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Poker Face: A Glance At Texas Hold'em



Lesson Overview: This lesson was designed to give you a head start on employee training. It contains lessons you might want to cover in an Informal Texas Hold'em training course. It includes relevant history, images, and examples of the game to guide you. At the end of the lesson is a series of quizzes to evaluate your knowledge of the game.

Click the "Start Course" button to begin.

INTRODUCTION

- ☰ What is Poker?
- ☰ Where did Poker come from?
- ☰ How did it become Texas Hold'em?

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

- ☰ The Start And Positions of the Game

☰ Rounds of the Game and Terminology

☰ End of the Game

☰ Winning Hands

CONCLUSION

📄 Quiz

☰ Summary

What is Poker?

What is Poker?

Poker is a family of card games as opposed to a single game. The critical difference between it and many other games is in Poker; the players wager or bet over which hand is best according to that specific game's rules.

Facts 1

The Goal



The objective of Poker is simple. It is to win money by capturing pot! This pot can be comprised of real cash or Poker chips. Different color chips indicate different denominations of money.

How To Accomplish The Goal



A player wagers a bet in hopes that he has the best hand or gives the impression that he holds a strong hand and thus convinces his opponents to fold (abandon) their hands.

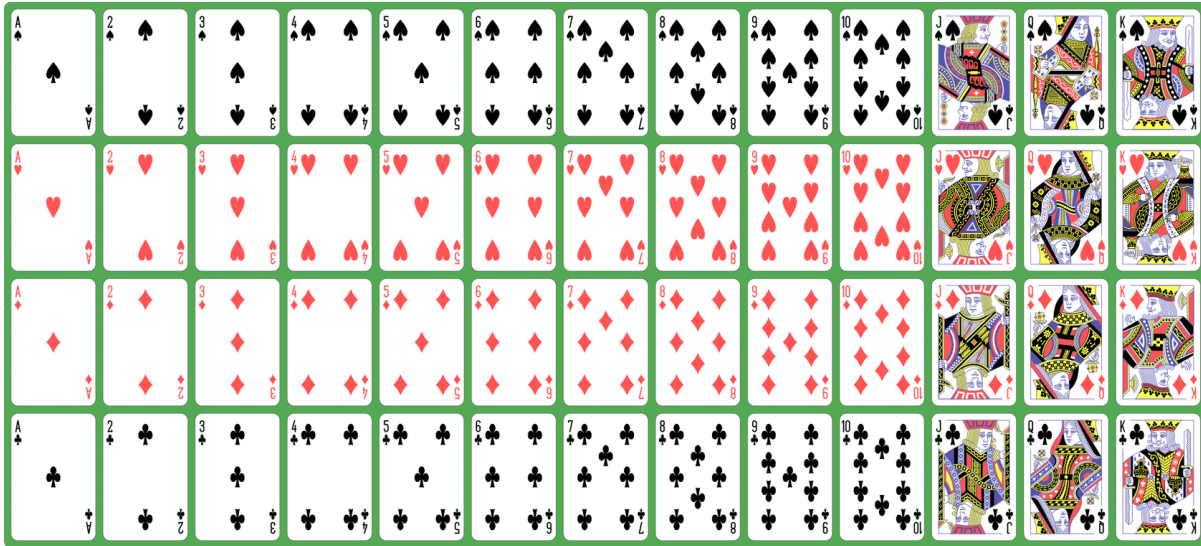
The Players



Depending on the game, the dealer typically sets up for between two to ten players. Most casino games start with eight players for a seven-card game like Stud poker or Razz. Texas Hold'em usually adds one or two additional players.

Facts 4

The Deck



Most forms of Poker involve a standard 52-card deck. A joker, or “bug,” is sometimes added to the deck for Draw poker and Lowball. It’s a wild card when used in only specific ways. In Draw poker, the Joker acts as an additional ace or to complete a straight or flush. While in Lowball, the Joker is used as the lowest card that does not pair your hand. For example, if you held 5-4-2-A-Joker, it would be the same as if you held 5-4-3-2-A which is the best hand in California.

Where did Poker come from?

A Little Bit of History

The widely accepted theory is that poker was created in America in the 1800s based on an offshoot of Poque, a French parlor game imported to New Orleans from French sailors and traders. The British game Brag, a spin-off of a famous German bluffing game, was initially brought to the Americas by colonists and merchants. Brag also heavily influenced the earliest incarnations 20-card deck style of poker.



Poker During The Civil War

A deck of playing cards expanded from 20 to 52 cards in the mid-1800s; the original five-card Poker evolved into a drawing game. To sweeten the pots, the players added a round of betting. The hand rankings included a “flush” (five cards of the same suit) for the first time. Around the 1860s, another addition to hand rankings was the “straight” (five sequential cards).

In the American Civil War, both rebel and federal soldiers played this version of Poker during large stretches of downtime. At the end of the war, surviving soldiers took the game back home with them. For the first time, Poker spread throughout the United States like wildfire, especially in the heavily populated areas in the Midwest and the Northeast.

Poker became synonymous with expansion of the western frontier in the late 1800s.

- **Louisiana:** Gamblers played 'poque,' one of the earliest forms of Poker, in the dens of New Orleans and on the steamboats traveling the Mississippi river.
- **The Wild, Wild, West:** At first, Faro (a French game that is an ancestor to Baccarat) was 'the game' played in gambling halls and saloons that peppered the American west. Poker was rapidly gaining popularity cross the frontier.
- **California:** Stud poker (five-card) became popular on the west coast in the years surrounding the California Gold Rush in 1849. Eventually, the game was expanded from five to seven cards.

How did it become Texas Hold'em?

Imagine This ...

You are playing the game you always have. Suddenly, someone decide I want to bet again. After a round.. the guy decides to bet another time! Well that is not how the usual game is played... but it does start making players think!

The exact origins of Hold'em remain a bit lost over the years. However, most agree the game was birthed in its namesake state (Texas) in Robstown sometime during the early 1900s.

After the game spread throughout Texas, hold 'em was introduced to Las Vegas in 1963 at the California Club by Corky McCorquodale. The game became popular and quickly spread to the Golden Nugget, Stardust, and Dunes. In 1967, Texan gamblers and card players, including Crandell Addington, Doyle Brunson, and Amarillo Slim, played in Las Vegas. During this time, the term "ace's high" was changed from the original form in which aces were low. Addington said the first time he saw the game was in 1959. "They didn't call it Texas hold 'em at the time, and they just called it to hold 'em.... I thought then that if it were to catch on, it would become the game. Draw Poker; you bet only twice; hold 'em, you bet four times. That meant you could play strategically. This was more of a thinking man's game."



Changing the game added a bit of magic making it the most popular form of Poker today! As of now, you do not have to have the best hand to win!

The Start And Positions of the Game

How does the game start?

The game starts with the dealer. A poker dealer distributes cards and manages the action at the table. The button is a marker that indicates which player is dealing in home games or in casino games with a house dealer, the player who acts last on that deal. The dealer first shuffles the cards, then starts handing out cards to the person to his direct left and proceeds clockwise

Poker Table Positions

Position in the poker game is an order or arrangement in which players are seated around the poker table. Creators categorized the positions into three categories as Blinds, Early, Mid, and Late Positions.

