

Seven Bridge

3-4 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: Short

Empty your hand by forming sets and runs before opponents.

SETUP

- Use one standard 52-card deck.
- Deal 7 cards to each player.
- Flip one card to start the discard pile.

SCORING

- Face cards 10, Aces 1, number cards face value as penalties.
- Bonus for going out all at once or holding all four sevens.

Tip: Hold sevens and aim for the Seven Bridge bonus when possible.

ON YOUR TURN

- Draw from stock or discard pile.
- Lay down sets or runs.
- Discard one card to end your turn.

Seven Bridge is a popular Japanese rummy game where players form melds of sets and runs. The name comes from the bonus awarded for holding all sevens, which acts as a 'bridge' to victory.

Objective

Empty your hand by forming sets and runs before your opponents. Bonus points are awarded for going out quickly or holding special combinations.

Setup

1. **Players:** 3-4 players.
2. **Deck:** One standard 52-card deck.
3. **Deal:** Deal 7 cards to each player. Place the remaining cards as the stock pile and flip one card to start the discard pile.

Gameplay

1. **Step 1:** Draw one card from the stock pile or pick up the top card of the discard pile.
2. **Step 2:** Form melds of sets (three or four of a kind) or runs (three or more consecutive cards of the same suit).
3. **Step 3:** Lay down completed melds and optionally lay off cards onto your own existing melds.
4. **Step 4:** Discard one card to end your turn. The round ends when a player empties their hand or the stock is exhausted.

Scoring

- Players score penalty points for cards left in hand: face cards are 10 points, Aces are 1, and number cards are face value.
- A player who goes out with all cards melded at once (tsumo) receives a bonus. Holding all four sevens earns a special 'Seven Bridge' bonus.

Variations

- **Open Meld Variant:** Players must lay down melds immediately rather than holding them in hand.
- **Point Target:** Play to a set target score (e.g., 100 penalty points) where the player with the fewest penalties wins.

Tips and Strategies

- Try to go out all at once for the bonus rather than laying down melds piecemeal.
- Keep sevens when possible, as collecting all four is extremely rewarding.
- Watch discards carefully to avoid giving opponents the cards they need.

Tips & Strategy

Balance between going out quickly and holding cards for a complete hand or Seven Bridge bonus. Keep track of sevens played by other players.

Going out all at once is risky but highly rewarding. Weigh the bonus against the danger of being caught with a full hand if an opponent goes out first.