

Pedro

4 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Medium

Capture enough point cards in tricks to meet your bid; first team to 62 wins.

SETUP

- Use a standard 52-card deck.
- Deal 9 cards each to 4 players in two partnerships.
- Bid from 7 to 14; highest bidder names the trump suit.

SCORING

- Each Pedro (5 of trump and 5 of same color) = 5 points each.
- Ace, 2, Jack, and 10 of trump = 1 point each; total = 14.
- Failing your bid deducts the bid amount from your score.

Tip: Lead high trumps early to flush out opponents' Pedros before they can protect them.

ON YOUR TURN

- Discard non-trump cards and draw back to 6 after trump is named.
- Follow suit if possible; highest trump wins the trick.
- Capture point cards (Ace, 2, Jack, 10, and both 5s) in tricks.

Pedro is an American trick-taking game where players bid on how many of the 14 available points their team can win. Points come from capturing specific cards rather than from winning the most tricks, creating a focused, strategic contest.

Objective

Working with your partner, capture enough point cards in tricks to meet your bid. The first team to reach a target score (usually 62) wins the game.

Setup

1. **Players:** 4 players in two partnerships.
2. **Deck:** Standard 52-card deck.
3. **Deal:** 9 cards each.
4. **Bidding:** Players bid from 7 to 14 on how many points their team will capture. The highest bidder names the trump suit.

Point Cards (in Trump)

1. **High:** Ace of trump = 1 point.
2. **Low:** 2 of trump = 1 point.
3. **Jack:** Jack of trump = 1 point.
4. **Game:** 10 of trump = 1 point.
5. **Five of Trump (Pedro):** 5 points.
6. **Five of Same Color (Off Pedro):** 5 points — this card counts as trump for the hand.
7. **Total Available:** 14 points.

Gameplay

1. **Discarding:** After trump is named, all players discard non-trump cards and draw back to 6 cards.
2. **Trick Play:** The bid winner leads first. Follow suit if possible. Highest trump wins the trick.
3. **Capturing Points:** Point cards are scored by the team that captures them in tricks.

Tips and Strategies

- The two Pedros (5 of trump and 5 of same color) are worth 10 of the 14 points — controlling them is critical.
- Bid conservatively unless you hold a Pedro or multiple high trumps.
- Lead with high trumps early to draw out opponents' trump before they can capture your Pedros.

Tips & Strategy

Protect your Pedros at all costs. If you hold a Pedro, use your other trumps to clear the way before playing it. If opponents hold a Pedro, flush it out with high trumps.

Bidding is where games are won and lost. Overbidding forces your team to capture difficult point cards, while underbidding gives opponents free points.