- The Dealer Button is placed on a table to keep a pointer from where the blinds, i.e., small blind and blind, will start. Generally, the dealer button is a pointer shown as "D" on the poker table, which keeps moving forward with the hands played.
- Blinds in poker refer to forced bets. The system always predefines the values. They are the Small and Big Blinds. The Small Blind makes the minimum of half the bet while the large has to make a full bet.
- In poker, the term "stealing the blinds" means that you are bluffing in an attempt to take down the blinds (small and big blinds) pre-flop (before round two).

- The Early Positions start with UTG (Under The Gun).
- The Middle Positions Start with UTG+2
- The Late positions start at Hijack and end at On the Button
- The most desirable position in Texas Hold 'em poker is getting seated "on the button" or Dealer position due to acting at the end of each betting round.

Click to Flip Each Card

On The Button

The last position to act, and the advantage is that he can see what all the other players have decided to do before he must make a decision.

Small Blind

This position is on the immediate left of the button. The small blind has to place bet regardless of their hand

UTG/UTG+1

Big Blind

This position is next to the small blind. He must make a full bet, regardless of his cards.

UTG/UTG+1

This position is the immediate player left of the Big Blind, also referred to as "UTG". The player sitting left of the UTG is known as UTG +1.

UTG +2/+3

Known as Middle Positions, the UTG+2 is on a table of nine and with the additional UTG +3 on the ten player tables.

Hijack

This Position is the player immediately right of the 'cutoff' and second to the right of the dealer button.

Cut Off

This positions is the player sitting immediately to the right of the dealer button. It is the second-best position in the hand of poker.

Advantages of the Positions

A few of the positions in the game have great advantages in terms of developing a strategy.

- On the Button always goes last so they can see what everyone else does. This means they always go first the following round.
- The Cut off is the second most desired position as they go next to the last..
- Hijack is in the best place to steal the blinds from.
- Under The Gun is the first place that the players can act after the deal.
- Small Blind is the second to act in the round two.
- The Big Blind is the third to act in round two.

Which Position does what?

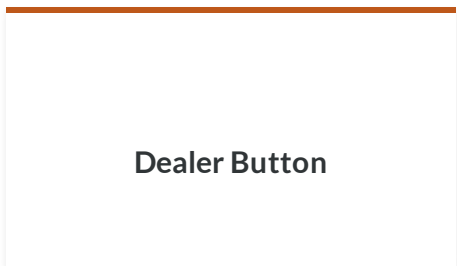
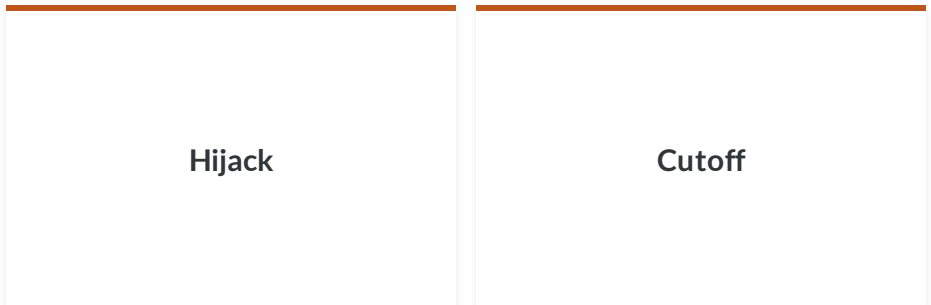
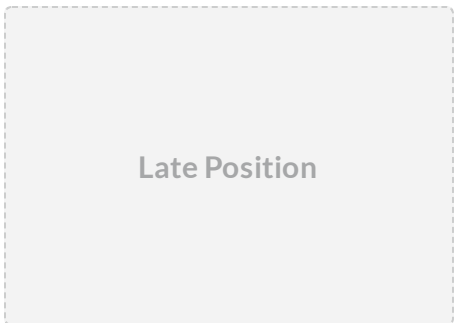
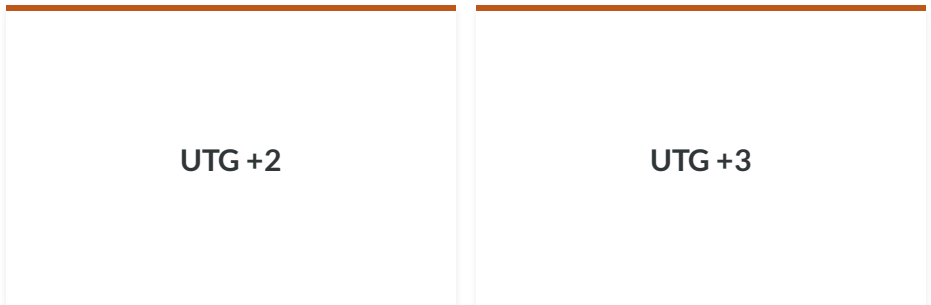
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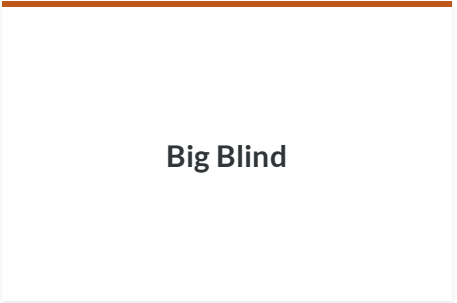
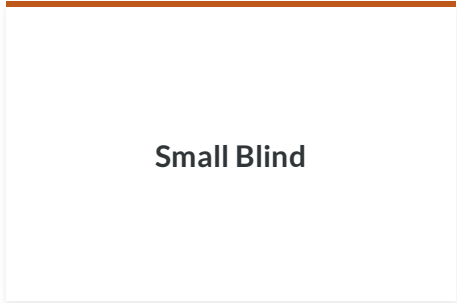
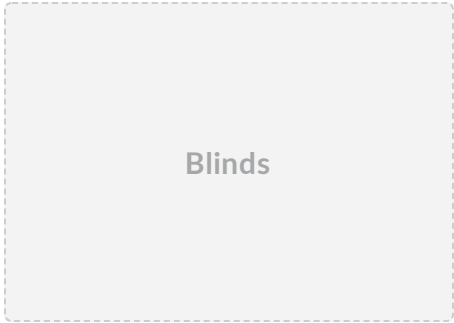
Drag and Drop the Position into the Right Category

Early Position

UTG

UTG+1





Rounds of the Game and Terminology

The Rounds

In Texas Hold'em, there are five rounds to a game: Pre-Flop, Flop, Turn, River, and Showdown.

1

Pre-Flop: The round immediately after the deal.

2

Flop: At the start of the Flop round, the Dealer places three community cards upright in the middle of the table. Normal play then proceeds starting with the player clockwise from the Dealer.

3

Turn/Fourth Street: At the start of the Turn Round, or Fourth Street, the Dealer places a fourth card in the community.

4

River/Fifth Street: At the start of the River Round, the Dealer places a fifth and final card in the community.

