

How to play **Blackjack**



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Blackjack is SkyCity's most popular table game. It's a fun and exciting game so have a go and you'll soon see why it's so popular.

Getting started

To join the action, simply place your cash on the table and the Dealer will exchange it for gaming chips – then you're ready to go!

After playing, go to the cashier to change any chips back to cash or take them to another table to continue the fun.

What is the aim of the game?

When playing, you are playing against the Dealer, not against other players.

The object of Blackjack is to achieve a total that is greater than that of the Dealer, but not more than 21.

How it works

Blackjack is played with up to eight decks of playing cards. Before the Dealer deals the cards you place your bet in the betting area (box) provided. The Dealer will deal two cards to each player and one to themselves. Then they will go to each hand in turn and offer you the opportunity to 'draw' additional cards. (As the player, you may 'stand' on 12 or more).

When the Dealer points to your cards you may draw extra cards by making a tapping motion on the table behind your bet. If you don't want any more cards simply make a horizontal waving motion behind your bet.

If you get the same total as the Dealer this is called a "Push" or "stand-off" and you keep the amount you bet. If you get more than 21 (bust) or get less than the Dealer, then the Dealer wins.

If you have a higher total than the Dealer, or if the Dealer's total exceeds 21 (busts) then you win.

In Blackjack, all the picture cards (Jacks, Queens and Kings) are worth 10 and the Aces are worth 1 or 11, whichever is to your advantage. All other cards are worth their face value. Suits do not apply in Blackjack.

The best hand that you can have is called "Blackjack". This is an Ace and any picture card or ten card on the first two cards dealt to you.

Additional bets

There are a few occasions when you may bet extra money in the middle of a round of play:

Doubling

If your first two cards do not contain any Aces you may place an additional bet up to the value of your original bet before you draw a third card. You will be dealt only one additional card when you double.

Splitting

If your first two cards are of equal value, you may split these to form up to three separate hands. Aces may be split to form only two hands. You will receive an additional card for each hand and a wager equal to your original bet must be placed each time you split. Remember to never touch the cards.

If the Dealer obtains Blackjack only your original bet will be lost and the doubling/splitting portion is considered a stand-off.

Insurance

If the first card dealt to the Dealer is an ace, the Dealer will announce 'Insurance'. You may then place an insurance bet of no more than half your original bet, to insure your hand should the Dealer make Blackjack. An insurance bet is paid at odds of 2 to 1 and will only win if the Dealer makes Blackjack. If the Dealer does not make Blackjack the insurance bet is lost.

Any Pairs

When placing your initial wager, you may choose to make an Any Pairs wager as a side bet. An Any Pairs wager will win when the first two cards dealt to a player with an Any Pairs side bet are a pair. Any Pairs wagers are paid at the odds specified at the relevant table.

Bets and Odds

In Blackjack, winning bets are paid even money.

If you get a “Blackjack” you will be paid at the odds displayed on the layout. For example, on the below table layout you would be paid at odds of 3 to 2 or 1.5 times your bet.

Pair

Any winning pair bet will be paid at the odds specified at the table.

Example of a Blackjack Table Layout



Table limits

Table Games have varying minimum and maximum bets. Before you sit down, please check the sign displaying the betting range at the table.

Good luck... and remember

As with all Table Games, if you are not sure about a bet or the rules of the game, just ask one of our Dealers for assistance. They will be happy to explain anything about the game that you may not understand, or provide you with further information in relation to the rules.

Play responsibly and be in to win

SkyCity prides itself on being a responsible host. As such, we would encourage you to play only at levels you can afford. If you wish to discuss your Gaming, please talk to a SkyCity staff member or call the Gambling Helpline on 0800 654 655. Remember – you must be aged 20 years or older to enter the gaming areas of SkyCity.

