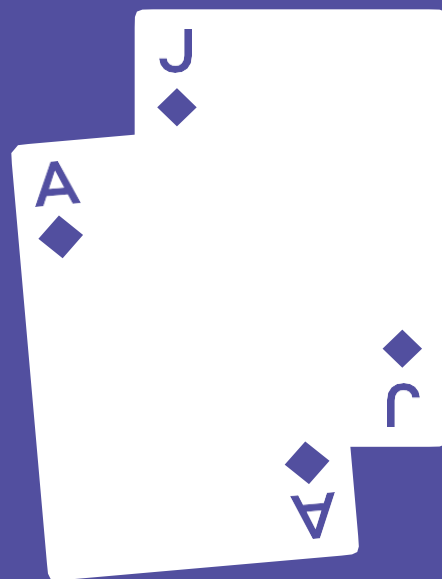


# HOW TO PLAY STAR BLACKJACK



Star Blackjack is a variant of Blackjack, arguably the most popular casino card game played in casinos around the world.

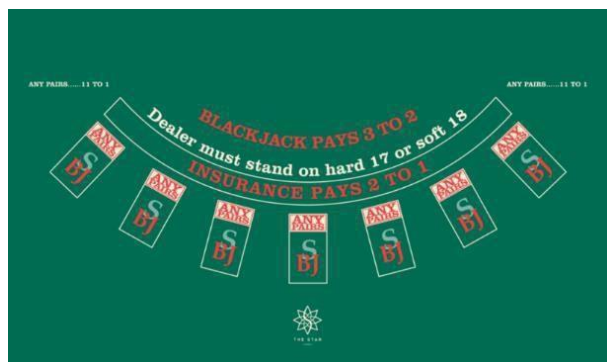
## THE AIM OF THE GAME

The aim of the game of Star Blackjack is to draw cards totaling closer to 21 than those in the Dealer's hand – without exceeding 21. Picture cards (Jack, Queen, King) each count as 10.

An Ace can count as 1 or 11. All number cards have their face value.

## THE STAR BLACKJACK TABLE

The Star Blackjack table seats up to seven Players on one side, and the Dealer on the other. Its layout is marked out with up to seven betting areas in which the Players place their bets before the cards are dealt.



## HOW TO PLAY

All cards in Star Blackjack are dealt face up, so that you can see the point value of the Players' and Dealer's hands. A first card is dealt to each of the Players, and then finally, to the Dealer. A second card is then dealt to the Players only. The Dealer will call out the value of all hands.

## IMPORTANT

You may not handle, remove, or alter any cards used in the game of Star Blackjack.

Although the dealer will call out the card totals, it is your responsibility to also check your point totals are correct.

## PLAYING THE CARDS

You may stand on the two original cards in your hand or draw additional cards to improve your total. If you bust (go over 21) you lose.

When all Players have completed their hands, the Dealer draws a second card. The dealer must draw on a soft 17 (a hand that contains an Ace that may be counted as 11) or less and stand with a hard 17 (a hand that contains no Aces, or that contains Aces that can only be counted as 1 in value) or more.

If your hand totals closer to 21 than the Dealer's, you win, and are paid even money. If your hand is lower than the Dealer's, you lose. If the Dealer busts, all remaining hands are paid even money, except a Blackjack which is paid 3 to 2.

If you and the Dealer both have Blackjack, or the same card total, it is considered a draw or stand off – you neither win nor lose.

### ACE + 10 = BLACKJACK

Blackjack is when you are dealt a ten, or any picture card, plus an Ace as your first two cards. Blackjack pays 3 to 2 (1.5 times your bet).

### INSURANCE

When the Dealer's first card is an Ace, you may insure your bet against the Dealer getting Blackjack. Your insurance bet is placed on the table's insurance line after your second card is dealt, and before the Dealer draws any more cards. This bet may be up to half of your original wager.

If the Dealer draws Blackjack, your insurance bet will be paid at 2 to 1. If the Dealer doesn't draw a ten or picture card, your insurance bet is lost.

### HOW TO SIGNAL THE DEALER FOR MORE OR NO MORE CARDS

To make draw and stand commands quickly and easily understood, Star Blackjack Players use hand signals to communicate with the Dealer.

To signal to the Dealer that you wish to draw another card tap the table behind your bet. You will be dealt one card. Our dealers are trained to accept tapping only.

To signal the Dealer that you wish to stand, move your hand, palm down, in a horizontal cut-off motion behind your bet.

You will not be dealt any more cards.

### THE RANGE OF BETS IN STAR BLACKJACK

Star Blackjack tables on the Main Gaming Floor have varying minimum and maximum bets. Before you sit down, please check the sign displaying the minimum and maximum bets at the table or ask any of our gaming team for assistance.

### SOME OF THE CARD COMBINATIONS AND OPTIONS IN STAR BLACKJACK

#### BLACKJACK



A ten or any picture card plus an Ace as your first two cards. Pays 3 to 2, unless the Dealer also draws Blackjack.

#### SOFT HAND – 7 OR 17



A soft hand contains an Ace without the other card(s) totaling 10 or more – the Ace may be counted as 1 or 11.

#### HARD HAND – 17



A ten makes a soft hand a hard hand – the count can no longer be altered. Alternatively, any hand without an Ace is also considered a hard hand, as its value cannot be altered.

#### TWENTY-ONE



Three or more cards totaling 21.

