

Golf Solitaire

1 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: Short

Clear as many cards as possible from the tableau by playing them to the waste pile.

SETUP

- Deal 7 columns of 5 overlapping face-up cards (35 cards total).
- Remaining 17 cards form the stock.
- Draw the first stock card to start the waste pile.

SCORING

- Each remaining tableau card counts as one stroke.
- Par is typically 4 remaining cards; clearing all is 4 under par.

Tip: Look for long chains before drawing from the stock; choose the direction that extends the chain furthest.

ON YOUR TURN

- Play any exposed tableau card that is one rank higher or lower than the waste pile top.
- Chain multiple ascending/descending plays in sequence.
- Draw the next stock card when no plays are available.
- In strict Golf, Kings are dead ends and do not wrap to Aces.

Golf Solitaire is a quick patience game where you clear a tableau of 35 cards by playing them to a waste pile one rank higher or lower. The 'golf' theme comes from trying to finish 'under par' — with as few uncleared cards as possible.

Objective

Clear as many cards as possible from the 7-column tableau by playing them to the waste pile in ascending or descending rank.

Setup

1. **Players:** 1 player.
2. **Deck:** Standard 52-card deck.
3. **Tableau:** 7 columns of 5 overlapping face-up cards (35 cards total).
4. **Stock:** Remaining 17 cards face-down.
5. **Waste:** Draw the first stock card to start the waste pile.

Gameplay

1. **Playing:** Move any exposed tableau card (bottom of column) to the waste pile if it is exactly one rank higher or lower than the current top card.
2. **Wrapping:** Kings and Aces may or may not wrap (rule varies by version). In strict Golf, Kings are dead ends.
3. **Chains:** Build chains of ascending/descending plays for efficient clearing.
4. **Drawing Stock:** When stuck, draw the next stock card to the waste. This becomes the new base for matches.

Tips and Strategies

- Look for long chains before drawing from the stock.
- Expose cards in multiple columns rather than focusing on clearing one column.
- In versions without wrapping, avoid getting stuck on Kings.

Tips & Strategy

Plan chains before committing. A 5 can go to 4 or 6, and choosing the right direction can extend your chain significantly.

When multiple cards are playable, choose the one that exposes the most useful cards in the tableau for future plays.