

— HOW *to* PLAY —

DOUBLE DECK

BLACKJACK

6-5

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the blackjack game is to come up with a hand closer to 21 than the blackjack dealer without going over 21.

RULES

- ◆ An ace is either valued as 1 or 11. Cards from 2 to 10 are valued as indicated. The king, queen and jack are all worth 10 points. The suit (spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs) is irrelevant, so an ace of spades is equal in value to an ace of hearts, and so on.
- ◆ The game is played with two or more standard 52-card decks.
- ◆ Betting limits are posted at all tables.

General Rules:

- ◆ Each table has a spread limit defining the minimum and maximum bets that may be wagered on each spot.
- ◆ Each player may (if available) play up to three betting spots provided all of their bets are \$25 or more. Otherwise, they can play up to 2 betting spots.
- ◆ All bets pay even money except a player's blackjack, which pays 6-to-5.

The Play:

- ◆ Each player will place a bet in his or her wagering spot(s).
- ◆ Each player will receive two cards face up. The dealer receives one card face down and one card face up.
- ◆ The player now has six options: The player can either HIT, STAY, SPLIT, DOUBLE DOWN, or buy INSURANCE.
- ◆ The Dealer must draw to all hands below 17 and will hit soft 17 (ace and a 6). The Dealer will stay on all hard hands 17 or higher.
- ◆ After all of the cards are out and the dealer has finished the play of their hand, they will either collect, push, or pay the bets of the players.
- ◆ The dealer will then gather in the cards and a new round of play will begin.

Blackjack/Natural: A blackjack occurs when the player or the dealer has a total of 21 on his/her first two cards.

Twenty-One: Not to be confused with a blackjack, this occurs when the player or the dealer needs more than two cards to reach 21.

Bust: Whenever a hand goes over 21, it is considered a bust, and whoever busts automatically loses.

Push: Same value. If both dealer and player have a blackjack, it is considered a push.

Soft Hand: A hand is considered "soft" if the ace can be valued as 1 or 11 without the total going over 21. For example, a seven and an ace is a

soft 18. If we have a seven, an ace, and a ten, the hand is now considered "hard," for counting the ace as an 11 will cause the hand to go over 21.

Hit: You can hit to request another card. You may hit as many times as desired, as long as the total of the hand does not exceed 21.

Stay: If you feel that your total is enough to beat the dealer's hand, you may stay. If you choose to stay, you cannot choose to draw another card.

Split: This option only applies if you have two cards of the same denomination. Splitting would give you a chance of playing both cards as separate hands. When splitting, the bet on both hands must be the same as the original bet. Both hands will be played out (just like a regular hand) by taking hits on each hand one at a time until you indicate that you don't want any more cards. A player may split up to three times (four hands total). When Splitting Aces, the player can only split Aces once, receiving only one card per Ace.

Double Down: If you feel like you have a very good chance of winning with one more card, you can indicate that you want to "double down" and then add more money to your original bet up to the amount that you originally bet. (You may double down for less than your original bet.) You will then get one more card to your hand.

Insurance: When the dealer has a blackjack, they generally beat all players. However, if the dealer's up card is an ace, you may choose to insure your hand. If you choose to make an insurance bet (up to half of your original bet), you are betting that the dealer has a blackjack. If the dealer does have a blackjack, you will win 2-to-1 on your insurance bet and will lose your original bet. If the dealer does not have a blackjack, you will lose your insurance bet and your hand will continue to play as a regular hand. However, if you wish to play against the dealer and both you and the dealer have a blackjack, your blackjack hand will be a push. If the dealer does not have a blackjack, your blackjack hand will be paid 6-to-5 on your bet.



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