#### DOUBLING



You may double your initial bet if your first two cards total 9, 10 or 11. However, you may then only draw one more card. To double, place an additional bet – up to the value of your original bet – in your betting area.

If the Dealer draws Blackjack, your original bet is lost, but the double down portion of the wager is not taken by the Dealer.



### SPLITTING

If your first two cards have the same value, you may ask the Dealer to split them to create two separate hands.



You must then place an additional bet equal to your original bet on the second hand. You will then be dealt a second card on your first hand and each hand can then be played separately. If the total on your first hand is 9, 10, 11 you may double your bet exactly the same way as you would on a normal hand. You may double-down on the second split hand if you wish. If the Dealer obtains a Blackjack, you will only lose your original bet, i.e., the bet you placed before cards were dealt. Play will be completed on that hand before continuing to the next. If you split Aces, only one card is dealt to each hand. If a ten or picture card is dealt to either of the split Aces, it is counted as 21, not Blackjack.

Similarly, if you split tens, and an Ace is dealt as the first card to the split, it too is counted as 21, not Blackjack. A hand can only be split once.

### BUST OR OVER

Your card total has exceeded 21. You lose.

### PERFECT PAIRS

Players may have an additional perfect pairs wager on a Star Blackjack table that provides betting areas for perfect pairs.

To place an additional wager simply place an amount between the minimum and maximum limits on a perfect pairs betting area.

The additional wager wins when you receive a pair (two cards identical in type\* and value) as your first two cards. The odds paid for winning wagers are:

**PERFECT PAIR** 30 to 1  
Same value, same suit

**COLOURED PAIR** 10 to 1  
Same value, same colour, different suit

**MIXED PAIR** 5 to 1  
Same value, different colour

Winning bets will be paid and handed off to the Player immediately after the initial deal.

\*10, Jack, Queen, and King are identical in value but not in type, therefore a Jack and King, for example, are not considered a pair.

### STAR PAIRS

Players may have an additional Star Pairs wager on a Star Blackjack table that provides betting areas for Star Pairs. To place an additional Star Pairs wager simply place an amount between the minimum and maximum limits on a Star Pairs betting area. The additional wager wins when you receive a pair (two cards identical in type\* and value) as your first two cards.

The odds paid for winning wagers are (**only the highest win event is paid**):

PAIR of aces	30 to 1
PERFECT PAIR same value, same suit	20 to 1
COLOURED PAIR same value, same colour and different suit	8 to 1
MIXED PAIR same value and different colour	5 to 1

Winning bets will be paid and handed off to the Player immediately after the initial deal.

\*10, Jack, Queen and King are identical in value but not in type, therefore a Jack and King, for example, are not considered a pair.

#### ANY PAIRS

Any Pairs is an optional wager offered on certain Star Blackjack tables.

The concept of the wager is simple.

Any Pairs wager wins if the first two cards dealt to your Star Blackjack hand are a pair and loses if they are not a pair.

All winning Any Pairs wagers are paid at odds of 11 to 1. Any Pairs wagers must be made prior to the initial deal.

For the purposes of playing Any Pairs a pair is a hand where the first two cards dealt, in the initial deal only, are of the same number: Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 or of the same picture type; Jack, Queen or King.

#### THE ODDS OF WINNING

Star Blackjack is a card game of chance and skill in which Players may improve their chance of winning by using a betting strategy. After receiving two cards from the Dealer, the Player can choose to be dealt more cards so as to have a total score closer to 21 than the Dealer's total – without going over 21.

Face cards count as 10, Aces count as 1 or 11 and the cards 2 to 10 count as their face value. The House margin for Star Blackjack is approximately 0.8% when the game is played to optimal strategy.

#### BLAZING 7s PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT

Blackjack may also have a jackpot bet which can be placed by the players. Before each game and prior to the dealing of any cards you have the opportunity to participate in the displayed jackpot prize. To do this, place your jackpot wager onto the jackpot sensor adjacent to the regular betting boxes. This makes you eligible for a jackpot prize, in addition to the regular payment made to a winning bet. You receive a jackpot payout on a qualifying hand regardless of the strength of the Dealers hand.

The qualifying hand for a jackpot in Blackjack shall comprise of the Players first two cards plus the Dealers first card.

#### BLAZING 7s PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT PAYOUTS

If you have entered the jackpot and your hand qualifies for a payout, you win the amount appropriate to that hand regardless of the strength of the Dealer's hand. If two or more Players have major jackpot wins at the same time, the winner's share the jackpots. The following jackpot bonuses are additional to the winning bet payouts.

The progressive jackpot amount is contributed to and can be awarded at all participating Blazing 7 table games in the casino. Jackpots are only paid to the highest win event.

Event	Payout
Three sevens, all Diamonds	100% of jackpot
Three suited sevens, other than Diamonds	10% of Jackpot
Three sevens, all the same colour but not the same suit	500 to 1
Three unsuited sevens, not of the same colour	200 to 1
Two Player sevens	20 to 1
One seven to the Player & One seven to the Dealer	10 to 1

#### RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING

The casinos promote a responsible approach to gambling and offer gambling for your enjoyment. Only you can decide how much time and money you want to spend on gambling at a casino. If you think you may have a problem controlling your gambling behaviour, please contact:

Gambling Helpline 1800 858 858 [gamblinghelponline.org.au](http://gamblinghelponline.org.au)

Gambling Help services are independently run and offer free, confidential support (available 24 hours). Bet with your head, not over it.

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