





# Four-in-a-Line

For the Nokia Series60 platform

Manual & User Guide

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# Introduction

# Welcome to Four-in-a-Line

Four-in-a-Line is a game for two people playing in opposition. The board consists of 6 rows and 7 columns. Players take turns dropping coloured pieces into a column of their choice. The piece falls vertically such that it occupies the first available row in the selected column.

The object of the game is to be the first player to form a line of four connected pieces of the same colour. A winning line can be vertical, horizontal or diagonal.

The game of Four-in-a-Line is deceptively simple yet full of intricacy and this version from ZingMagic Limited allows players of all abilities to enjoy a challenging and stimulating game, including playing against each other using different phones.

#### **About this Document**

This User Guide is intended for use with devices based on the Series 60 platform, including the Nokia 7650 and Nokia 3650. It explains how to use the Four-in-a-Line application and, in so doing, it assumes that the reader is familiar with the standard features of their device.

#### Installation

Installation of Four-in-a-Line requires the user to be familiar with their Series 60 device, software and the Windows PC environment. Please consult the User Guide that was supplied with your device for more information.

To transfer Four-in-a-Line onto your Series 60 device, send the "Fial.sis" file from your PC to the device via Bluetooth or Infrared.

To install Four-in-a-Line on your Series 60 device, follow the onscreen instructions. Once installed, launch the application by navigating to the resulting icon within the main Menu section, and opening it.

Four-in-a-Line can be removed from your Series 60 device in the same way as standard applications.

# **Using Four-in-a-Line**

This chapter describes the main features of the Four-in-a-Line application and how they are used to play and display the game.

# **Rules of the Game**

The object of the game is to be the first player to form a line of four connected pieces of the same colour. A winning line can be vertical, horizontal or diagonal.

# Running Four-in-a-Line

When you first run Four-in-a-Line, a title screen is displayed briefly and a new game called "My first game" is automatically created. By default this game pits you (playing White) against a computer opponent (Black) set at beginner level.

Four-in-a-Line offers two main views:

- 1. "Game list view" for managing games
- "Board view" for making moves



Selma 00:00:08

Game list view

**Board view** 

# **Making moves**

# **Current Player**

A cursor highlights the name of the player whose turn it is to move and a clock next to that Player's name starts to run. When it is the turn of a human player, a cursor also appears on the Four-in-a-Line board. Moves alternate between players with the computer opponent taking its turn automatically.

# Using the Joystick

It's only possible to toggle between the columns that you are allowed to place a piece. Use the joystick to move to the column in which you wish to place a piece and depress the joystick.

# **Suggested Moves**

When it is the turn of a human player you can ask the computer to suggest a move by selecting the Hint menu option. Four-in-a-Line will then demonstrate the suggested move by flashing a piece on the proposed square. If you wish to play the suggested move, select the Play hint menu option.

### **Forced Moves**

With more advanced levels, computer opponents may take some time to make its move. To force the computer to stop thinking and to make the best move it has found so far, select the Move now menu option.

#### **Last Move**

If you missed the last move, or would simply like to see it again, select the Show last move menu option.

# **Reviewing a Game**

# **Taking Back Moves**

If you wish to undo a move, select the **Review game** menu option. A "Game paused" message is briefly displayed. Select **Undo** to undo your latest move. Select **Undo all** if you would like to undo all moves made since the start of the game. To continue the game, select End review menu option. You are now given the option of resuming the game from the Displayed position, i.e. from after all the undone moves, or from the After all moves position, i.e. from the board position before any moves were undone.

#### **Moving Forwards**

If you wish to take forward moves once they have been undone, select Redo. Select Redo **all** if you would like to take all moves to the last point in the game.

#### **Using the Joystick**

Once in review mode, it is possible to use the joystick rather than the menus. Move the joystick left to undo one move, right to redo one move, up undoes all moves and down redoes all moves. The right selection key exits the review mode, leaving the game in a "After all moves" state.

# Winning the Game

The game ends when one player forms a line of four connected pieces of the same colour. A "Game over" message is displayed, stating who has won.

# **Next Game**

You can start a new game, keeping the current opponent and settings by selecting the **Next** game menu option in the Board view. If the current game is not complete you will be asked to

confirm that you wish to resign from playing the current game. You should note that if you are playing against an SMS opponent you are only be able to select **Next game** when it is your turn to move.

# **New Game**

You can start a new game with a different opponent or different settings at any time by selecting the **New game** menu option in the Game list view.

When a new game is created you will be asked to name the game, select piece colour, choose opponent and if you wish to play via SMS or locally against a player or the Al. Then select the Start game menu option to commence the game.