5

Showdown: If there are still players in the game after the River Round, players must over turn their cards for all to see with the highest hand taking the pot.

At the end of the Showdown round, the Dealer, Left Blind and Right Blind rotate clockwise and gameplay begins again

The Moves

Fold

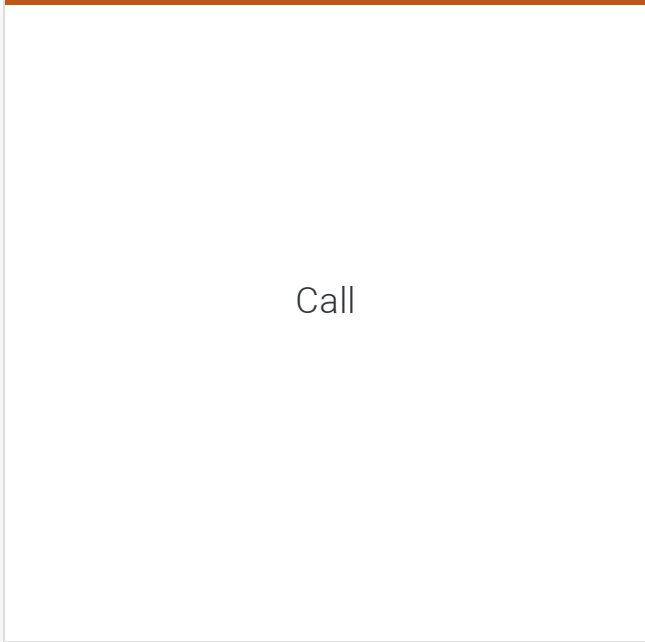
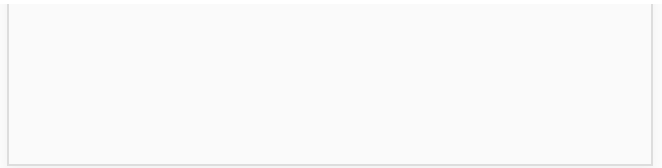
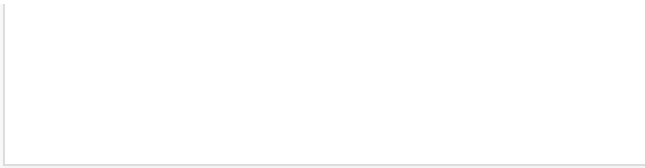
To fold, players surrender their hand, losing whatever bets they may have made in the game the pot.

Check

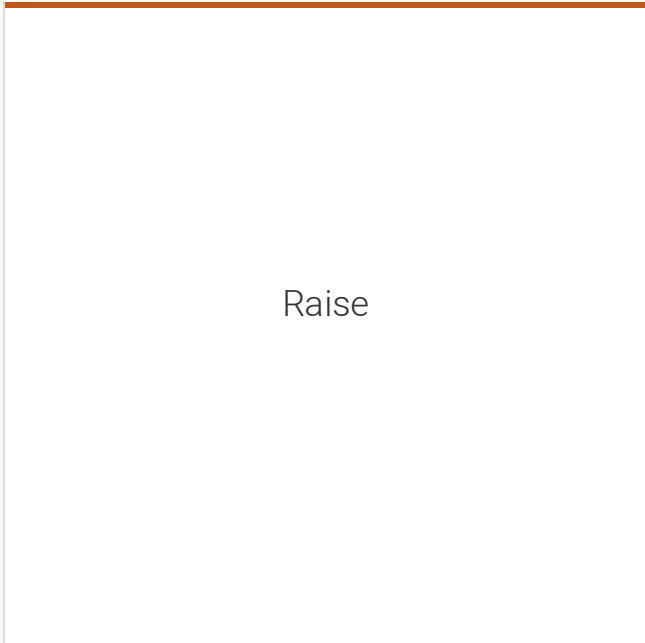
To check, players pass on the option to make a bet. Checks can only happen if no bets had been made in the round thus far.

Bet

To bet, players put in any amount of money they think matches the worth of their hand into the pot. The first bet determines the stakes of the round



To call, players make a bet equal to the amount of the previous bet.



To raise, players make a bet larger than the amount of the previous bet.

Check Your Understanding

Please choose one of the choices below that best answers each question.

Which round does the dealer show the first three community cards?

River

Flop

Showdown

Turn

SUBMIT

Terminology

So terms you may hear when playing Texas Hold'em

Ante

A forced bet which must be made by all players at the table prior to cards being dealt. This bet is made in addition to the blinds.

Burn card

—

Before the flop, turn, and river are dealt the dealer will burn one card by moving it into the muck.

Community Cards

—

These are the cards dealt face up on the table which can be used by all players to make a hand with their two hole cards.

Continuation Bet

—

When a player bets pre-flop, they almost always bet on the flop, which is known as a continuation bet.

Flush

—

A five card hand of all the same suit

Four of a Kind

—

Four of the same ranked cards

Full House

—

A five card hand consisting of a three of a kind and a pair

Hand

—

The two hole cards a player has, the five cards they use at the end, and the complete action from the first card that is dealt to the showdown.

In Position

—

Acting after another player or players in a hand is known as being in position. This carries an advantage as you get to see everyone else act first

Muck —

Muck can refer to folding a hand or the muck is the pile of cards that have been discarded by the players and dealer. It can also mean in a showdown the caller will muck, or throw away, their hand if the first player has shown a better hand

Open Ended Straight Draw —

When a player holds four cards in sequential order and requires one more on either end to make a straight

Option —

When there are no raisers pre-flop the option is given to the big blind to check and see the flop, or bet

Pair —

Two cards of the same rank

Pot —

The money in the middle of that table that is made up of bets and calls, which players are competing for

Royal Flush

—

The best possible hand in poker which is a straight from ten to ace of all the same suit

Straight

—

Five cards in sequential order. In poker ace can act as a high or low card

Straight Flush

—

A straight that also is all in the same suit

Tell

—

An action, either verbal or non-verbal, that a player makes which gives away information about their hand. Online tells can include bet sizes and timing

Three of a Kind

—

Three cards of the same rank

End of the Game



Round Five starts the end of the game and it is known as the Showdown.

Imagine This ...

Eight players surround you as you sit at the Poker table. As the last bet hits the table from the button, you still have a shot at winning! With a Flip of the Dealer's hand, a 6 of Hearts becomes visible. In your hole, you have a 7 of Diamonds and a 2 of Clubs. Do you fold, or do you bluff with your Straight?



This is the Magic of Texas Hold 'em... Bluff to win and cause the others to fold or fold yourself?

Bluffing your way to force all the other players to fold is the most common way the game ends.

The showdown is the least common way to win

In Texas Hold'em, the showdown is a situation when, if more than one player remains after the last betting round, remaining players expose and compare their hands to determine the winner or winners.

