

Tute

2-4 players

40 cards

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: Short

Win tricks with valuable cards or declare Tute (all 4 Kings or Knights) to win instantly.

SETUP

- 2-4 players use a 40-card Spanish deck.
- Deal cards based on player count.
- Turn a card face up to set the trump suit.

SCORING

- Aces 11, 3s 10, Kings 4, Knights 3, Jacks 2 points.
- Last trick bonus: 10 points.
- King-Knight declarations earn extra points (trump pair is most valuable).

Tip: Lead high trumps early to strip opponents of trump cards before cashing your side-suit winners.

ON YOUR TURN

- Follow suit and beat the highest card if possible; otherwise trump.
- Declare King-Knight pairs for bonus points.
- Holding all 4 Kings or all 4 Knights wins the hand immediately.

Tute is a popular Spanish trick-taking card game played with a 40-card Spanish deck. Known for its accessible rules and lively pace, it is enjoyed throughout Spain and Latin America. The game features a trump suit and special declarations that can swing the outcome dramatically.

Objective

Win tricks containing valuable cards to accumulate points. Reaching the target score or making special declarations (such as Tute) wins the game.

Setup

1. **Players:** 2 to 4 players (partnerships of two for 4 players).
2. **Deck:** A 40-card Spanish deck with ranks Ace, 3, King, Knight, Jack, 7, 6, 5, 4, 2.
3. **Deal:** Each player receives a set number of cards depending on the player count.
4. **Trump:** A card is turned face up to establish the trump suit for the round.

Gameplay

1. **Leading:** The player to the dealer's right leads the first trick.
2. **Following suit:** Players must follow suit and beat the current highest card if possible. If unable to follow, they must play a trump.
3. **Declarations:** Holding a King and Knight of the same suit allows a declaration worth bonus points. A King-Knight in trumps is especially valuable.
4. **Tute declaration:** Holding all four Kings or all four Knights allows a player to declare 'Tute' and win immediately.

Scoring

- **Aces:** 11 points each.
- **3s:** 10 points each.
- **Kings:** 4 points each.
- **Knights:** 3 points each.
- **Jacks:** 2 points each.
- **Last trick bonus:** 10 points for winning the final trick.

Variations

- **Tute Subastado:** Features an auction where players bid for the right to choose trumps.
- **Tute Cabrero:** A three-player variant where each player plays for themselves.

Tips and Strategies

- Always be aware of the possibility of a Tute declaration. Track which Kings and Knights have appeared.
- Lead with high trumps early to strip opponents of their trump cards before cashing side-suit winners.

Tips & Strategy

Keep track of Kings and Knights to anticipate or achieve a Tute declaration. In partnership play, support your partner's strong suits by leading into them.

The obligation to beat the led card when following suit means careful hand management is essential. Save high trumps to capture opponents' most valuable cards.