# **Managing Games and Players**

Four-in-a-Line allows you to store multiple games on your Series 60 device. Manage your games from the "Game list view".

# **Opening a Saved Game**

To re-open a saved game, highlight the game you wish to open and depress the joystick.

# **Deleting a Game**

To delete a game that you no longer wish to keep, highlight the game you wish to delete and choose the Delete game menu option. A warning message is displayed asking you whether you wish to delete the game. Confirm that you wish to delete the game by pressing Yes. To cancel, and save the game, select No. If you choose Yes and the game was over SMS, a message will be sent to the remote player informing them that you no longer wish to participate in the game.

#### **Game Details**

To display game specific information (name of game, date of creation, players), select the Game details menu option.

#### **Plavers**

To create a new player, select the Players menu option followed by New player. You are then asked to name that player and to add a mobile number for SMS game play.

To view player specific information (name of player, human / computer, playing level), highlight the player and select the **Player details** menu option. To remove a player, select the **Delete player** menu option.

# Changing board and piece sets

Four-in-a-Line supports a plug-in architecture allowing additional board and piece sets to be used. The 'Classic' board and piece set is shipped with the product. Additional board and piece sets will become available. You should check the www.zingmagic.com or www.cascatagames.com web sites regularly for further information and availability.

# **SMS Play Overview**

Four-in-a-Line allows you to play a game against other Series 60 users via SMS. It will also allow you to play via SMS against ZingMagic's Four-in-a-Line application found on the Symbian UIQ devices such as the Sony Ericsson P800.

To start your first SMS game you need to take the following steps:

#### 1. Set up a SMS opponent

To create a player against whom you are able to play a SMS game, select the Players menu option followed by New player menu option. Enter a name by which you would like to refer to the player. The player details for the new player will be displayed. To play against this player over SMS Four-in-a-Line needs to know the phone number of the player. Move the highlight to the line containing a contacts icon. This line is initially blank. Chose the 'Change' option

There are two ways of adding a mobile phone number for a player:

- a) Link from "Contacts": If the mobile phone number of the player already exists in the "Contacts" application, Four-in-a-Line will allow you to link directly to it. Simply select "Yes" when prompted if you wish to select the number from Contacts. Four-in-a-Line will now list all entries in the Contacts application that include a mobile phone number. Highlight the person you wish to link to and select the Link to menu option.
- b) Enter number manually: If you prefer to enter the phone number manually, select "No" when prompted to link to "Contacts", and then enter the desired phone number.



Choose change to add a phone number

#### 2. Set Listen for new game preference

To accept new game requests sent by an opponent you need to tell Four-in-a-Line your preferred **Listen for new game** options. The following options are available:

- **Never listen:** your device will never listen for new game requests
- 5 min: your device will listen for new game requests for the next 5 minutes
- 30 min: your device will listen for new game requests for the next 30 minutes
- Always listen: your device will always listen for new game requests

There is no need to activate the **Listen for new game** preference if you are initiating a new game or to continue games already in progress (or indeed for new games that are started by selecting Next game).

If you do not want to play Four-in-a-Line via SMS at all, you should select the **Never listen** option. All new game requests from other SMS opponents will then stay in the general SMS Inbox, and you can delete them at any time.







"Listen for" preferences

#### 3. Create a new game against an SMS opponent

To create a new game, go to the "Game list view" and select **New game** from the Four-in-a-Line menu. You will be asked to name the game, select piece colour (white or black), choose opponent (from the players list) and how you wish to play (locally on the device or if you have chosen to play against an opponent with SMS capacity, that opponents' mobile phone number).

Once you have opted to play a game via SMS, and you have selected your opponent, a game request will be sent to that opponent's mobile phone via SMS. Your opponent should ensure they have set up their Listen for new game preferences to allow the application to accept the SMS message that you send.

#### 4. Accept/reject/ignore a new game

When a remote opponent initiates a game you are presented with the option to:

- **Accept**: the new game. An SMS is sent to the opponent confirming you wish to play.
- Reject: the new game. You can choose whether an SMS is sent to the opponent informing them that you do not wish to play against them.

## 5. Play!

After the game has been initiated simply make moves as you would normally do when playing against a local computer opponent. All moves are automatically sent to the opponent via SMS. The moves are automatically displayed on the opponents' board. No SMS messages are sent without a user interaction.

Since all moves are sent as standard SMS you may incur a charge from your network operator. You are at all times responsible for this cost. Check with your local operator for pricing details.

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