

Every player starts with 1000 points. When someone wins a game, they gain points, and when they lose a game, they lose points. The amount of points won or lost depends on how many points your opponent has, so if you beat someone who is rated much higher than you, you'll get many points, whereas if you lose to someone rated higher than you, you won't lose a lot of points. See Table 1 below for exactly how many points will be won and lost based on the difference in rating!

Point Difference	Point Gain / Loss			
	If Higher Rated Player Wins		If Higher Rated Player Loses	
	Winner Gains	Loser Loses	Winner Gains	Loser Loses
0 to 19	10	10	10	10
20 to 39	9	9	11	11
40 to 59	8	8	12	12
60 to 79	7	7	13	13
80 to 99	6	6	14	14
100 to 119	5	5	15	15
120 to 139	4	4	16	16
140 to 159	3	3	17	17
160 to 179	2	2	18	18
180 or more	1	1	19	19

Table 1: Table describing points won or lost, and by whom, based on the point difference of two hypothetical players for the ladder system.

Example #1: Example #3: A player with a 1020 rating is playing another player with a 1039 rating. The lower rated player wins. The loser will lose 10 points, and the winner will win 10 points.

Example #2: A player with a 1201 rating is playing another player with a 980 rating. The higher rated player wins. The loser will lose 1 point, and the winner will win 1 point. There's little risk if you play a higher rated player and lose.

Example #3: A player with a 1120 rating is playing another player with a 1010 rating. The lower rated player wins. The loser will lose 15 points, and the winner will win 15 points. You can move up the ladder quickly if you beat players who are more highly rated, and do so consistently.

Example #4: A player with a 750 rating is playing another player with a 1150 rating. The higher rated player wins. The loser will lose 1 point, and the winner will win 1 point. Trying to 'farm' points just doesn't work!

Test Yourself #1: If you have a rating of 1220 and play a player with a rating of 1640, how many points would you gain if you win? How many would you lose if you lose? (Answer on bottom of page 2)

Test Yourself #2: Two players with 1620 rating play each other. How many points does the winner win, and how many points does the loser lose? (Answer on bottom of page 2)

Test Yourself #3: If you only played people ranked 180 or more points lower than you, how many wins would it take to get 20 more points? If you played another game after that, and lost, what would be your total point gain over all of the games you played? (Answer on bottom of page 2)

Answer to Test Yourself #1: If you win, you will gain 19 points. If you lose, you will lose 1 point. If you're a good player who just joined the ladder, you can move up to your true rating very quickly.

Answer to Test Yourself #2: The winner will win 10 points, and the loser will lose 10 points. If you're at the top, the only way to move up fast is to play and beat people who are around the same rank as you.

Answer to Test Yourself #3: It would take 20 wins to get 20 more points! Your total point gain of the day would be 1, for a total of 21 games, since you gained 20 points total from the first 20 games, but lost 19 points in your 21st game. Trying to farm points just doesn't pay!