

Blackjack rules: quick reference

Learn card values, the order of play and the choices you can make in a standard US hole-card blackjack game.

Card values and the objective

Number cards keep their value. Jacks, queens and kings count as 10. An ace is 1 or 11, whichever keeps the hand usable. Beat the dealer without going above 21.

A round of blackjack

Players and dealer receive two cards; one dealer card is face up. After any blackjack check, players act in order. The dealer then completes the hand according to the posted rules. A busted player hand has already lost.

Your available actions

Hit takes another card. Stand keeps the total. Double adds a matching stake and normally allows one final card. Split separates an eligible pair into two hands. Late surrender returns half the initial stake when permitted.

Blackjack, pushes and payouts

A natural blackjack is an ace plus a ten-value card in the initial deal. A standard winning hand normally pays 1:1. A tie normally returns the stake. Check whether a natural pays 3:2 or 6:5.

Rules that vary by table

Confirm S17 or H17, double restrictions, double after split, resplitting and split-ace rules, surrender and the blackjack payout. This site's charts do not cover every variant.

Source reference: wizardofodds.com/games/blackjack/basics/ • blackjackchart.co/rules/