

Canfield Solitaire

1 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Short

Build four foundation piles up by suit from a starting card, wrapping King to Ace as needed.

SETUP

- Deal 13 cards face-down as the reserve; flip the top card face-up.
- Deal 1 card to start the first foundation; all foundations must start at this rank.
- Deal 4 face-up cards as the tableau.

SCORING

- Win by completing all four foundation piles.
- Empty tableau spots auto-fill from the reserve, then from the stock.

Tip: Prioritize emptying the reserve pile above all else; every reserve card played is progress toward winning.

ON YOUR TURN

- Build foundations up by suit, wrapping King to Ace if needed.
- Build tableau columns descending in alternating colors; move groups freely.
- Play the top reserve card whenever possible.
- Draw 3 cards from the stock; play the top one.

Canfield is a fast-paced solitaire game originally created as a gambling game in a 19th-century casino. Players build foundation piles from a starting card while managing a reserve pile and a small tableau.

Objective

Build four foundation piles, each starting from the initial foundation card and wrapping from King to Ace as needed, building up by suit.

Setup

- Players:** 1 player.
- Deck:** Standard 52-card deck.
- Reserve:** Deal 13 cards face-down with the top card face-up. This is the reserve pile.
- Foundation:** Deal 1 card face-up to start the first foundation. All foundations must start with this rank.
- Tableau:** Deal 4 cards face-up in a row.
- Stock:** Remaining cards drawn 3 at a time.

Gameplay

- Building Foundations:** Build up by suit from the foundation card, wrapping King → Ace if needed.
- Tableau Building:** Build descending, alternating colors. Move groups of sequenced cards.
- Reserve:** Play the top reserve card whenever possible. The reserve cannot be refilled.
- Stock:** Draw 3 cards at a time, playing the top one.
- Empty Tableau Spots:** Automatically filled from the reserve (or stock if reserve is empty).

Tips and Strategies

- Emptying the reserve is the key to winning — prioritize playing reserve cards.
- The wrapping mechanic (King → Ace → 2) takes getting used to but opens more possibilities.
- Keep track of which foundation ranks you need so you can plan tableau builds accordingly.

Tips & Strategy

The reserve pile is your nemesis and your key to victory. Every reserve card you play brings you closer to winning. Tableau management is secondary to reserve clearance. If a move does not help clear the reserve (directly or indirectly), question whether it is worth making.