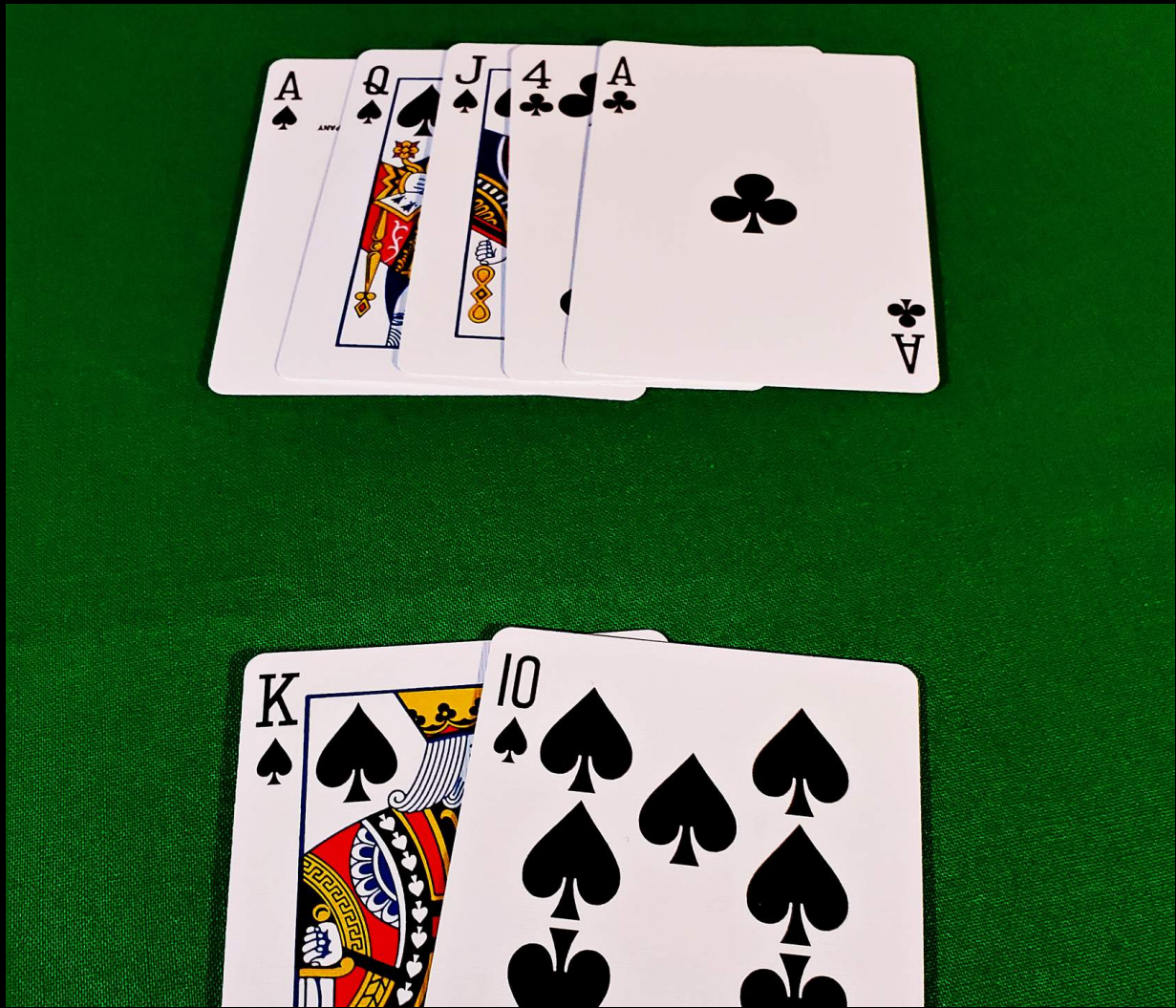


Who Wins This Round?

Ties happen. In Poker it is extremely rare, but it does happen.

