

These are the guidelines that we generally go by when playing poker. I think I've got them all.

Poker guidelines

1. If possible have no more than **six people per table**. If you have more you won't be able to play many of the games for lack of enough cards to go around.
2. Couples may not sit next to each other, if there is more than one table they should be at separate tables.
3. Each player begins with a pot of **\$5**. Money must be paid before chips are given out. More may be bought later if chips are available.
4. Depending on availability of chips you give **\$1 in nickels (20x white)**, **\$2 in dimes (20x red)**, and **\$2 in quarters (8x blue)**.
5. Make sure you have enough chips for as many people as you invite.
6. **Max bet 50 cents**, a person can raise a maximum of three times (so raises don't get out of hand)
7. Dealer chooses the game and tells everyone any variants.
8. While dealer is dealing the person to their left (clockwise) is shuffling the next deck.
9. **Ante** before cards are dealt is **one nickel**.
10. The person to the right (counter-clockwise) cuts the deck.
11. Deal goes in a clockwise manner.
12. After the first round of deal the person to the dealer's left either **checks (passes) or bets**.
13. The next person clockwise either **calls, raises, or folds**. (the can also check or bet if the person before them checked)
14. This continues until all rounds are complete.
15. Play continues until all players are tired or host decides it's time to go to bed.

etiquette:

1. Always keep all cards above the table.
2. If the person before you checks, you are also allowed to but make sure you say check.
3. The first person to bet says "I'll bet x." not "I'll raise x."
4. Do not say call **and** raise, this confuses things, just say raise.
5. Do not bet or fold out of turn.
6. Do not bet more than any one person can afford. i.e. if a person is putting in their last nickel do not raise any further.

card rankings:

Five of a Kind

Royal Flush

Straight Flush

Four of a Kind

Full House

Flush

Straight

Three of a Kind
Two Pair
One Pair
Nothing.

Two hands that are identical, card for card, are tied since the suits have no relative rank in Poker. In such a case, the tied players split the pot. Note that if two hands contain the same high pair, then the ranking of the next card in the hands determines which one wins.

types of games

1. **Draw** - normal poker, each player dealt 5 cards, betting round, discard round, final betting round
 - variant: **wild cards** - dealer can choose which card(s) are wild
2. **Stud** - each player is dealt two cards face down, betting round, then a card face up, the person with the highest card up showing bets first, followed by another face up then betting round until three cards are face up.
 - variant: **7 card** - same as 5 card stud except there are four face up cards, then a final card face down, finally two cards are discarded from each hand.
 - stud can have wilds or hi/low also.
3. **Texas holdem** - as seen on tv. Each player is dealt two cards face down. betting round, the dealer discards one card from the deck then deals three cards in the middle of the table face up (flop), these cards are to be shared by everyone at the table, betting round, another discard, one card face up, betting round, final discard, final card face up, final betting round.
4. **Omaha** - same as holdem except each player is dealt 4 cards and MUST use 2 and ONLY 2 cards from their face down hand.
 - variant: **hi/low** - the pot is split between the person who has the high hand and the person who has the low hand. A low hand consists of "crap" i.e. no pairs. One can have both (e.g. A, 2, 3, 4, 5 could win both high and low (a straight doesn't count for low) if no one has better than a straight for high) also you can have the high with two cards in your hand and the low with the other two cards. Also can be played with just low.
5. **Follow the queen** - same as seven card stud except all queens are wild and the next card face up to be dealt is also wild. However if another queen is dealt that card is no longer wild and the following card is now wild.
 - variant: **mean queen** - Same as above except if the Queen of Spades is dealt face up all cards are returned there is a new ante and a new deal.
6. **Clock** - two cards are dealt face down to each person. The dealer discards a card from the deck then deals 5 cards face down in the middle of the table in a clock like fashion. One card at 3, 6, 9, and 12 plus one in the middle. betting round, one of the outer cards is flipped over, betting round, continues until it is time to flip middle card, the middle card is a wild card for everyone.
7. **Chicago aka Black Mariah** - it's like seven card stud except the person with the highest spade in the hole splits the pot.
8. **Pineapple** - like holdem except each player is dealt 3 cards each and must discard one before the flop.

- variant: **crazy** - the discard comes after the flop. can also be hi/low
9. **Split the ocean** - Like 5 card draw except each player is dealt 4 cards, betting round, dealer discards a card then deals one card face up in the middle for all to share, betting round, each player may then exchange up to three cards, final betting round.
 10. **Roll your own** - Holdem but your lowest ranked hole card is wild. (can also be done with stud)
 11. **Baseball**. - seven card stud but all nines and threes are wild, but when a three is dealt face up, the player who gets it must either match the pot (put into the pot as many chips as are already in it) or drop. If a four is dealt face up, it entitles the recipient to an additional hole card, which the dealer immediately provides, face down from the top of the pack. A variant of this is a pair of natural 7s takes all.

most common wilds:

Deuces

One eyed jacks (diamonds and hearts)

suicide king(s) (hearts. Sometimes includes the man with the ax - diamonds)

joker

useful page:

<http://www.usplayingcard.com/gamerules/poker.html>