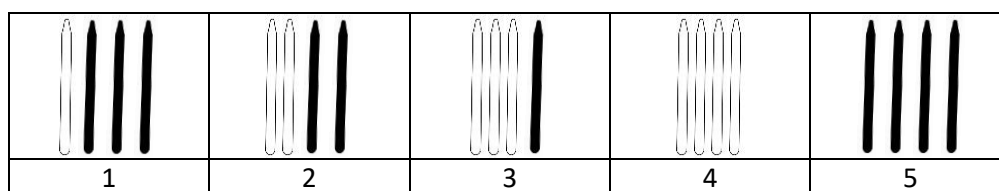
A set of game sticks is made up of 4 sticks. Each of them is decorated on only one side; the other is flat and plain. One of the most common decorations is a jackal or fox head on one end and a human fingernail on the other. Other sticks are decorated with lines or circles.



Game sticks (left: Manchester Museum; right: Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)

The sticks are thrown and their decorated sides counted.

Thus:



(When all the plain sides are visible, as in the last picture, it counts as a 5.)

Now, this isn't exactly what you expect for a game of Yahtzee. But that hardly matters, since the Ancient Egyptians didn't play Yahtzee so we need to make up our own rules anyway.

So how do you make your own Ancient Egyptian Yahtzee?

The good news is: you have to eat a lot of ice cream – specifically, ice lollies, as you are going to need 4 popsicle sticks.




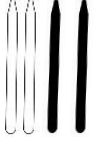


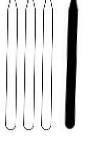
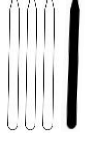

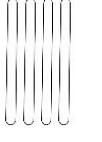
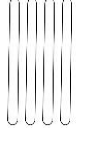
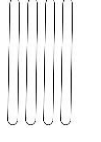





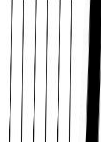
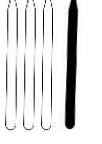
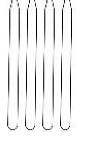


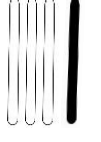

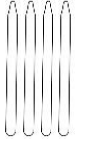

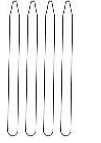
Take them and decorate them on one side. You can colour on both sides if you want, but then you have to make sure that each of the sticks looks the same on one side – this will be your “underside”.

Then gather up one or more people to play with, print out one table for each player and you're set!

On their turn, each player can throw the sticks 3 times. On the first throw, players throw all the sticks, after that, they can throw as many as they want. The order of the throws is unimportant – in other words, you have a “Small Straight” even if the 1st throw was a “3”, the second a “1” and the third a “2”.

The first to tick off all the combinations has won.

An Ancient Egyptian Yahtzee!

Ancient Egyptian Yahtzee				
	1st throw	2nd throw	3rd throw	checkbox
1s				
2s				
3s				
4s				
5s				
Small Straight				
Large Straight				
„Hop“				
„Salad“	Egal	Egal	Egal	
Full House				
Yahtzee	