



**Procedures & Training
for the State of
Washington**

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Guidelines for High Tie Blackjack™

PLAYING THE GAME

High Tie Blackjack is a traditional blackjack game with an attractive side bet option. Players may place the side bet in accordance with the posted table minimums and maximums. One version of the side-bet option may be dealt from a shoe using a single deck, double deck, or four (4), six (6), or eight (8) decks. The player is wagering that his first two (2) cards will either form a Blackjack, a suited Blackjack, a pair, suited pair, or that both the dealer and player have Blackjacks, which is called a High Tie. In the case of one and two deck games, the side bet also pays for two suited cards. Once the side wagers have been settled, the dealer continues dealing normal Blackjack where all house rules apply. A second version of the side-bet option is dealt from a four (4), six (6), or eight (8) deck shoe and combines the player's first card and the dealer's first card to give players three additional ways to win at blackjack. For this option, the following payouts apply: 5 to 1 for either a tie or blackjack and 16 to 1 for matching the dealer. To obtain a tie with the dealer the player's first card must be the same as the dealer's first card (rank only). The blackjack would occur when a combination of the player's first card and dealer's first card produced a natural blackjack. Finally, if the player's first card matches the dealer's first card in both rank and suit, the player receives a payout of 16 to 1. Again, once all side wagers have been settled, the Dealer continues dealing normal Blackjack where all house rules apply.

BETTING FOR THE DEALER

Management at each casino will make the determination on bets for the dealer.

HOW IS THE GAME DEALT

The dealer will shuffle the deck(s) using the appropriate house procedure. The shuffled cards are then placed into a shoe. The dealer deals Blackjack in the normal house fashion. Once all cards are dealt, the dealer settles any side bet wagers using the posted pay table. The dealer first collects all losing side bets, then goes back and pays any winning side bets. When all side wagers are settled the dealer will continue the game as any standard blackjack game.

NEW DECK

The casino supervisor will bring new decks of cards to the table, remove the cellophane, and break the seal in front of the dealer. The supervisor and/or dealer examine the decks for duplicates, omissions, flaws, or marks.

DECK IN PLAY

Once the cards have been put into play, it is the dealer's responsibility to insure that they are kept in good condition.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TABLE AND EQUIPMENT

The High Tie Blackjack table is a semi-circle playing surface. The table includes:

- A padded rail attached to the circular outer edge of the table.
- A felt playing surface (containing miscellaneous logos) and having six betting positions with a side wager circle at the upper right of each betting position.
- A chip rack (with clear security cover) located on the straight edge of the table.
- A playing card discard holder.
- A table limit sign.
- A dealer tip box (optional).
- A dealing shoe.

OPENING THE TABLE FOR PLAY

A casino supervisor will unlock the rack that holds the value chips. A form (opener) will be used to obtain signatures from the dealer and supervisor when the bank has been verified. If a discrepancy exists, a form (error notification) indicating the nature of the discrepancy will be filled out by a supervisor and signed by both the supervisor and dealer. A casino supervisor will bring cards to the table. The decks are opened at the table and checked for imperfections.

- a) After receiving new decks of cards at the table, the dealer will inspect and shuffle the cards in accordance with established house procedures.
- b) Cards will be changed at regularly scheduled intervals throughout the gaming day.

SIDE WAGER PAYOUTS FOR HIGH TIE BLACKJACK: DEFINITION

VERSION 1

- a) **"High Tie"** - To obtain a High Tie both the dealer and the player must have Blackjack.
- b) **"Suited Blackjack"** - A Suited Blackjack would occur when the player's first two cards are a natural blackjack of the same suit (i.e. Ace of Hearts and Queen of Hearts).
- c) **"Suited Pair"** - A Suited Pair would occur when the player's first two cards are equal in both rank and suit (i.e. Queen of Hearts and Queen of Hearts).
- d) **"Unsuited Blackjack"** - An Unsuited Blackjack would occur when the player's first two cards are a natural blackjack (i.e. Ace of Hearts and Jack of Spades).
- e) **"Unsuited Pair"** - An Unsuited Pair would occur when the player's first two cards are equal in rank only (i.e. 8 of Clubs and 8 of Hearts).
- f) **"Two Suited Cards"** - Two Suited Cards would occur when the player's first two cards are equal in suit only (i.e. Queen of Hearts and 3 of Hearts). This payout is only used in single and double deck games.

