

# Casino Blackjack Keys

## Keyboard Shortcuts usable at any time:

Key	Function
F1	Gets Help and displays the Help Index for Casino Blackjack. If the Help window is already open, pressing F1 displays the "Using Windows Help" topics.

## Keyboard Shortcuts usable when Betting:

Key	Function
1	Bet Minimum
2	Bet Double the minimum bet
3	Bet Triple the minimum bet
4	Bet Quadruple the minimum bet
5	Bet Quintuple the minimum bet
M	Bet the Maximum
B	Display the Bet Dialog
Enter	Tell dealer all bets are complete. If a player has not bet, the player sits out a hand.

## Keyboard Shortcuts usable when Playing:

Key	Function
T	Stand
H	Hit/Draw
D	Double
S	Split
U	Surrender



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## Betting

At the outset of each hand, you place a bet in the white rectangle in the center of your screen. There are four ways in which you may place or retrieve your bet:

- 1) Drag the appropriate number of chips to or from the betting area using your mouse.
- 2) Double click on the chip denomination you wish to bet or retrieve.
- 3) Click on the appropriate bet amount in the Commands window.
- 4) Without holding any chips, drag the mouse upward and release. This will bring up a bet dialog where you can type your bet amount or click on chips to add or remove from bet.

After a hand wins or pushes (including split hands), chips won or retained may be used as the next bet or returned to your credit stacks. Clicking on Deal in the Commands window, or betting additional chips will cause all chips left on the table to center in the bet box for the next hand.

Note: clicking lower into a chip stack will allow you to drag multiple chips to or from the bet box.

## The Game

Every player and the dealer are initially dealt two cards each. Each player's hand is played against the dealer's hand only. If you obtain a hand value closer to twenty-one (without going over) than the dealer, you will win your hand.

You might conclude that the object of the game is to obtain a hand value as close to twenty-one as possible without going over. However, this is **NOT** true for the expert. His objective is simply to **Beat The Dealer!**

## Card Values

Cards 2 - 10     a numerical value equal to the number printed on the card.

Face cards     Jack, Queen and King have the value of ten.

Aces     Aces may be counted as either eleven or one.

Hint:

Value of the Ace

**Hint: Value of the Ace**

The value of the ace seems to confuse some players under the "heat of the action". Always count the ace as eleven until a count of eleven will put your hand over twenty-one, then count the ace as one. Thinking of the ace in these terms will make adding your total card value easier.

## A Blackjack

Blackjack - a hand with the value of twenty-one in the first two cards. This hand contains an ace and a ten valued card. A blackjack is the most powerful hand in the game of blackjack.

When you receive a blackjack, the dealer will pay you three chips for every two that you have bet unless the dealer also has a blackjack. When both you and the dealer have blackjacks, your bet is simply retained by you.



## Play Options

<u>Hit</u>	Take another card.
<u>Stand</u>	Stop taking cards.
<u>Split</u>	An option available on a two card hand in which each card has equal value (a ten and a queen are cards of equal value). When you split your hand, an amount equal to your original wager will be anted and your hand split. You play two separate hands. Some casinos enforce restrictions on splitting a pair of aces or restrictions on doubling down on split hands.
<u>Double Down</u>	The double down option is only allowed on a two card hand. When doubling down, an amount equal to your original wager will be wagered, doubling your bet. You are dealt one additional card. Your hand is played using the three cards. Some casinos enforce double down restrictions.
<u>Surrender</u>	The surrender option is allowed on two card hands only. You give up half of your wager and surrender all chances of winning the hand.
<u>Insurance</u>	The insurance option is simply another form of wager that is offered to the players when the dealer has an ace showing. Those who take the insurance wager are betting that the dealer has a blackjack. The insurance bet costs one-half your original wager, and the payoff, should the dealer indeed have a blackjack, is two-to-one.

