

When the two cards that you have been given to start play are of the same value (3s, 4s, 5s etc.) you can “split” the pair and play each of them as individual hands. If you wish, after the split you can also “double down” on the first two cards of each hand. However, you may not do this when you are “splitting” a pair of Aces. You can split up to four times. On split hands you must bet the same amount as your original bet.

Be aware that the Dealer has no choice in the way he plays his hand. He must continue to “hit” until he reaches 17 or more. If he reaches exactly 17 or more he must “stand” (stop drawing cards). For example if he is showing a 10, 6 (16) he must hit. If he gets an Ace on his next card, he is required to stop. If, however he drew a 4 instead of the Ace, he would have a total of 20 (10, 6, 4).

When the total of your first two cards is 21, this is known as “Blackjack” or “Natural” 21. Obviously that means the only way to achieve this is with an Ace (counting as 11) and either a 10, Jack, Queen or King (counting as 10). A winning Blackjack pays 3 to 2 (if you bet \$10 you would win \$15) and beats any Dealer hand except for a Dealer Blackjack. If the Dealer gets “Blackjack” you tie or “push.”



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## HOW TO PLAY

# BLACKJACK



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## About Blackjack

Blackjack is exciting, easy to play and one of the most popular of casino games. It is also called 21. You don't have to worry about the hands of the other Players because you are playing only against the Dealer. The object of the game is to draw as many cards as you need to reach a total of 21 points or as close to 21 as you can get without going over.

## How to Play

The value of your hand is based on the total points in your hand. Each card has an assigned point value.

## Card Values:

Ace counts as either 1 or 11.

A 10, Jack, Queen or King counts as 10.

Cards 2-9 count as shown on the card (2 is valued at 2, 7 is valued at 7, etc.).

For example, when you are holding a hand with a 5, 7 and 9 you have a total of 21. If you are holding a Jack and a 6, your total is 16.

Please note that when you play you don't have to specify the value of the Ace because it should always have the value that makes the best hand. Let's say you begin with an Ace, 5. That would give you either a total of 6 (1 and 5), counting the Ace as a 1, or 16 if you counted the Ace as 11 (11 and 5). If you choose to draw again and get another 5, you now have 21, if you count the Ace as 11 (11, 5, 5).

But let's say instead of the 5, you drew a 10. If you had continued to count the Ace as 11 you would have 26 (11, 5, 10) which would put your total over 21. Counting the Ace as 1 gives you again, a total of 16 (1, 5, 10).

You win when your total is closer to 21 than the Dealer's.

You lose if your total is more than 21.

It is a tie when you and the Dealer have the same total.

## The Language of Blackjack

When you ask the Dealer for a card it is known as a "hit." Exceeding the total of 21 is referred to as "busting."

If you look at your cards and feel you can win by "hitting" one more time, you are allowed, if you wish, to double your original bet. However, if you do this you may not draw any more cards. This is called "Doubling Down."

When you and the Dealer are tied with the same total, neither hand wins. This is called a "push."

If you wish to have a non-verbal way of communicating with the Dealer whenever you want to "hit" (draw a card) or "stand" (don't want any more cards), you can establish "hand signals." This may vary among casinos so before you begin to play ask your Dealer to be certain you are using the correct hand signals.

(OVER, PLEASE)