

Tripoli

3-7 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Medium

Win the most chips across three phases of play.

SETUP

- Place chips on each board section.
- Deal the full deck plus one extra hand set aside.
- Check your hand for hearts bonus cards.

SCORING

- Collect pools from hearts and poker phases.
- Stops winner gets the Kitty plus one chip per card left in opponents' hands.

Tip: Control the stops phase by leading suits where you hold consecutive cards.

ON YOUR TURN

- Collect hearts pools if you hold the matching cards.
- Compare poker hands for the poker pool.
- Play ascending sequences by suit in the stops phase.

Tripoli is a classic board and card game that combines three phases of play: a hearts collection phase, a poker phase, and a Michigan Rummy stops phase. Players place chips on labeled sections of the board and try to win them through each phase.

Objective

Win the most chips by collecting bonus pools during the hearts phase, winning the poker phase, and playing out cards first during the stops phase.

Setup

1. **Players:** 3 to 7 players.
2. **Deck:** Standard 52-card deck.
3. **Deal:** Each player places chips on the board sections (King of Hearts, Queen of Hearts, Jack of Hearts, 10 of Hearts, Poker, Kitty). Deal the entire deck, including one extra hand that is set aside.

Gameplay

1. **Step 1:** Hearts Phase: Any player holding the Ace, King, Queen, Jack, or 10 of Hearts collects the corresponding chip pool from the board.
2. **Step 2:** Poker Phase: Each player uses their best 5-card poker hand from the cards dealt. The best poker hand wins the poker pool.
3. **Step 3:** Stops Phase: Starting with the player left of the dealer, play cards in ascending sequence by suit. When no one can continue a sequence, the last player to play starts a new sequence with their lowest card in the opposite color.
4. **Step 4:** The first player to play all their cards wins the stops phase and collects one chip per card remaining in each opponent's hand, plus the Kitty pool.

Scoring

- Players collect chips from board pools during the Hearts and Poker phases.
- The stops phase winner collects the Kitty plus one chip per remaining card in opponents' hands. Unclaimed pools carry over to the next round.

Variations

- **No-Poker Tripoli:** Skip the poker phase for a faster two-phase game.
- **Auction Kitty:** Before the stops phase, players may bid chips to swap their hand with the extra dealt hand.

Tips and Strategies

- Pay attention to which hearts bonus cards you hold so you can collect pools immediately.
- In the poker phase, remember you cannot rearrange cards, so evaluate your hand carefully.
- During the stops phase, lead with cards that create sequences only you can continue.

Tips & Strategy

Focus on the stops phase as it usually yields the most chips. Hold onto cards that let you control sequences and block opponents.

Winning the stops phase is often the most profitable. Try to lead sequences you can run long on, and avoid starting sequences that benefit other players.