

## Blackjack Variants

You will find many games online with standard blackjack rules. However, you will also find a great number of so-called 'variants'; these are games with changes to the basic rules, allowing for a different blackjack experience for the players. Because of these innovations, the game has remained fresh over the years. However, a word of caution: many variants exchange interesting changes for a lower RTP rate. That being said, here are the specific blackjack card game rules.

### Switch

In a game of switch, the player is dealt two hands. They can then switch the top cards of each deck to boost their chances of having a good hand. In this variation, blackjack pays even money only and all hands are pushed if the **dealer scores 22**. The only exception to this rule is when blackjack is reached with the first two cards, i.e. a natural blackjack.



### Duel Blackjack

In Duel Blackjack, the player is dealt an open and a hidden card. Both of the dealer's cards remain hidden, and two additional **community cards** are dealt to the middle of the table. Players have the choice to fold and lose their ante or play and take another ante. Once they've chosen, the player can take a community card. The dealer follows and takes a community card, and then the hands are revealed. Though the RTP for this variant is typically lower than traditional blackjack, the advantage lies in giving the player first choice of a community card.



### Pontoon

Pontoon is a variant that originated in Asia, and sees the player attempting to reach a higher card count than the dealer before they go bust. Instead of 21 amounting to blackjack in this game, it's instead called pontoon. None of the cards are open, and **remain concealed** while in play. This makes the game more interesting than traditional blackjack, as it gives the player fewer ways to determine their next move.

