

# Driekaarten

2-8 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: Short

Have the highest-ranked three-card hand at the showdown to win the pot.

## SETUP

- Use a standard 52-card deck for 2-8 players.
- Each player places an equal ante into the pot.
- Deal exactly 3 cards face-down to each player.

## SCORING

- Trail (three of a kind) is the highest hand.
- Then: straight flush, straight, flush, pair, high card.
- Highest-ranked hand wins the entire pot.

*Tip: A modest pair wins more often than you think with only three cards; do not fold pairs lightly.*

## ON YOUR TURN

- View your three cards privately.
- Fold (lose your ante), call (match the bet), or raise.
- After betting concludes, remaining players reveal hands.

*Driekaarten, meaning 'three cards' in Dutch, is a fast and simple gambling-style card game where each player receives just three cards and bets on having the best hand. Its rapid pace and straightforward ranking system make it a popular quick game in Dutch social settings.*

## Objective

Have the highest-ranked three-card hand at the showdown to win the pot. Players can fold or raise before the reveal.

## Setup

1. **Players:** 2 to 8 players.
2. **Deck:** Standard 52-card deck.
3. **Deal:** Deal exactly 3 cards face-down to each player.
4. **Ante:** Each player places an equal ante into the pot before cards are dealt.

## Gameplay

1. **Viewing cards:** Players look at their three cards privately.
2. **Betting round:** Starting left of the dealer, each player may fold (losing their ante), call (matching the current bet), or raise (increasing the bet for all remaining players).
3. **Showdown:** After the betting round concludes, remaining players reveal their hands. The highest-ranked hand wins the pot.

## Hand Rankings

- **Trail (Three of a kind):** Three cards of the same rank. Highest possible hand.
- **Straight flush:** Three consecutive cards of the same suit.
- **Straight:** Three consecutive cards of different suits.
- **Flush:** Three cards of the same suit, not consecutive.
- **Pair:** Two cards of the same rank.
- **High card:** Ranked by the highest individual card if no other combination is present.

## Variations

- **Blind Driekaarten:** Players bet without looking at their cards, adding a pure bluffing element.
- **Progressive Driekaarten:** Multiple betting rounds with community cards revealed between them.

## Tips and Strategies

- Fold weak hands early to minimize losses. Only call or raise with pairs or better.
- Bluffing is effective in small groups where opponents cannot afford to call frequently.
- With only three cards, hand values change rapidly — even a modest pair is often a winning hand.

## Tips & Strategy

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With only three cards, hand probabilities are very different from five-card poker. Pairs occur more frequently and are often enough to win, so do not undervalue them.

Position matters enormously in Driekaarten. Acting last gives you information about who folded and who raised, allowing more accurate decisions about calling or folding.