Winning Hands

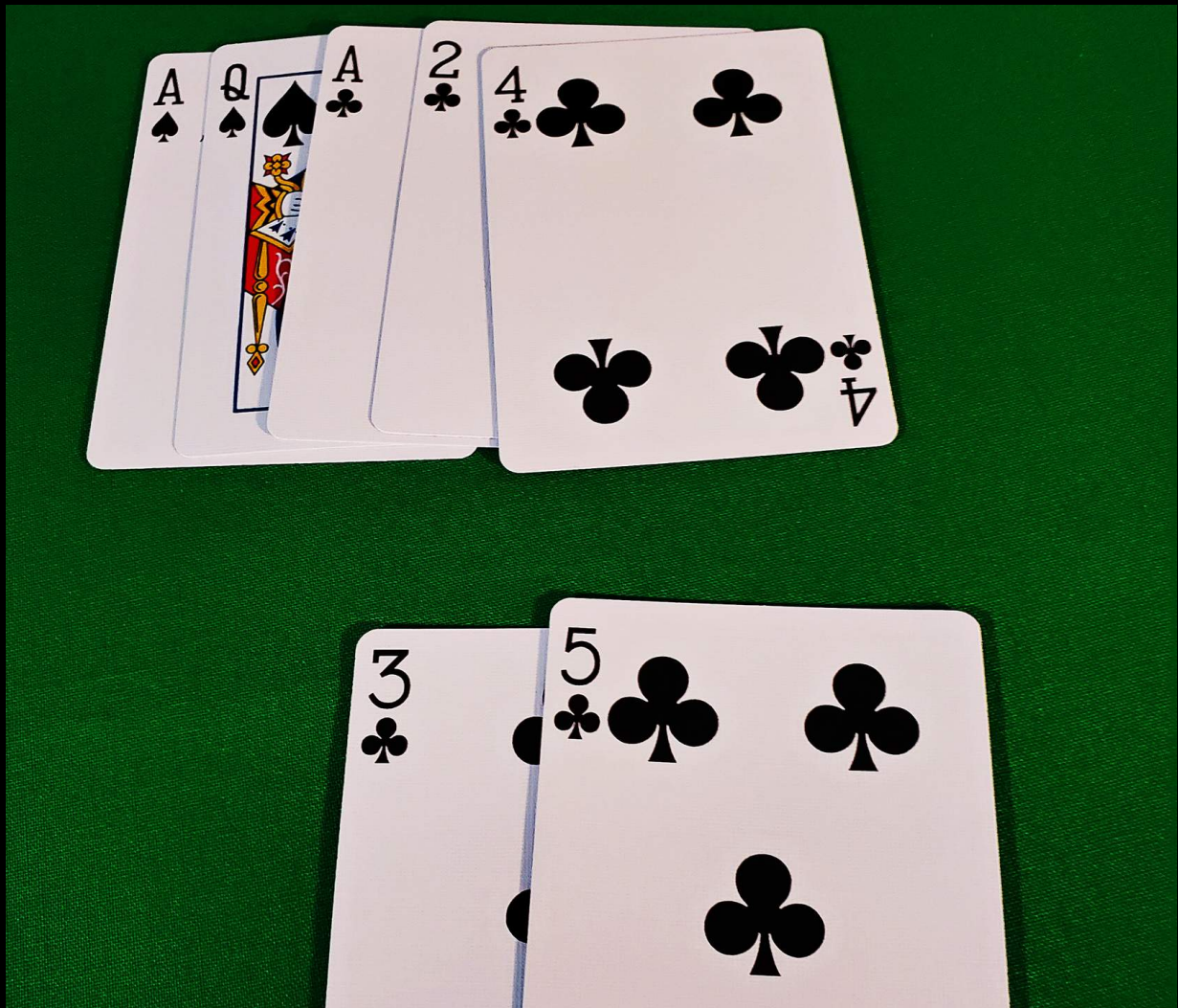
Winning Hands in Texas Hold'Em in Order



A Royal Flush Of Spades

Royal Flush

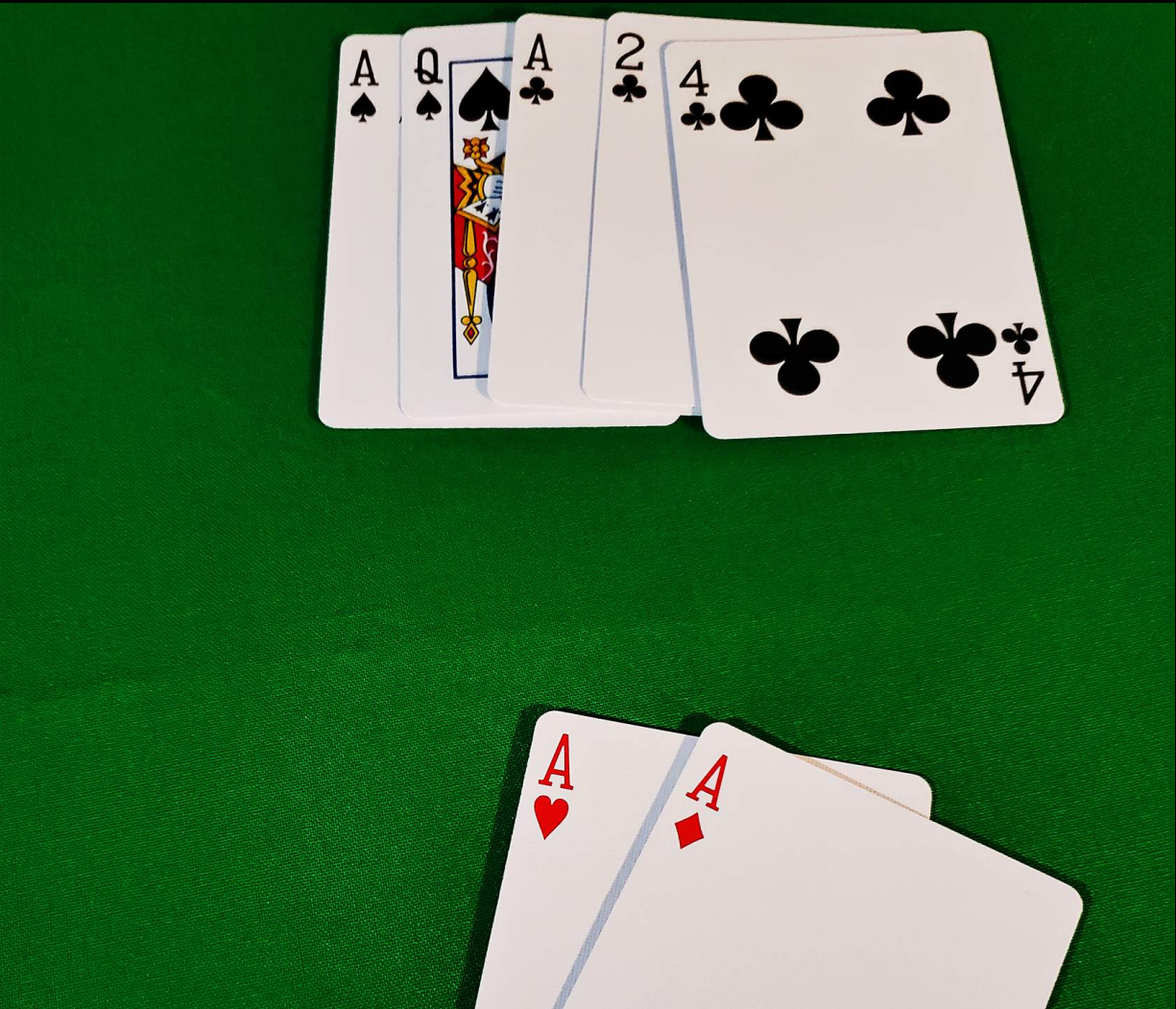
Nothing beats a Royal Flush. This is the best hand in poker and it's very rare. This is a Straight from 10 to Ace.



A Straight Flush Of Clubs

Straight Flush

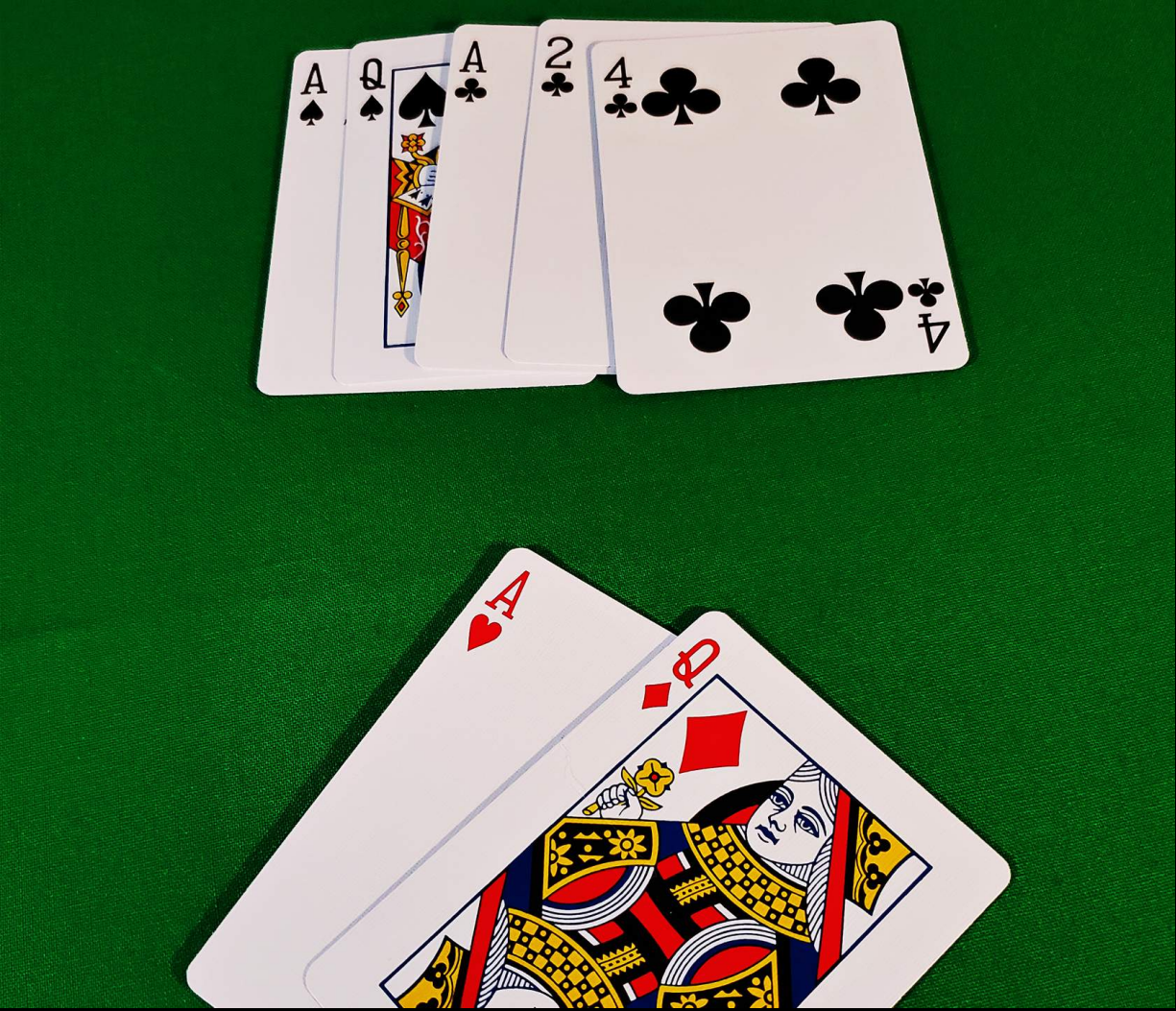
The second best hand. Just like a straight, but the cards are all the same suit. In this example, they are all consecutive clubs.