## Terminology

Push	a hand value identical to dealer's, the bet is neither won nor lost,
Bust	a hand value over twenty-one, a losing hand
Hole Card	dealer's down card
Shoe	a plastic box that sits on the table from which the cards are dealt
Cut the Deck	insertion of a plastic card into a shuffled deck to determine the re-shuffle point
Burn	after a cut, dealer places 1 to 5 cards into the discard box before the deal
First Base	first position dealt, on dealer's immediate left
Third Base	last position dealt, on dealer's immediate right
Eye in the Sky	overhead electronic surveillance in the casinos

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Related Topics:

[A Blackjack](#)

[Play Options](#)

[Hard and Soft Hands](#)

## Hard and Soft Hands

When you have an ace in your hand that counts as eleven, you have what is known as a "soft hand". If you hold no aces or have an ace in your hand that counts as one, you have a "hard hand".

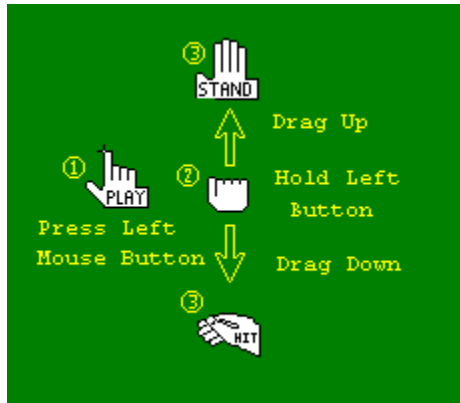
Hint:

[Remembering Hard and Soft Hands](#)

**Hint: Remembering Hard and Soft Hands**

Think of an ace in your hand as flexible or "soft" because the hand value can always be reduced. Whenever you have a soft hand, you hold a distinct advantage over the dealer. This is because you can never bust when you hit a soft hand.

## Signaling Hit or Stand



To signal a hit, hold the left mouse button down and drag the mouse toward you. To signal an intention to stand, hold the left mouse button down and push the mouse away from you. In either case, releasing the left mouse button completes the intended signal.

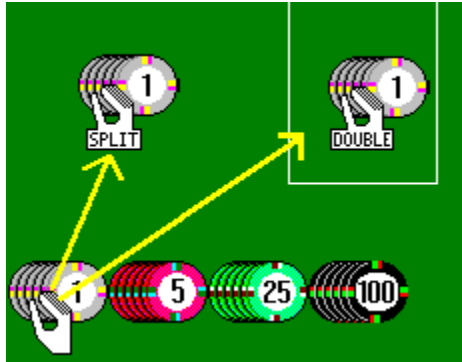
If you decide to change your mind before you release the left mouse button, you may do so. Continue holding the left mouse button down and drag the mouse in the opposite direction of the signal just indicated. When the hand cursor returns to its original form you may safely release the left mouse button or perform any other legal action.

The alternative to hand signals is to select hit or stand in either the commands window or the commands menu.

Hand Signals:

Split or Double Down  
Surrender  
Insurance

## Signaling Split or Double Down



To signal a split or double down, click on the chip stacks immediately in front of you. The appropriate amount of chips will automatically be selected. When you have two cards of equal value, releasing the chips to the left or right of the bet box will signal the intention to split. Releasing the chips in the bet box will signal an intention to double down. Returning the chips you are holding to your chip stacks, before releasing the left mouse button, will allow you to reconsider.

The alternative to hand signals is to select split, or double down in either the commands window or the commands menu.

Hand Signals:

Hit or Stand

Surrender

Insurance

## Signaling Surrender

To signal an intention to surrender you must either click on surrender in the commands window or the commands menu. There is no hand signal to signal surrender.

Hand Signals:

Hit or Stand

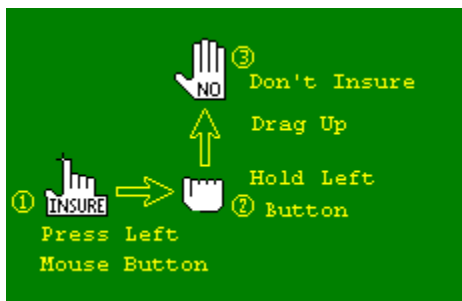
Split or Double Down

Insurance

## Signaling Insurance



To take insurance, click on the chip stacks immediately in front of you. Enough chips to cover the insurance bet will automatically be selected. Drag the insurance bet to the insurance semi-circle above the bet box and release the left mouse button.



