

Club Work

Articles for

## CASINO PLAYERS

### Article One

Blackjack is a unique casino game that requires a mixture of luck and skill to win just like every other card games.

But always remember that these are only tips and should not be an assurance that you'll go home a big winner.

### **Don't Split Two 10s**

Given the situation, such a hand totals a value of 20 and is an excellent hand. Your goal is to achieve 21, but if you've got 20 on the first two cards dealt to you, then there is only one situation where the dealer can beat you with and that is with a 21. And it will be hard for the dealer to beat with you with this situation.

### **Always Split Two 8s**

Whatever card value the dealer has in hand, even showing with an ace, always split the two 8s. Two 8s make a 16, and that is the worst hand in blackjack. Splitting the two 8s gives you a better chance of getting one winning hand, and of course saving your money. With one hand winning and the other losing, one will pay the other and you end up losing nothing (assuming that you followed a standard rule requirement and placed the same amount as bet for both hands). And if you draw a 10 to both hands, you've made two 18s instead of the single 16, which has much better probabilities.

### **Never Split Two 5s**

When you get two 5s, you have a value of 10, so a wise decision is to double down and ask for one card only. If you split the two 5s and get two 10's, you just made two bad hands out of a good hand and would have had 20 if you doubled down.

### **Tips on When You Should Double Down**

- If you get a count of 11, do not hesitate if the dealer shows a 10 or an ace.
- If you get a count of 10 and the dealer's card has a 9 or less.
- If you get a count of 9 and the dealer's card is between 2 to 8.
- Double down when your cards total 9 and the dealer has a 4, 5, or 6.
- If you get a soft 13 and soft 14 when the dealer has a 5 or 6.
- If you get a soft 15 and soft 16 when the dealer has a 4, 5, or 6.
- If you get a soft 17 and soft 18 when the dealer has 3 through 6.

### **Hard Hands: If You Get Cards That Amount to 12 or Higher**

- Stand on any hand totaling 17 or higher.
- Stand if your cards total 12 through 16 and the dealer has 2 through 6.
- Hit if your hand totals 12 through 16 and the dealer has a 7 or higher.

## **Soft Hands**

- Only draw on soft 18 if the dealer has an 8, 9, or 10. Doubling down is the main method by which you can eliminate the house edge so it is very important to remember when to use this decision.
- Always draw to soft 17 or less.

## **Article Two**

Playing Blackjack and winning with these tips.

## **Tips on Splitting Pairs**

- Always split a pair of 8s or aces. Splitting 8s will break up 16, which is said to be the worst hand to have. Two aces give you either 2 or 12, but when you split them, each card is worth 11.
- Do not split your 4s, 5s, and 10s.
- You split your 2s and 3s when the dealer is holding any card value from 4 through 7.
- When the dealer is holding a card value from 3 through 6, you need to split your 6s.
- With the dealer is holding 3 through 7, you need to split your 7s.
- When the dealer has 2 through 6, 8, or 9, you split your 9s.

To fully get into the game of blackjack, you have to understand and if possible, master the blackjack odds and house advantages. It is very crucial to know how the casino gets their edge and how it helps them win. It's important to be aware of the blackjack odds like the odds of being dealt a blackjack or the odds of hitting a 10.

The house has an advantage in blackjack simply because the player has to draw first and if he busts, the player automatically loses regardless if the dealer subsequently busts in the same round. This is the casino's solitary advantage in blackjack and if everything were equal, the house edge in blackjack would be about 8 percent. The dealer and player each have a 28 percent probability of busting (therefore 28 multiplied by 28) or about 8 percent of the time both hands would bust and the dealer would win.

With the use of the right blackjack basic strategy, you will have the opportunity to turn the casino edge in blackjack from 7-8 percent down to just 0.5 percent. If you can properly count cards, you can repeatedly alter the blackjack odds and gain the upper hand over the casino. Working the house odds to your favor is why most casinos don't let card counters play blackjack.

## **The House Edge and House Hold**

The house edge is a theoretical number that cannot be calculated using practical experiences in the real world. It is the theoretical fraction of the overall amount of bet that the casinos would keep if every set of decisions were to fall exactly into a statistical row.

The real world equivalent of the house edge is known as the house hold, which is also the hold percentage. If the house edge holds steady with every event going to a statistical T, then the edge and the hold would be equivalent. It may seem to be a bit confusing. Unlike games like a slot machine where there is no variation, the hold is actually the real counterpart of the house edge.