

# Blackjack

2-7 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Medium

Beat the dealer by getting a hand value closest to 21 without going over.

## SETUP

- Use one or more standard 52-card decks shuffled together.
- Each player and the dealer receive two cards.
- Dealer gets one card face-up and one face-down.

## SCORING

- Number cards are face value, face cards are 10, Ace is 1 or 11.
- Blackjack (Ace + 10-value card) is the best hand.
- Busting (exceeding 21) means an automatic loss.

*Tip: Always stand on 17 or higher and hit on 11 or lower for basic strategy.*

## ON YOUR TURN

- Hit (draw a card) or stand (keep current hand).
- Optionally split pairs or double down.
- Dealer reveals hole card and hits until reaching 17 or higher.

Blackjack is a thrilling card game played in casinos and homes worldwide. The goal is to beat the dealer by having a hand value closest to 21 without exceeding it. Combining luck and strategy, Blackjack offers an exciting gaming experience for players of all skill levels.

## Players

2 or more

## Card Deck

One or more standard 52-card decks

## Objective

Beat the dealer by having a hand value closer to 21 without going over.

## Blackjack Hand Values

- **Number Cards (2-10):** Face value
- **Face Cards (Jack, Queen, King):** 10 points each
- **Ace:** 1 or 11 points, depending on the player's choice

## Setup

1. Use one or more decks shuffled together.
2. Each player and the dealer receive two cards.

## Gameplay

1. **Initial Deal:** Players are dealt two cards, and the dealer gets one face-up and one face-down (hole card).
2. **Player Turns:** Players decide to hit (draw a card) or stand (keep current hand) in an attempt to get closer to 21 without busting.
3. **Dealer's Turn:** The dealer reveals the hole card and hits until reaching 17 or higher.
4. **Winning:** The player with a hand value closer to 21 than the dealer without busting wins.

## Advanced Moves

1. **Splitting Pairs:** If a player's initial two cards are of the same rank, they can split them into two separate hands by placing an additional bet equal to their original wager. Each hand is then played separately.
2. **Doubling Down:** A player can double their original bet after receiving their initial two cards, with the condition that they must take exactly one additional card. Typically advantageous when the hand total is 9, 10, or 11.
3. **Insurance:** A side bet offered when the dealer's upcard is an Ace. The player can bet up to half of their original wager. If the dealer has Blackjack, insurance pays 2:1. Generally considered a poor strategic choice.

## Betting

- Players place bets before the initial deal to determine the size of the pot.
- Additional bets can be made during certain gameplay actions, such as splitting pairs or doubling down.

## Variations

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Different regions and casinos may have variations in rules, such as the number of decks used or specific house rules.

## Tips and Strategies

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- Learn basic strategy to maximize your chances of winning.
- Pay attention to the dealer's upcard to make informed decisions.
- Practice card counting to gain an edge in the game.
- Manage your bankroll wisely to avoid excessive losses.

## Etiquette

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- Follow table etiquette and respect the dealer and other players.
- Avoid touching your chips once bets are placed to prevent disputes.
- Refrain from making excessive noise or distractions at the table.

## Conclusion

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Blackjack offers an exhilarating blend of luck and strategy, making it a favorite among casino-goers worldwide. By understanding the rules and employing effective strategies, players can enhance their chances of success and enjoy the excitement of this classic card game.

### Tips & Strategy

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Master basic strategy to optimize your chances. Knowing when to hit, stand, double down, or split is crucial for success.

Balancing risk and reward is key in Blackjack. Understanding when to take calculated risks can significantly improve your chances of success.