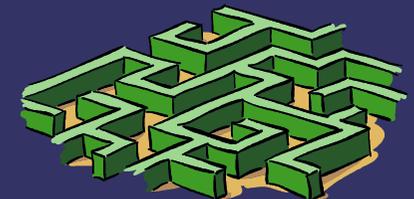


# *Wood chopping*

This rural sport more commonly known as aizkolaritza, from the Basque word for a wood-cutter. This is a very popular sport today but its origins are to be found in the rural wood cutting and charcoal burning communities of earlier periods.

In this competition, the wood cutter has to chop through a number of tree trunks arranged on the ground in rows as quickly as possible while standing on the log to beat his competitors.



## *Dragging games*

This sport translates as Human-animal tests and is a collective term for a number of sports in which humans and animals are involved in dragging heavy weights. There are four main categories:

Giza probak (human tests) where people attempt to drag a heavy weight, usually a large rock, across a certain distance

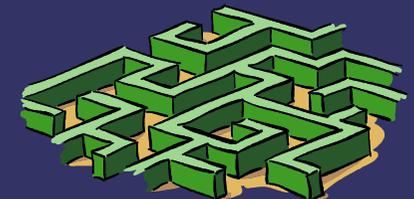
Zaldi probak (horse tests) - same as giza probak but with horses

Idi probak (oxen tests) - same as giza probak but with oxen

Asto probak (donkey tests) - same as giza probak but with donkeys

These normally take place on specially built trial grounds. The aim is to cover a certain distance within a given time or to cover as many circuits as possible.

The idi probak are by far the most popular in this category.

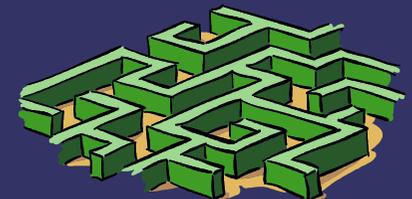


## *Stone lifting*

The lifting of stones is one of the most widely known Basque rural sports outside the Basque Country, largely thanks to the prowess of Iñaki Perurena, a harrijasotzaile (stone-lifter) from Leitza, in Navarre, the first on record to lift stone over 300 kg.

There are usually two stone-lifters competing in each event, taking turns in one or several attempts, to perform the greatest possible number of lifts.

The four types of stone most frequently used are rectangular, cylindrical, spherical and square. The stones are traditionally made of granite, their weight normally ranging from 100 kg to 212 kg.



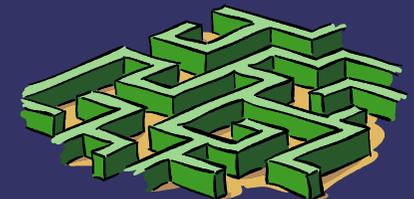
# Hole drilling

- The rock boring competition involves having to punch holes into a rock. Teams of three compete against each other. They take turns in using a long metal pole (called laztabin) to punch and drill a hole into a large rock upon which they are standing, pouring water onto the working area while the third person gets to rest.
- This tradition goes back to the quarrying activities around the Basque Country, in particular in Biscay. In Spanish it is called barrenadores "drillers" and occasionally barrenatzaileak (drillers, from the Spanish word) in Basque as well.



## *Anvil lifting*

The lifting of anvils requires competitors to lift an iron anvil or ingude weighing 18 kg 30 cm above the height of their own head as many times as possible in a set time period. The anvil has the shape of an obtuse triangle with a stump at one point or an elongated T and is traditionally used in shoeing horses. Champions manage some 80 lifts in 2 minutes.



## *Ahari topeka:Ram Fighting*

- ➔ In this sport rams fight 1 vs 1. In this fight they have to hit each other with their horns. To win in this sport one ram has to kill the other ram or one ram has to surrender.

