

# BLACKJACK

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BLACKJACK

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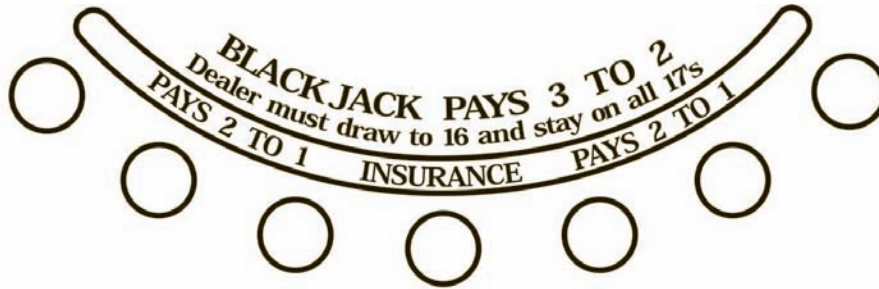
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# BLACKJACK

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**Blackjack** or “21” is the casino’s most popular table game. The rules are simple to learn and the game is easy to play.

## THE OBJECT

In the game of Blackjack, each Player’s wager is a bet against the Dealer’s hand. The object of this card game is to have the total point value of the cards dealt to you exceed the point value of the Dealer’s hand without going over 21. If the Player draws cards that total more than 21, the Player’s hand breaks and they lose.

## THE PLAY

The Dealer starts the game by dealing two cards face up to each Player. The Dealer takes one card face up. The Dealer’s second card is dealt face down and placed beneath the first card. All cards are dealt from a dealing “shoe.” Each card assumes face value.

Kings, Queens, and Jacks count as 10. The Ace value may be chosen to be 1 or 11. For the Dealer, the Ace is also considered as either 1 or 11. If the Player feels they need additional cards to beat the Dealer, the Player should gesture one at a time for additional cards by tapping the table (called “hits”) until the decision to stand is made. The Player must gesture to stand by waving their hand over cards dealt.

The Dealer must draw on any point total of 16 or less and must stand on any point total of 17 or more. If a Dealer’s point total exceeds 21, the Dealer breaks and all Players, who have a point total of 21 or less, win. Otherwise, the Dealer pays all hands that exceed the Dealer’s point total, takes all bets that are less and leaves all bets that equal the Dealer’s point total (called “pushes”). All winning bets are paid one-to-one or “even money.”

## TERMINOLOGY

**BLACKJACK:** If the Player’s two initial cards total 21, that is Blackjack. Blackjack pays 3 to 2. The Player will be paid at this time if the Dealer does not have an Ace or a ten-value card as a face up card. If the Dealer has a ten-value card, the Dealer will check the hole card for an Ace. If the Dealer has Blackjack the hand is a Push. If the Dealer’s face up card is an Ace, insurance will be offered (see insurance) and Players with Blackjack can request even money for their wager.

**SPLITTING PAIRS:** If the Player’s two initial cards have the same numerical value, they may be split into two hands provided the bet on the second hand equals the original bet. Only after the first hand is played and completed, the second hand may be played. The Player may Double Down on these hands. Pairs may be re-split up to two times for a total of three hands. However, if the Pair is Aces, the Player may only split the hand one time and is limited to one additional card per each of the two hands.

**DOUBLING DOWN:** After receiving the two initial cards, except for Blackjack, or the two initial cards of any Split Pair, the Player may elect to wager an additional amount not to exceed the value of the original bet. In any Double Down, only one additional card may be drawn.

**INSURANCE:** If the Dealer’s first card is an Ace, the Player may elect to take insurance after the initial two cards are dealt to all Players and the Dealer. The insurance bet is a wager that the Dealer will get Blackjack. The insurance wager cannot be greater than one-half of the original bet. Insurance pays 2 to 1 if the Dealer has Blackjack, but loses in all other instances. If the Player has a Blackjack and the Dealer shows an Ace, he may request even money.

**HIT or STAND:** The Player should indicate their decision to hit or stand with hand signals. To gesture a “hit,” the Player must tap the table next to his or her cards. To gesture a “stand,” the Player must wave his or her hand over the cards. Decisions to Split Pairs, Double Down or take insurance should be indicated verbally. The Dealer is the only person allowed to handle, remove or alter the location of the cards.

The responsibility for correctly computing the point count total of the Player’s cards lies solely with the Player.

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