Four Aces

Four of a Kind

As the name says, this is four of the same cards. The hand is completed with the highest cards in your hand. Four Aces are the highest ranking in this hand.

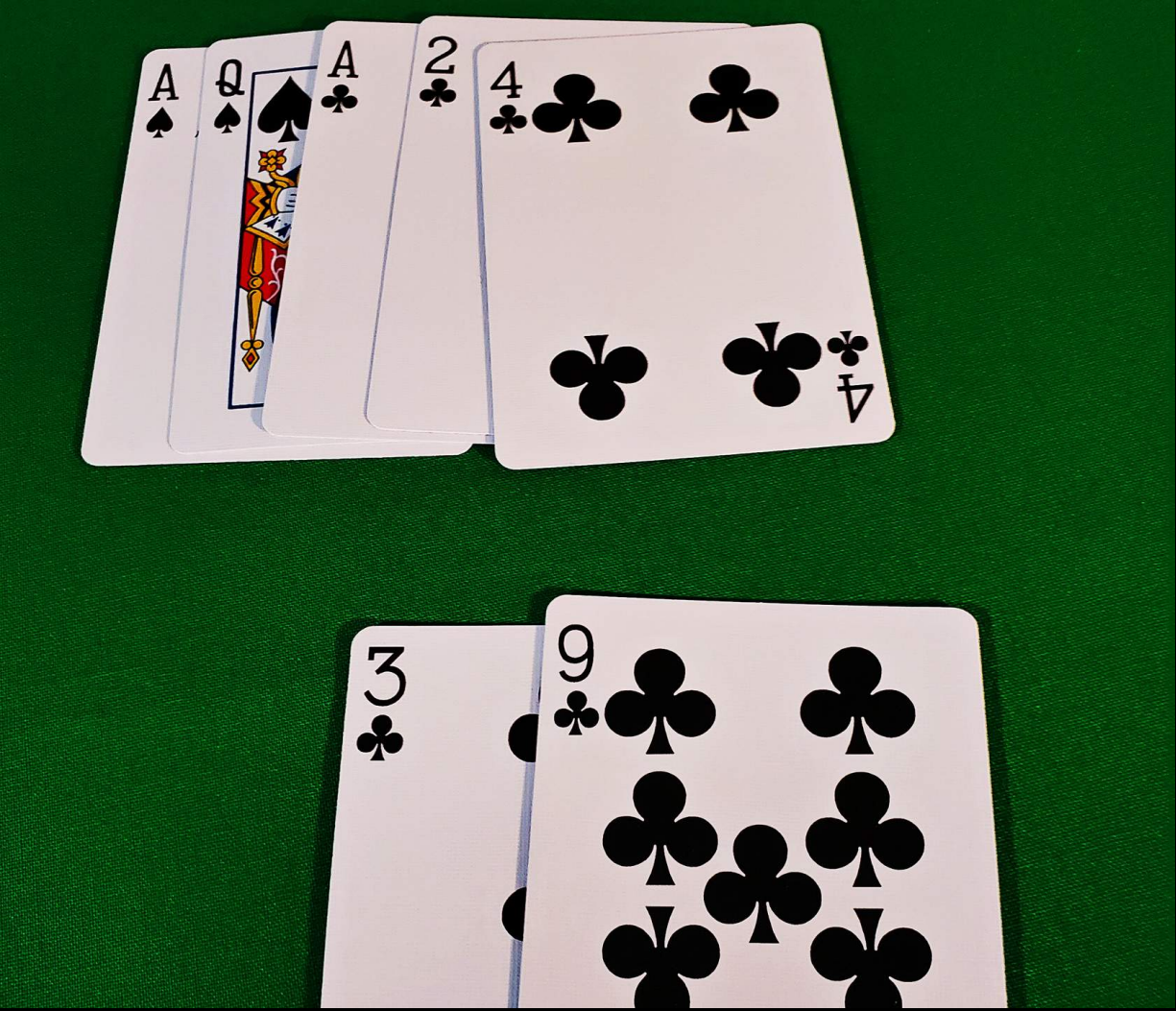


Full House Aces Full Of Queens

A Full House

A combination of three of a kind and a pair. The full house hand that has the highest three of a kind cards wins from other full houses. All full houses can be described with the expression “Xs full of Ys” where X is the three of a kind component of a full house and Y is the pair component of a full house.

