

BLACKJACK

Blackjack is one of the most popular casino table games because it is easy to learn and exciting to play. The object of the game is to draw cards that add up to 21 (or as close as possible) without going over. A "Blackjack" is an Ace and any ten-value card on the first two cards dealt. Blackjack pays one-and-a-half times your bet. You can draw as many cards as you like. If a hand goes over 21 it is called a "bust" and the dealer automatically wins. If your hand is the same as the dealer's, it's a "push" (tie)-you do not win or lose. If your count is closer to 21 than the dealer's count, you win!

HOW TO PLAY

Kings, Queens, and Jacks count as 10. Aces count as 1 or 11. All other cards are counted at their face value. The dealer starts the game by giving each player, including him/herself, two cards. The dealer's hand always has one card face up and one card face down (hole card) in front of your betting circle. If you are satisfied with the total of your two cards, you "stand" (draw no more cards), by waving your hand over the layout in a side-to-side motion behind your betting circle. If not, you can "hit" (draw one or more cards, one at a time) by making a slight scratching movement with your hands towards you behind your betting circle. You may "hit" until you feel that the total count of your hand is closer to 21 than the cards the dealer will draw. After each player takes a turn, the dealer turns up his/her "hole" (face down) card. If the hand totals 16 or less, the dealer must "hit" (draw additional cards) until he/she reaches 17 or more. If the hand totals 17 or more the dealer must "stand."



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SPLITTING PAIRS

If you are dealt two cards with equal value or any two ten-value cards, you may "split" them into two separate hands. You must match your original bet if you "split." Once "split," the two hands must be played separately completing the first hand before going to the second. You may "split" a pair up to three times, making four separate hands (with the exception of aces - can only be "split" once). If you "split" a pair of aces, you will receive only one card on each Ace. If you receive any ten-value card on a split ace, the hand has a total of 21 (it is not a Blackjack).

DOUBLING DOWN

You may increase your wager by "doubling down." After receiving your first two cards, you may "double down" by increasing your wager up to the amount of your original bet, receiving only one additional card. You may "double down" on any original two cards.

INSURANCE

When the dealer has an ace up, if you believe the dealer has a Blackjack you may take "insurance." Insurance pays 2 to 1. You can wager any amount up to half of your original bet. If the dealer has a Blackjack you lose your original bet, but you are paid 2 to 1 on your insurance. If the dealer doesn't have a Blackjack, your original wager remains in play and only the insurance bet loses.



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