

Bohemian Schneider

2 players

32 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Short

Capture more than half of the 120 available card points through tricks.

SETUP

- Use a 32-card deck (7 through Ace) with 2 players.
- Deal all 16 cards to each player.
- The last card dealt determines the trump suit.

SCORING

- Aces: 11, Tens: 10, Kings: 4, Queens: 3, Jacks: 2.
- 120 total points per round; 61+ wins.
- Capturing all 120 points earns a schneider (double win).

Tip: Lead strong trumps early to strip your opponent of trump before contesting high-value tricks.

ON YOUR TURN

- Follow suit if possible; if not, play trump; otherwise play any card.
- The highest trump or highest card of the led suit wins.
- Play all 16 tricks until both hands are empty.

Bohemian Schneider is a traditional Czech two-player card game where each player tries to capture the majority of card points through tricks. Its elegant simplicity and compact format make it an ideal head-to-head game for a standard deck.

Objective

Capture more than half the available card points through trick-taking. A player who captures all tricks achieves a 'schneider,' earning double the reward for that round.

Setup

1. **Players:** 2 players.
2. **Deck:** 32-card deck (7 through Ace in each suit).
3. **Deal:** Each player receives 16 cards, dealt in batches.
4. **Trump:** The suit of the last card dealt becomes trump.

Gameplay

1. **Leading:** The non-dealer leads the first trick.
2. **Following suit:** Players must follow suit if possible. If unable, they must play trump if they have one. Otherwise, they may play any card.
3. **Winning tricks:** The highest trump card wins. Without trump, the highest card of the led suit takes the trick.
4. **Playing all cards:** Both players play all 16 of their cards across the round's 16 tricks.

Scoring

- **Aces:** 11 points each.
- **Tens:** 10 points each.
- **Kings:** 4 points each.
- **Queens:** 3 points each.
- **Jacks:** 2 points each.
- **Total points available:** 120 per round.
- **Schneider bonus:** Capturing all 120 points earns a double game win.

Tips and Strategies

- With only two players and all cards in play, card counting is both feasible and essential.
- Lead with strong trumps early to strip your opponent of their trump cards.
- Keep track of which high-value aces and tens remain to plan your endgame approach.

Tips & Strategy

Since all 32 cards are dealt between two players, you can deduce your opponent's entire hand by tracking what has been played. This makes memory the most powerful weapon.

The opening tricks set the tone. Establishing trump dominance early forces your opponent into defensive play, giving you control over which tricks contain the most valuable cards.