

HOW TO PLAY Blackjack



Blackjack

THE BASICS

The object of Blackjack or "21" is to beat the total of the dealer's hand without going over 21. After bets are placed, each player is dealt two cards by the dealer. The dealer also receives two cards with one card exposed to the player. Players are then given the option of drawing additional cards in order to beat the dealer's hand. Players may draw as many cards, one at a time, as they wish. But, if the Player's hand exceeds 21, he "busts" and loses the hand.

HOW TO PLAY

Face cards count as 10. All other cards count at face value except the Ace, which can count as 1 or 11. After all players have completed their hands, the dealer will expose the hole card, then stand or draw until a total of 17 or higher is reached. The dealer must stand on 17.

A "Blackjack" is when a player's or dealer's first two cards are an ace and any 10-value card. A player's Blackjack pays 6 to 5 in single deck games and 3 to 2 in multi-deck games unless the dealer also has a Blackjack, in which case a tie or "push" is called and neither wins.

If you think you can win with only one more card, you may double your bet for the same or a lesser value and receive only one card. You may "double down" on any two cards and also after splitting pairs.

If you are dealt two cards of equal value, you may split the cards into two separate hands and play each hand individually. You must match your original bet if you split. You may "re-split" a pair up to three times. If you split Aces, you get only one card on each Ace.

A player may take "insurance" if the dealer's up card is an ace. In this case, the player is betting that the dealer has a Blackjack. You may wager up to 1/2 of your original bet. If the dealer has a Blackjack, the insurance bet is paid 2 to 1, but you lose the original bet. If the dealer does not have Blackjack, the insurance bet loses and normal play resumes.