



Blackjack

Blackjack or "21" is the most popular of all casino games. It is fun to play and easy to learn. Blackjack is played with six to eight decks of standard playing cards, dealt from a "shoe". The game of Blackjack has one dealer and can accommodate up to seven players.



Object of the Game

In Blackjack, the object is to beat the dealer. Each player is dealt two cards face up and the dealer is dealt one card face up. All face cards count as ten, and Aces count as one or eleven, whichever is chosen. All other cards are played as face value. The object of the game is to accumulate cards with a total as close to 21 as possible, without going over 21, or "busting".

Additional cards are called "hits" and the player can take as many as desired until a satisfactory hand is obtained or the player goes "bust". After all players have completed play on their hands, the dealer completes his / her hand. The dealer will draw on any point total of 16 or less. In other words, the dealer must draw additional cards until a hand of 17 or more is reached.

If a dealer's point count exceeds 21, he / she "busts" and all players whose point count is 21 or less, win. If the dealer does not bust, he / she compares their hand to the total of each player's hand, takes the bets on those that are less and pays the bets on those that are higher than his/hers. When the player's total is the same as the dealer's, they "push" and their wager is not taken or paid. All winning bets are paid even money, (one to one).

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If the player's cards total 21— any Ace with any Ten, Jack, Queen or King — they have Blackjack. If both the player and the dealer have a Blackjack, it is a standoff or push. A Blackjack (two cards point total of 21) beats a multiple-card point total of 21. A winning Blackjack is paid 3 to 2 (1 1/2 times the original bet).

Splitting Pairs

Players may split any two cards of the same value into two hands. The bet on the second hand must be equal to the original bet. Each hand must be completed individually and in turn. A hand may be split as many times as the player would like. If the split pair are Aces, they may only be split up to three times. They receive only one card per Ace. (Maximum of four hands.)

Doubling Down

Players may “double down” on the first two cards of the original hand or the first two cards of any split hand. Players may increase their bet by any amount, up to the value of the original bet. Players are limited to drawing only one additional card on a double down hand.

Insurance

If the dealer's face up card is an Ace, players may elect to take insurance. The insurance bet is a wager that the dealer has Blackjack. In other words, the player is betting the dealer's second card will be a ten count card. Players may bet any amount — up to half of their original bet — on insurance. Insurance bets pay 2 to 1 if the dealer has Blackjack and the bet is forfeited if he / she does not. Players may elect to take insurance if they have Blackjack. In which case they would automatically get paid even money.

Requesting Hits

Players should indicate their decision to hit or stand with hand signals. The accepted signals are a side to side motion to stand or a sweeping motion to take a hit. Decisions to split pairs, double down or take insurance should be indicated verbally. The dealer is the only one permitted to touch the cards at any time.

BET WITH YOUR HEAD NOT OVER IT!

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