

BLACK JACK

BLACK JACK or « 21 » is considered as one of the world's most popular gambling games played with cards.

The aim of Black Jack, which is played against the bank, is to acquire a total card value as near as possible to 21, without exceeding it. To determine this count, the player must remember that cards from two to nine take their pip or number value. Tens, Jacks, Queens and Kings count ten each. Aces, at the player's option, count 1 or 11 points.



First, the croupier deals two cards to each player and one card to the bank, then, the player may « stand » thus refusing other cards, or ask for one or more cards to improve his count. If he goes over 21 (busts), he automatically loses. If he decides to « stand », the croupier gives himself a card or more cards according to the rule. However, the croupier is obliged to give himself a card if his count totals 16 or less, while he must « stand » if his count totals 17 or more.



If a player's first two cards are a ten or a court card and an ace, he has a Black Jack.

He has « 21 » when a count of 21 is obtained with three or more cards. When the croupier has a Black Jack, all players lose their bets except the ones also having a Black Jack, as the bet is called off: in this case, no one loses or wins. The bet can be left for the next deal or can be withdrawn.



A Black Jack is paid 3 to 2, except in the event of a tie (same count) with the croupier. If nobody has a Black Jack, the count which is nearest to 21 wins. If your count is superior to the croupier's one, you win, if your count is lower than the croupier's one, you lose. If there is a tie, the bet is called off. If you exceed 21, the croupier wins. If the croupier exceeds 21, you win. There are different variations of this game making it possible to increase your initial bet and consequently the winnings, when the first cards have already been dealt.



GAME VARIATIONS

« Double-down »: when the first two cards have been dealt, you may double the amount of your bet and you can have only one supplementary card.



« Split pair »: this is allowed when your first two cards are a pair (they have the same value). This gives you another chance to increase your bet by dividing the two cards and playing them separately.

You may increase your bet up to a maximum of three games. If aces are separated, you are allowed only 1 supplementary card on each game with no further possibility of splitting. In this precise case, if you receive a ten, the total is 21, but is not considered a Black Jack.



« Insurance »: insurance is a choice offered by the Casino when the first card of the croupier is an ace.

The insurance bet cannot exceed half of the original stake. It is paid 2 to 1 if the croupier obtains a Black Jack, and it is lost in all other cases.



Spoken bets are forbidden.

The sole purpose of this documentation is to provide a better understanding of the game of Black Jack. In no way, it can replace the exhaustive regulations governing the game in question.

