

CROQUET

Can only be played well on a level piece of ground. A good croquet ground should be close turf, the grass cut short, the moss killed out and the ground well rolled. If it be a permanent place there should be a shallow ditch around it, to prevent the balls from straying. The size of the ground must of course depend upon the space which can be allowed for the purpose.

Sixty feet by thirty is a large ground, which may be much smaller without detracting from the real enjoyment of the game.

There are two styles of game, the nine arch and ten arch. The plan with nine arches is probably the best known and most popular, as it does not give so great an advantage to the player who leads as does the other method. The stakes are marked with the eight colors found on the balls and mallets. The colors act as a guide to the players, and are arranged alternately for the two sides as follows :

- 1.—Red,
- 3.—Green,
- 5.—Black,
- 7.—Orange,

- 2.—Blue,
- 4.—Yellow,
- 6.—Brown,
- 8.—Pink.