

BLACKJACK

GAMING GUIDE



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The object of the game is to have the total point value of the cards dealt to the player exceed the total of the dealer's hand without going over 21. When the player draws cards totaling more than 21, the hand "breaks" and automatically loses.

The dealer starts the game by dealing two cards face up to each player. The dealer takes one card face up and the second card face down, the "hole card," and places it underneath his or her up card. Each card assumes the value of the card shown (e.g. 4 of clubs equals 4 points; kings, queens, jacks, and tens equal 10 points). Aces count either 1 or 11, whichever the player chooses.

If the player feels additional cards are needed to beat the dealer, the player will give a gesture indicating he/she would like an additional card and will take additional cards until breaking or giving the gesture indicating he/she would like to stand pat with that particular hand. Decisions to hit or stand are indicated with a hand signal. Accepted signals are a side to side motion to stand and a sweeping motion toward oneself to take an additional card. After all players have completed play on their hands, the dealer will turn his/her hole card face up and complete his/her hand.

The dealer will draw additional cards on any point total of 16 or less, but will stand on any total of 17 through 21 unless the point total is 17 and is comprised of a hand where an ace is used as eleven. This is called a "soft 17" and the dealer must draw additional cards to this hand.

After drawing, if the dealer's hand exceeds 21 he/she has broken and all players with live hands win. If a player or dealer's first two cards equal 21 that is called a blackjack and the player's winning blackjack hand is paid at a rate of 3/2 unless the dealer also has a blackjack, in which case the hand is a push (tie). If the player's point total is

higher than the dealer's point total, the winning hand will be paid 1/1.

A player's first two cards may be split if the point values of each card are equal. Splitting is done by placing an equal amount of chips next to the original wager. The player will then act upon each hand as a separate hand according to the rules. A hand may be split up to three times for a total of four hands. If the split pair is aces, the player will only receive one card each split hand.

A player may double down on the first two cards he/she is dealt. The player may place a double down wager for any amount up to the original amount bet. When doubling down, the player will receive only one additional card.

Decisions to split and double down are expressed by a hand signal. The dealer is the only one allowed to touch the cards.

If the dealer's up card is an ace, the player may bet up to half his/her original bet that the dealer has blackjack. This is called an Insurance Bet.

Winning Insurance bets pay 2/1.

Players may play up to, but not more than, three hands. However, if playing two hands, 2x the table minimum is required on both hands. If playing three hands, a player is required to wager 5x the table minimum on all hands.

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