

## **What is Blackjack?**

Blackjack is a common card game, the purpose being to get a hand that adds up as close to 21 as possible (without going over), and is closer to 21 than the dealer's hand. Going over 21 will cause you to bust, or lose.

## **Card Values:**

Cards 2-10 Count as their numerical value (2=2, 9=9, etc).

Face Cards (Jack, Queen, King) count as 10.

Aces can either count as 11 or 1, whichever is more beneficial to the hand.

## **What is a "Blackjack"?**

A Blackjack is total of 21 in your first two cards. This means one card must be an Ace and one must be a 10-value card (Ten, Jack, Queen, or King).

## **How the Game Begins:**

The dealer will deal himself two cards, one face up one face down. The dealer will then deal you two cards. Once you have played out your hand the dealer will reveal his hidden card.

## **How the Dealer Plays:**

The dealer will play his hand till his total is at least 17, meaning he will continue to take cards till his total is 17 or greater. The only alternative is the "Dealer hits on a soft 17" option in preferences. With this option the dealer will hit if he has a "soft 17," which means that his total of 17 consist of one or more Aces.

## **Your Hand Options:**

- Insurance - If the dealer is showing an Ace you may purchase insurance for half the cost of your bet. If the dealer shows a Blackjack you will then not lose any money. If the dealer does not have a blackjack you lose your insurance money but can continue to play your hand as normal.

- Surrender - The first thing you can do is surrender your hand. Surrender is just like it sounds, you "fold" your hand and only have to pay half your bet.

- Splitting - If you have two of the same kind of card (ignoring suites) you can split that hand. The two cards will be turned into two hands and each hand will be dealt one additional card. Splitting can only be played before you hit or double.

- Doubling - Doubling or Doubling Down can only be played before you have been dealt any additional cards after your first two. When you double, your bet will increase two fold and you will be given one more card. Once you double you cannot be dealt any more cards.

- Hitting - Hitting is requesting another card, you may continue to hit until you reach 21.

- Standing - When you are done with your hand you stand, meaning you are ready for the dealer to play out his hand.

## **Who Wins?**

The higher card total not exceeding 21 will win. In the event of a tie the dealer will win (unless this option is changed in preferences). In the event of two blackjacks your bet is refunded and there is no winner. A blackjack will beat a non-blackjack 21.