To decline insurance, hold the left mouse button down and push the mouse away from you. Releasing the left mouse button completes the intended signal.

Hand Signals:

Hit or Stand

Split or Double Down

Surrender





# Casino Blackjack

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## Menu Commands

The menu bar is the standard interface to all of the Casino Blackjack features. Click the mouse on the action you wish to access or Windows users can depress the Alt key in conjunction with the underlined letter of the action.

Game    Commands    View    Options    Help

<u>G</u> ame	Select players and buy chips
<u>C</u> ommands	Blackjack game commands
<u>V</u> iew	Controls screen display options
<u>O</u> ptions	Sound, screen colors, rules and programmable options
<u>H</u> elp	Provides access to Help topics

## Game Menu

Players	Selecting Players will allow you to add a player, remove one and/or move them around the table.
Buy Chips	Buy Chips allows you to buy more chips for any of the players.
Exit Blackjack	Exits from the game automatically saving the current settings.

## Commands Menu

The blackjack playing decisions may be selected through the Commands Menu. You may have a Commands Window accessible on your screen at all time by checking it in the view menu.

Most all of the blackjack playing decisions may also be implemented via hand signals.

Hand Signals:

Hit or Stand  
Surrender

Split or Double Down  
Insurance

## View Menu

The View Menu has a number of settings which are represented by a check mark. When checked an item is visible on the viewing screen.

Commands	Allows you to make the blackjack playing commands visible in a moveable window on your playing screen.
Player Credit	The player credit window is a moveable window which shows the credit you have remaining.
Hand Value	Hand value is the total value of the hand showing. It is located to the left of the hand it represents.
Play Results	Play Results displays a dialog show you how well each player is doing.
CD Player	Selecting CD displays the CD Player controls. This entry will be disabled if you don't have a CD Player. Note: some CD Player drivers don't respond properly if there is not a CD in the drive when Casino Blackjack is started. If you have a CD Player and this entry is disabled, try putting a CD in the drive and restarting Casino Blackjack.

## Options Menu

Sound	Toggle sound effects on/off.
Background Color	Change the table felt color.
Rules	Set house rules, table limits in the Game menu will bring up a dialog box which will allow you to set the house rules and game parameters.
Preferences	Modify game timing, right mouse button functionality and messaging.

# Help

The Help Menu includes the following selections:

Index	Selecting this option will give you an index of all available categories for which you may obtain help.
Menu Commands	Selecting the Commands option will give you a listing of available Casino Blackjack commands.
Keyboard	Gives you help with the keyboard commands.
How to Play	The How to Play option will offer help on how to play.
Search On	Search On allows you to search for help.
Using Help	Explains how to use the Windows help system.
About Blackjack	Displays information about this version of Blackjack.



## CD Player

You may play any of your favorite music CDs in your computer's CD-ROM drive while you enjoy your game. If a CD-ROM drive is present on your system, you will be able to select the *CD Player...* menu item.

Once selected, you may place the CD Player dialog box anywhere on your screen by dragging the CD Player Title Bar to the desired screen location. Clicking on the *System-Menu* box, in the upper left corner of the CD Player dialog, allows you to move, close or alter the dialog box appearance. If the System Menu box is not visible, double-clicking in the white area of the CD Player window will cause it to appear.

Status	shows the current CD track, the total number of CD tracks and the elapsed time into the current track.
Buttons	makes the CD play, stop, previous track, next track and eject control buttons visible.
No Title	shrinks the dialog box by eliminating the Title Bar. Double-clicking on a blank area of the dialog box will cause the Title Bar to re-appear.
Small Buttons	shrinks the dialog box by making the control buttons smaller.

Note: some CD Player drivers don't respond properly if there is not a CD in the drive when Blackjack is started. If you have a CD Player and this entry is disabled, try putting a CD in the drive and restarting Blackjack.