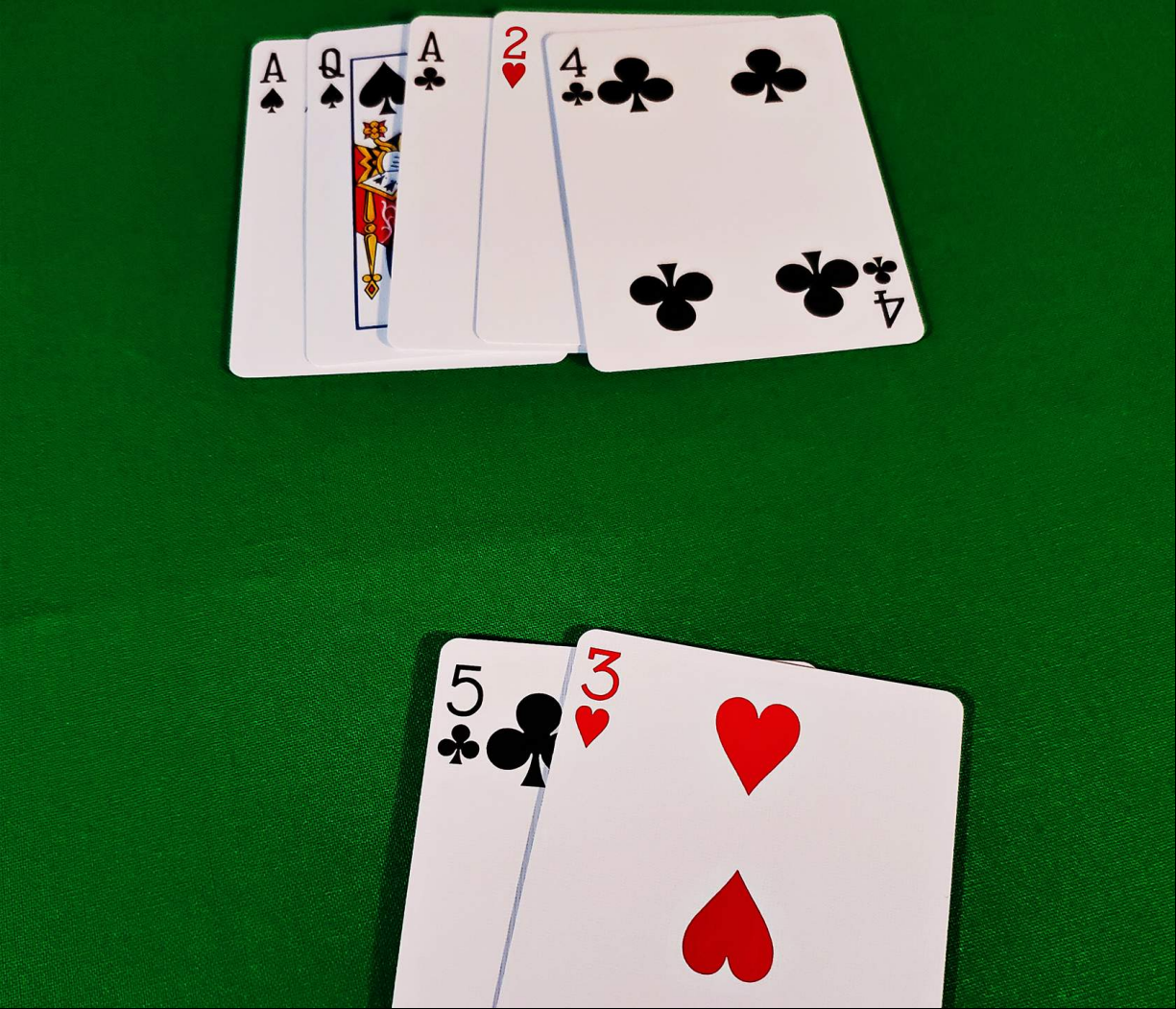
Aces full of Kings is the strongest possible full house in poker.



A Flush Of Clubs

Flush

Five cards that are all the same suit. These don't need to be in any order. If two players have a flush, the player with the highest card in the flush wins.



A Straight Starting With An Ace And Followed By A Two

Straight

A series of five cards that follow each other, but are not the same suit. Aces can follow a king, or start a straight followed by a two.

A Quick Check

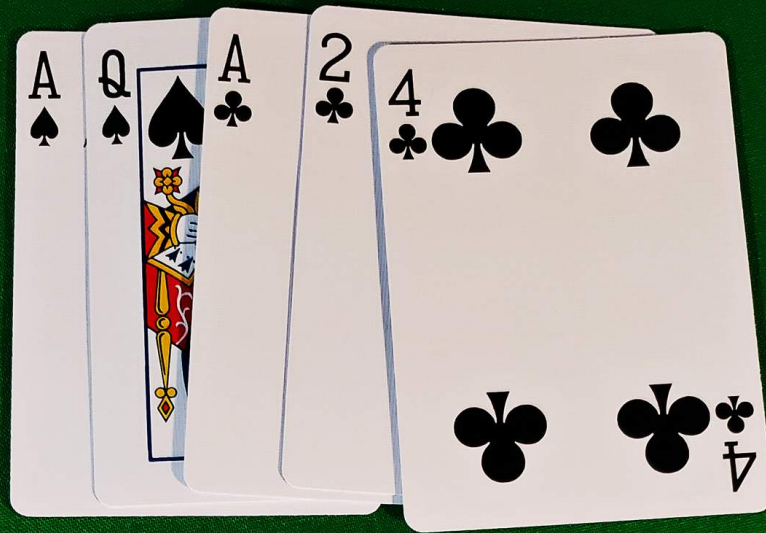
What kind of Flush is the best in the game?

Type your answer here

SUBMIT

Three of a Kind

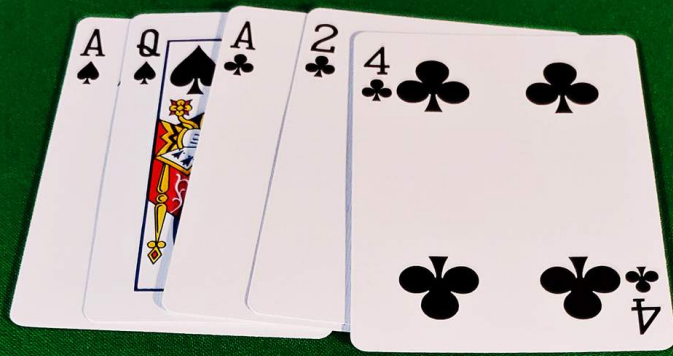
Three cards of the same kind, for example three aces.



Three Aces

Two Pair

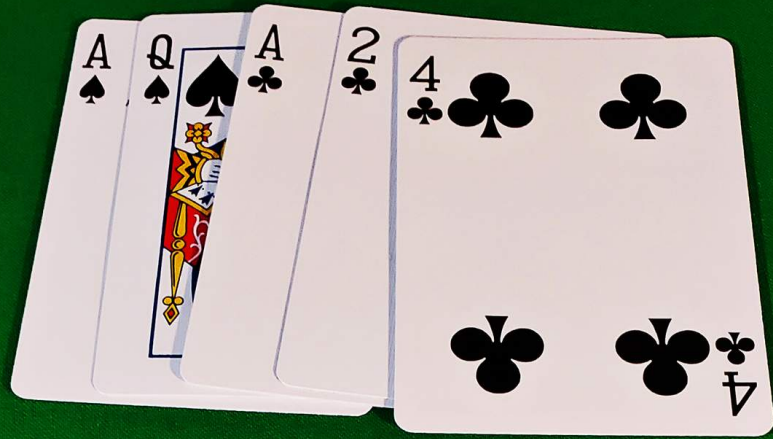
Two sets of the same kind, for example two kings and two queens. All two pairs can be described with the expression "Xs over Ys" where X is the pair component and Y is the next pair component. Aces will always beat up to a King and so on. If both players have an ace, then the higher of the smaller pair wins.



