Chess Rules Cheat Sheet: One-Page Printable Guide

Rank	What stands there
1 (White)	R N B Q K B N R, file a to h
2 (White)	Eight pawns
3 to 6	Empty
7 (Black)	Eight pawns
8 (Black)	R N B Q K B N R, mirroring White

Piece	Moves	Captures	Value
King	1 square, any direction	Same as it moves	Protect it
Queen	Any distance: straight or diagonal	Same as it moves	9
Rook	Any distance: along a rank or file	Same as it moves	5
Bishop	Any distance: diagonal	Same as it moves	3
Knight	L-shape: 2 squares one way, 1 across; jumps over pieces	Same as it moves	3
Pawn	1 forward; 2 forward from its start rank if both squares are empty	1 square diagonally forward	1

Move	The rule
Castling: pieces	King and that rook have never moved, and the rook was not captured at home
Castling: squares	Squares between them are empty: f and g kingside; b, c and d queenside
Castling: safety	The king is not in check, and does not pass over or land on an attacked square
Castling: notation	O-O kingside, O-O-O queenside
En passant: when	An enemy pawn has just advanced two squares and stands beside yours
En passant: how	Capture it diagonally, as if it had moved one square; only on the very next move
Promotion	A pawn reaching the last rank must become a queen, rook, bishop or knight; by pushing or by capturing

Ending	Result	Condition
Checkmate	Win for the mating side	No legal move and the king is in check
Resignation	Win for the other side	A player resigns; it cannot be undone
Time out	Win for the side with time left	Your clock hits zero and your opponent could still mate
Time out, no mate possible	Draw	Your clock hits zero but your opponent cannot possibly mate
Stalemate	Draw	No legal move and the king is not in check
Threefold repetition	Draw	Same position three times (same side to move, castling and en passant options); automatic here
Fifty-move rule	Draw	100 half-moves with no capture and no pawn move; automatic here
Insufficient material	Draw	K v K; K+N v K; K+B v K; K+B v K+B with bishops on the same colour
Agreement	Draw	One side offers, the other accepts