

# BLACKJACK

## HOW TO PLAY

The object of Blackjack is to attempt to reach a point total of 21 or as close to 21 as possible without going over. Hands that are closer to 21 than the dealer win. Hands that are not, or hands that have a point total exceeding 21, lose. Cards from 2 through 10 have their face values. Jacks, Queens and Kings have a face value of 10. Aces are valued at 1 or 11.

A Blackjack is when your first two cards are an Ace and a 10 value card. This pays 3 to 2 or 6 to 5 depending on the table being played. After all players have made a bet in the circle in front of them, the dealer deals two cards in sequence to each player and the dealer. The dealer places his/her first card face up and his/her second card face down under the first card.

If a player feels the total of his/her first two cards can beat the dealer, he/she stands – additional cards are not drawn. This decision is indicated by a wave of the hand, palm down, over the table. If a player feels the dealer has cards that beat his/her total, he/she indicates his/her decision to “hit” – draw additional cards. This is done by scratching the index finger on the table towards oneself. After each additional card, a player must indicate his/her decision to stand or draw to the dealer.

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200 Georgesville Road ★ Columbus, OH 43228  
614-308-3333 ★ 1-855-617-4206  
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After all the players have completed their hands, the dealer's hole card is exposed. The dealer must draw on a total of 16 or less, until reaching a total of 17 or higher on some tables, while having to hit a soft 17 on other tables. Each layout will designate which style game is being dealt, or feel free to ask your dealer. If the dealer's total is less than a player's, or if the dealer exceeds a point count of 21, the player win even money! If a player's point count is equal to the dealer's it is a "push" and he/she does not win or lose.

Besides having the option to stand or draw after the first two cards, a player may also double down, split pairs or take insurance.

### **DOUBLE DOWN\***

Player may double down on any 2 cards except for a point count of 21. This is done by placing an additional wager (up to the total amount of the initial bet) next to the original bet. Player will receive only one additional card when you double down.

\*On games with 1 or 2 decks - except for when a player has Blackjack - players may elect to double on the first (2) cards dealt to him/her when they total 9, 10, or 11.

### **SPLITTING PAIRS**

If your first 2 cards are a pair, he/she may split them into 2 hands by placing an equal amount next to the original bet. If the next card makes a pair, he/she may split again. He/she can split up to 3 times for a total of four hands. Split Aces once with only a one card draw. A 10 value card on a split Ace counts as 21, but not Blackjack.

### **INSURANCE**

If the dealer's up card is an Ace, you may make an additional wager betting that the dealer has Blackjack.

Insurance bets are made by placing up to half of the original bet on the insurance line, prior to the dealer checking their hole card. If the dealer has Blackjack, the bet wins and pays 2 to 1.

**Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-589-9966 for help.**