



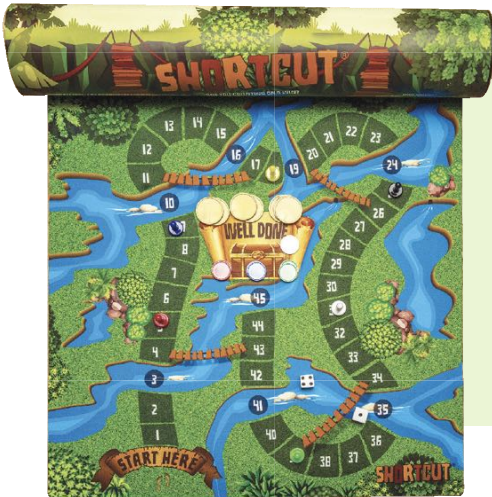
# SHORTCUT<sup>®</sup>

## ARE YOU COUNTING ON A WIN?

Shortcut is a Math board game developed by a teacher in Brisbane, Australia. Suitable for grades Prep and up this game makes subtraction, addition, division and multiplication FUN!

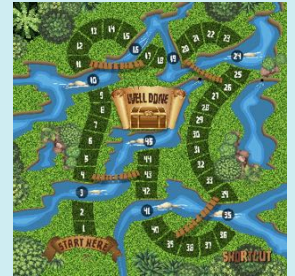


Shortcut is a fun numeracy game that will boost maths skills and create a positive learning environment that brings the whole family together. Shortcut creates opportunities to have positive conversations around numeracy problems, build confidence with number relationships, strengthen focus, and build foundational math skills. Over time, this game has the potential to strengthen neurological pathways and exercise the brain to a point where solutions to basic number facts are recalled immediately. Imagine the self-confidence that can be gained with mathematics while having fun and engaging with friends and family.



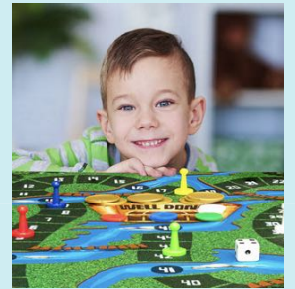
### WHAT COMES WITH YOUR SHORTCUT GAME

- Scroll Hard Box
- Flexible and Washable Game Mat
- 6 Coloured Markers
- 12 Coloured Tokens
- 12 Gold Coins
- 2 Dice
- Instructions



### Flexible Game Mat

This is a durable and washable game mat perfect for classroom environments.



### Learning Disguised as FUN

This game has been created to make math fundamentals fun and engaging.



**Just the Beginning**  
Shortcut Games is dedicated to creating innovative educational games.

**1**  
**READY**  
Discover the game  
Shortcut

**2**  
**GET SET**  
Purchase direct OR  
from one of our  
suppliers.

**3**  
**GO**  
Play, Win, Learn!

# Playing Shortcut

You will find the Game Play instructions inside your Shortcut scroll but let's look at a few things before you buy your game. Shortcut has been made on a flexible and washable material so you no longer have to worry about your board games getting bent, ripped or damaged by any accidental spills.

The objective of this treasure hunt is to take your token from the start all the way to the Treasure Chest! Footbridges make great 'Shortcuts' but be careful of the rapids that will sweep you backwards. With each roll of the dice you will uncover two numbers. This is where the game gets exciting! You can choose to add, subtract, multiply or divide the numbers to decide your next move but remember, the largest number you can make is not always the best option. Let's have a look at an example.

Roll 6 and 2. These are the options:

- a.  $6+2 = 8$
- b.  $6-2 = 4$
- c.  $6 \times 2 = 12$
- d.  $6/2 = 3$

Now, look at the board and decide which is the best option. From Start the best option is to use subtraction because on the board, number 4 is a footbridge that leads straight to 43! Yay, the treasure is only three spaces away.

Land on the treasure chest and collect a coloured token that matches your piece. Remember to roll the exact number needed to reach the Treasure Chest. Now, the game starts again. Reach the Treasure Chest a second time and win a second coloured token. Reach the Treasure Chest a third time and win a gold coin. The coloured tokens go back to the middle of the board and you play on until you have won three gold coins. The winner of three gold coins is the overall Shortcut champion. Of course, there are variations to the way the game may be played.

- a. **Players may decide to use only addition and subtraction throughout the game.**
- b. **Throw a two and square the other number instead of doubling.**
- c. **Throw a three and cube the other number.**
- d. **Use a third dice to make things more interesting.**

Now, go forth and have a fantastic time playing, learning, and having fun.

**Remember the biggest number is not always the best option.**



## Where Shortcut came from

Tested by teachers and homeschool parents, loved by children of all ages.

My name is Gene Graham. I am an inventor and the owner of Shortcut Games; a business established to create educational board games for the development and enhancement of foundational numeracy skills.

In 2007, I was in my second year of study of a Bachelor of Education. At the time, I was looking for a tastier alternative to noodles and coffee to drag me through those exam cram sessions and assignment preparation. I began tutoring school children in Maths and English to earn some extra cash. It was during one of these sessions that I discovered that a particular young person found it difficult to grasp basic number facts. This was holding him back from developing his mathematics skills. So, I quickly drew up a game board on the back of an old manilla folder, much like Snakes and Ladders. I handed him two dice to throw and asked him to multiply the numbers that turned up. Sometimes, I would ask him to add, subtract, etc. The result of the operation was the number of spaces he could move along the track. The object of the game was to be the first to reach the end of the track (he beat me on his first go). I could see his enthusiasm build as the session went on. He became more excited about winning the game than learning his number facts (he was doing both). Earlier in the session, I explained to him that there were no shortcuts to learning mathematics. As it turned out, there was. Over the next few weeks his parents reported significant improvements in his maths scores at school. So, the game of Shortcut was born.

The vision of Shortcut Games is to see our board games used as much as a teaching and learning tool as a calculator or a set of times tables.