Aces Over Queens

A Pair

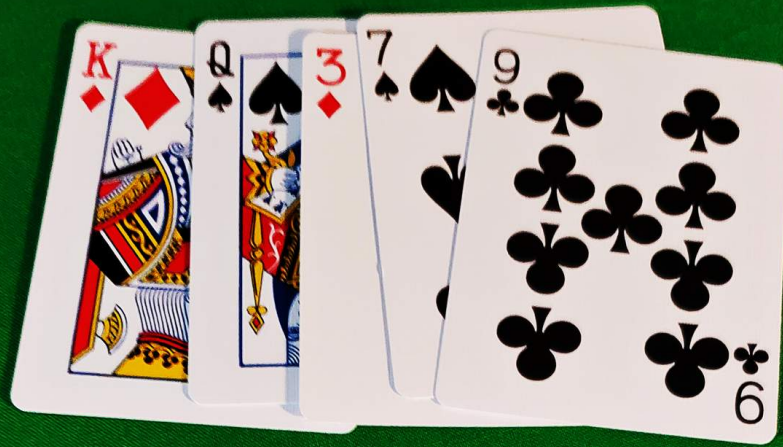
Two cards of the same kind. For example two aces.



A Pair of Aces

High Card

You have none of the above hands then the highest single card wins. The example uses an ace.



High Card

A Quick Check

Enter a question title here...

☰ Aces Over Queens

Two Pairs

☰ Aces

A Pair Of Aces

☰ Aces Full Of Queens

Full House

SUBMIT

Top Ranked Hands

Royal Flush

Straight Flush

Four of a Kind

Middle Ranked Hands

Full House

A Flush

A Straight

Low Ranked Hands

Three of a Kind

Two Pair

A Pair

High Card

Quiz

A Quick knowledge and assessment test for new dealers who complete the Lesson.

Question

01/10

Choose The Correct Answer Below

Which is not the name of one of the rounds in Texas Hold'em?

River

Flop

Bank

Showdown

Question

02/10

Choose two responses that are the lowest Hands to win with.

High Card

Royal Flush

Straight Flush

Two Pair

Flush

Question

03/10

True or False

In a normal flush, all the suits have to be the same and the numbers are consecutive

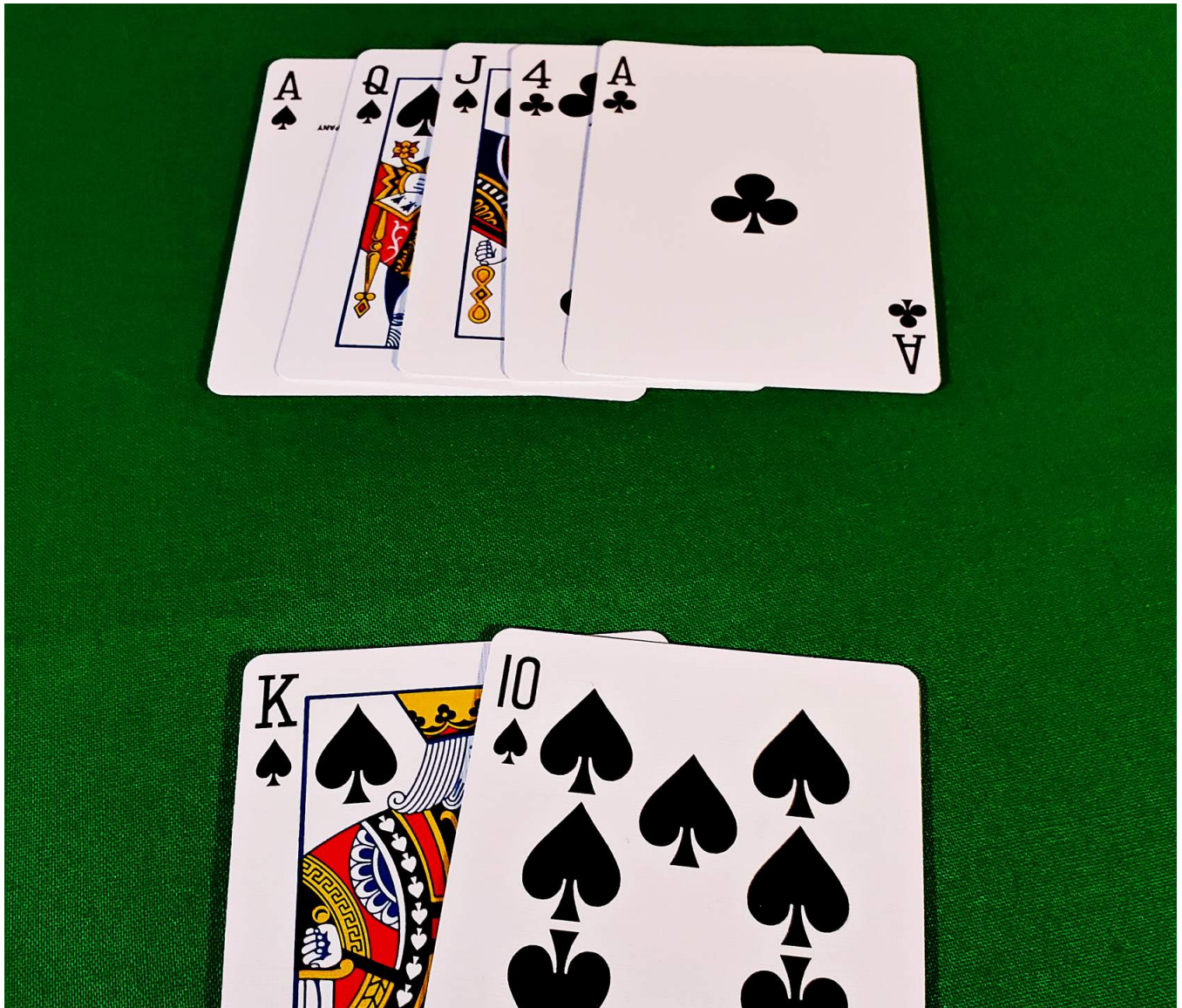
True

False

Question

04/10

Which hand is shown in the picture below?



Flush

Straight

Royal Flush

Straight Flush

Question

05/10

Match the Position to it's correct category

☰ UTG +2	Blinds
☰ Under The Gun (UTG)	Late Position
☰ Big Blind	Blinds
☰ UTG +1	Early Position
☰ Small Blind	Middle Position
☰ The Button	Middle Position
☰ Hijack	Early Position
☰ Cut off	Late Position



UTG +3

Late Position

Question

06/10

Choose three correct terms used in Texas Hold'em

Pot

Doubling Rule

Flush

Straight

Ace-Point

Question

07/10

True or False

A Straight is comprised of consecutive cards

True

False

Question

08/10

Match the Poker Terms to the Correct Hand

☰ Eights Over Sevens

A Full House with Eights and Sevens

☰ A Quad of Eights

A Pairs of Eights and Sevens

☰ Eights Full of Sevens

Four Eights

Question

09/10

True or False

A Straight Flush beats a Royal Flush

True

False

Question

10/10

The Showdown is a round and the most common way to win

True

False

Summary

Everyone Must Do Their Part

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Remind your learners that information security is a team effort.

Information Security Checklist

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Complete the content above before moving on.

Have Questions?

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Help Desk

Direct your learners toward a team email address.

EMAIL

Security Team

Direct your learners toward a team email address.

EMAIL



Thank you for helping to keep [Company Name] safe!