VERSION 2

- a) **“Tie”** - To obtain a tie with the dealer the player’s first card must be the same as the dealer’s first card (rank only), i.e. Jack of Hearts and Jack of Spades. This side wager pays five (5) to one (1).
- b) **“Blackjack”** - A Blackjack would occur when a combination of the player’s first card and dealer’s first card produced a natural blackjack. This side wager pays five (5) to one (1).
- c) **“Match”** - A Match would occur if the player’s first card matched the dealer’s first card in both rank and suit, i.e. Queen of Hearts and Queen of Hearts. This side wager pays sixteen (16) to one (1).

VERSION 3 – See Paytable**WAGERS**

- a) All wagers at High Tie Blackjack are made with gaming chips.
- b) The casino establishes the betting limits for all wagers.
- c) Depending on which version is in play, the dealer either compares the player’s first two (2) cards to determine if a side wager is a winner or loser (Version 1) or the dealer compares his first card with that of each player to determine if a side wager is a winner or loser (Version 2).
- d) Only players who are seated at a High Tie Blackjack table may wager at the game. Once a player has placed a wager and received cards, the player will remain seated until the completion of that round of play.

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETION FOR A ROUND OF PLAY

- a) Each player that bets at High Tie Blackjack will be responsible for his own hand. No other persons, other than the player and dealer, may touch the cards of that player. Cards must be kept within the parameters of the table and in full view of the dealer at all times.
- b) For Version 1 the player’s first two (2) cards constitute the cards to use for settlement. Bets are taken or paid accordingly. Winning bets to be paid and pushed out of the circle. For Version 2 the player’s first card constitutes the card to use for settlement. Bets are taken or paid accordingly. Winning bets to be paid and pushed out of the circle. For Version 3, see payable.
- c) When all side wagers are settled, the dealer continues to deal a standard blackjack round and bets are taken or paid accordingly.
- d) All cards are picked up, placed in the discard rack, and bets are placed for the next hand.

PAYTABLES AND PERCENTAGES

VERSION 1 – Recommended Paytables

Recommended Paytable for Four, Six, and Eight Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	50
Suited Blackjack	15
Suited Pair	10
Blackjack	6
Pair	3

- House Edge for Four (4) Decks equals 7.983%
- House Edge for Six (6) Decks equals 6.191%
- House Edge for Eight (8) Decks equals 5.298%

Recommended Paytable for Two Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	25
Suited Pair	6
Suited Blackjack	4
Blackjack	3
Pair	2
2 Suited	1

- House Edge for Two (2) Decks equals 6.823%

Recommended Paytable for Single Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	25
Suited Blackjack	10
Blackjack	3
Pair	2
2 Suited	1

- House Edge for Single Deck equals 6.364%

VERSION 1 – Additional Paytables

Additional Paytable for Four, Six, and Eight Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	25
Suited Blackjack	15
Suited Pair	12
Blackjack	6
Pair	3

- House Edge for Four (4) Decks equals 10.407%
- House Edge for Six (6) Decks equals 8.392%
- House Edge for Eight (8) Decks equals 7.387%

Additional Paytable for Two Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	15
Suited Pair	6
Suited Blackjack	5
Blackjack	3
Pair	2
2 Suited	1

- House Edge for Two (2) Decks equals 7.692%

Additional Paytable for Single Deck Games:

Outcome	Payoff
High Tie Blackjack	15
Suited Blackjack	8
Blackjack	4
Pair	2
2 Suited	1

- House Edge for Single Deck equals 6.975%

VERSION 2 - Paytable

Outcome	Payoff
Match	16
Tie	5
Blackjack	5

- House Edge for Four (4) Decks equals 12.04%
- House Edge for Six (6) Decks equals 9.45%
- House Edge for Eight (8) Decks equals 8.16%

VERSION 3 – Paytable

Outcome	Payoff
Tie Blackjack Player Suited and Dealer Blackjack Suited	100
Tie Blackjack Player and Dealer Blackjack (Any Blackjack)	20
Players First Two Cards (Suited Blackjack)	8
Players First Two Cards (Any Blackjack)	3
Players First Two Cards (Suited or Pair)	1

- House Edge for Single Deck equals 10.90%
- House Edge for Double Deck equals 8.42%
- House Edge for Four (4) Decks equals 7.23%
- House Edge for Six (6) Decks equals 6.02%
- House Edge for Eight (8) Decks equals 5.04%