



TEXAS HOLD'EM

RULE BOOK

NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Two to ten players.

PLAY:

1. Place dealer button in front of dealer. Place small blind marker in front of first player to the left of the dealer. Place big blind marker in front of player to the left of the small marker.
2. Posting the blinds: First player to the left of the dealer posts a bet called the **small blind**.

***Note:** Some tables have predetermined minimum bets. The small blind is usually equal to half the minimum bet.*

3. The player to the left of the small blind posts the **big blind**. The big blind is equal to or greater than the minimum bet.
4. Dealer shuffles a complete deck of 52 playing cards.
5. Each player is dealt two cards face down. These are your **hole** or **pocket** cards.
6. The player to the left of the big blind starts a round of betting. This is usually referred to as the **pre-flop**. Players may check, call, raise or fold.

- **Check:** A check passes the action to the next player. If all players check, the next card is turned and the player's options repeat.
- **Call:** Player matches the current bet.
- **Raise:** Player matches the current bet and then increases the amount equal or greater than the minimum bid, which was determined by the big blind.
- **Fold:** Player throws in their hand, forfeiting the current round of play and any bids currently in the pot.

***Note:** Some tables limit the table to three round of raising and re-raising per round of betting. Table limits should be determined prior to play.*

7. After the betting round ends, the dealer discards the top card of the deck. This is called the **burn card**.
8. The dealer then flips the next three cards face up on the table. These are called **the flop**. Players use these communal cards in combination with their two pocket cards to form a poker hand.
9. Another round of betting begins with the player to the left of the dealer.
10. After the betting concludes, the dealer burns another card and flips one more onto the table. This is called the **turn** card. Players can use this sixth card now to form a five card poker hand.
11. Another round of betting begins with the player to the left of the dealer.
12. After the betting concludes, the dealer burns another card and flips one more onto the table. This is called the **river**. Players can use any five cards on the table or the two cards in their pocket to form a five card poker hand.
13. The final round of betting begins with the player to the left of the dealer.
14. After the betting concludes it's time for the **showdown**. Players show their hands, beginning with the player to the left of the last player to call.
15. Player with the best hand wins.

16. The dealer button, small blind and big blind markers all move clockwise to the next player and another round of play begins.

RANK OF HANDS:

In Texas Hold 'Em Aces can be high or low.

1. **Royal Flush:** An ace-high straight of one suit.
2. **Straight Flush:** A straight of one suit. Highest value card wins.
3. **Four-of-a-Kind (Quads):** Four cards of the same rank. Highest 4-card value set wins.
4. **Full House (Full Boat, Boat):** Three-of-a-kind and a pair. Highest 3-card value set wins. In the event of a tie, highest pair wins.
5. **Flush:** Five cards of the same suit but not in sequence. Highest value card wins.
6. **Straight (Run):** Five cards of sequential rank but not of the same suit. Highest value card wins.
7. **Three-of-a-Kind (Trips, Set):** Three cards of the same rank.
8. **Two Pair:** Two cards of the same rank and another two cards of the same rank. Highest pair wins. In the event of a tie, highest fifth card wins.
9. **One Pair:** Two cards of the same rank. Highest pair wins. In the event of a tie, the highest third card wins.
10. **High Card (No Pair):** When you don't have any of the above, your highest card determines your hand.

TIE HANDS:

If two or more players have the same hand, the next highest card in the player's hand is used to break a tie. This is called the **kicker**.

If you still have the same 5-card hand after evaluating the ranks, the pot is split evenly among all the winning players.

VARIATIONS:

All-In:

The number of chips you have in front of you determines the maximum bet. A player can go “all in” by pushing all their chips toward the center of the table. At this point, either the player or the dealer should “count them down”, or calculate the amount of the player’s all-in bet. To call, the other players at the table must match the value of the chips.

Split-Pot:

In the event a player cannot match the value of another player’s bet, but would still like to call, he or she can go all-in and play for a portion of the pot. The dealer then divides the bet into two stacks. The first stack matches the amount of the caller’s all-in bet. This stack is pushed into the original pot. The second stack is placed into a side pot, for which the all-in caller is not eligible. This enables the other players to continue play. At the the conclusion of the hand, the all-in bettor is eligible to win the original pot but not the side pot.

TOURNAMENT PLAY:

Each player begins with the same number of chips (usually 40 times the minimum bid). Play until one player has all the chips and is declared “Champion”.



GLD Products

884 W19093 Enterprise Drive
Muskego, WI 53150 USA
800 225 7593 • FAX 800 841 6944
Web Site: www.gldmfg.com
Email: gld@gldmfg.com