Texas Hold'em rules on one page

The aim: win the pot. Hold the best five-card hand at the showdown, or be the last player left when everyone else has folded.

A HAND, STEP BY STEP

1. **Deal.** The two players left of the dealer button post the small and the big blind. Then two cards each, face down.
2. **Preflop.** The first round of betting. It starts left of the big blind and moves clockwise.
3. **Flop.** Three shared cards face up, then a round of betting. From here each round starts left of the button.
4. **Turn.** A fourth shared card, then a round of betting.
5. **River.** A fifth shared card, then the last round of betting.
6. **Showdown.** The best five cards out of your two and the five shared win the pot. Equal hands split it.
7. **Next hand.** The button moves one seat clockwise.

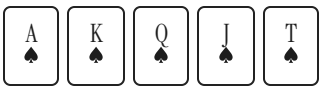
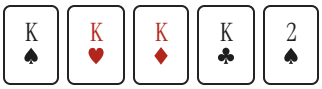
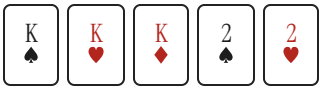
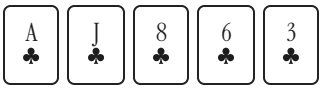
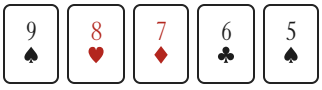
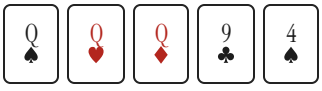
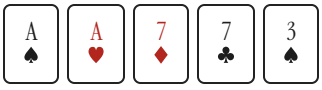
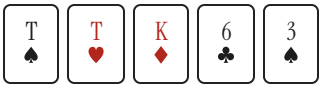
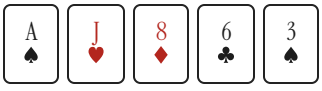
ON YOUR TURN

Fold	Give up your cards. Chips you have put in stay in the pot.
Check	Pass without betting. Only while nobody has bet in this round.
Call	Match the bet in front of you and stay in.
Bet	Put in the first chips of a round. In no-limit, at least the big blind.
Raise	Make the bet bigger: by at least the size of the last bet or raise.

HOW MUCH YOU CAN BET

No-limit	Bet any amount up to all your chips. Smallest bet: the big blind. A raise: at least the size of the last bet or raise.
Pot-limit	Bet up to what is in the pot. For a raise, count the pot after your call.
Fixed-limit	Bets come in a fixed size that doubles on the turn and the river.

WHAT BEATS WHAT, BEST FIRST

1		Royal Flush
2		Straight Flush
3		Four of a Kind
4		Full House
5		Flush
6		Straight
7		Three of a Kind
8		Two Pair
9		One Pair
10		High Card

GOOD TO KNOW

- Your hand may use both of your own cards, one, or neither.
- Suits never break a tie.
- Said out loud, a bet is binding. One big chip with no word is a call.
- All in, you can win from each player only as much as you put in.
- With two players the button posts the small blind and acts first before the flop.

In 1,272,438 real hands dealt nine-handed online in 2009, 40.6% ended before the flop and 22.0% reached a showdown. Rules checked against Robert's Rules of Poker, 18 Nov 2026. House rules can differ.

beatthefish.com/poker/rules/