



Croquet

Croquet is a lawn game, either played for fun or as a competitive sport. It is NOT to be confused with cricket!

Croquet is quite a complicated game, as people tend to play in pairs and each pair uses a different coloured ball. The aim is to get your ball through lots of different hoops spread out across a lawn or playing field. You use a 'mallet' (rather like a T-shaped stick) to hit the balls through the hoops.



Croquet has featured in many paintings and novels, perhaps the most famous being Lewis Carroll's 'Alice in Wonderland', in which Alice plays a very strange version of the game where the mallets are flamingos and the ball is a hedgehog!



It is thought that croquet came from France to England during the reign of Charles II and was originally called 'paille-maille'. It was so popular that the famous walk 'Pall Mall' in London is named after the game!