

Blackjack Learn to Count Quick Start Guide:

Using Blackjack: Learn to Count for the first time: The first thing you see after you run Blackjack: Learn to count is the casino-style blackjack game table. Here you can practice playing blackjack and counting cards like you would in a casino.

Adjusting your bet: You adjust your bet by clicking on the + or - buttons to the right of the casino chip images. If + is depressed then you can increase your bet by clicking on any casino chip image. If - is depressed then you can decrease your bet by clicking on any casino chip image. You can see how much you have bet in the text box that partially covers the Bet circle in the first position at the table (far left). Your bet has to be equal to or greater than the table minimum, and less than or equal to the table maximum in order for the Deal button to be enabled.

Your available cash: In the lower left corner of Blackjack: Learn to Count you will see a text box called "Chips". This text box displays how much money you currently have to bet. This does not include money that is currently being wagered. That money is subtracted from your available money if you lose the current hand of blackjack. If you win the current hand of blackjack then your wager is added to your available money. If you get below \$5 in available money then you will see a New Game button above the Deal button in the upper right corner of Blackjack: Learn to Count.

Changing the number of players at the table: Just above your Chips, there is a 'Players' text box. This shows how many players are currently at the table. You can click the + or - button to increase or decrease the number of players at your table. If you are using the trial version you will not be able to change the number of players.

Changing the number of decks: Just above the number of players, there is a '# of Decks' text box. This shows how many decks are currently being shuffled into the shoe. As with the number of players at the table, you can increase or decrease the number of decks in the shoe by clicking the + or - button to the right of the text box. You can select anywhere from 1 to 10 decks. If you are using the trial version you will only be able to choose 1 or 2 decks. If you change the shoe size the deck is automatically reshuffled.

Changing the Dealer Speed: Above the number of decks you will see a scroll bar for Dealer Speed. You can drag this bar to the right or to the left to increase or decrease how fast the dealer deals cards to each player. The trial version only allows you to select the fastest or the slowest speed. This is to give you an idea of the range you can select from with the full version of Blackjack: Learn to Count. The full version lets you adjust the dealer speed by 0.1 second increments. The fastest setting deals one card every 0.1 seconds, and the slowest setting deals one card every 1 second.

Session Statistics: As you play Blackjack you will see the Session Statistics to the right of the dealer space change. These statistics reflect information for hands you have played during this game session. Each time you run Blackjack: Learn to Count a new session is started and these numbers will reset. These statistics will only be saved if you have loaded a personal profile. In the trial version you are only able to load the Demo profile and your session statistics will not be saved.

Deal: Clicking the Deal button will begin a new hand of Blackjack. If the Deal button is not enabled then you should check your bet to make sure it is within the current table limit. You should also check your cash to make sure you have enough to cover your bet if you lose. The Deal button will not be enabled if there is currently a hand in progress.

Hit: Clicking the Hit button tells the dealer that you would like another card. The Hit button can become disabled for several reasons. If you are not currently in a hand, if you have busted, if you have a blackjack, or if the dealer has a blackjack are some situations where the Hit button will not be enabled.

Stand: Clicking the Stand button tells the dealer that you are satisfied with your card total and causes the rest of the players at the table (if any) to finish playing their hand, and once all players have decided to stand, the dealer exposes his face-down card and finishes playing his hand. After everyone is finished playing their hand then winning hands are paid, losing bets are taken away, and the Deal button becomes enabled to start another hand.

Double Down: The Double Down button is only enabled after you are dealt your first two cards. If you click Double Down, your bet is doubled and you are dealt exactly one more card. After the hand is finished, you will need to adjust your bet back to your original bet amount if you don't want to continue betting double your previous bet.

Split: The Split button is only enabled if your first two cards are the same, i.e. two 6's or two 4's etc... You may only split cards once, and if you split Aces you are only dealt one card on each ace. If you get 21 after splitting aces, it is not considered a Blackjack because it was not achieved in your first two cards. You can choose to hit, stand, or double down if you split any two cards except Aces.

Current Profile: The Current Profile text box displays which profile is currently loaded. Your stats will be saved in this profile as long as it is loaded. You can load a new profile or close the current profile at any time. The Demo profile that comes with the trial version does not save statistics, but it does come pre-populated with statistics for each lesson and for the Lifetime Statistics dialog. Your personal stats are only saved if you are using the full version of Blackjack: Learn to Count.

Table Limit: You can adjust the table limit to any option in this menu. When you click a table limit on this menu, the Table Limit text in the main Blackjack game is updated and your bet will have to be within this limit in order for the Deal button to become enabled. In the trial version you are not able to change the table limit.

File->Create Profile: With the full version of Blackjack: Learn to Count you are able to create an unlimited number of personal profiles to track your progress and statistics. You simply need to click File->Create Profile, type in a new profile name and click the Create button. If you type in the name of an existing profile and click the Create button the pre-existing profile will be overwritten so be cautious to use a new name for each profile you create. If you want to see which profile names are in use you can click File->Load Profile, and then click the Browse button. Profile files have a .BJLTC extension and that should be the only type of file displayed in the Browse dialog.

File->Load Profile: You can load a previously created profile by clicking File->Load Profile. If you are not sure of your profile name you can click the Browse button to see a list of .BJLTC files to choose from. If you are using the trial version you will only be able to load the Demo profile and the Browse button will be disabled.

File->Close Profile: If you no longer wish to save your statistics you can close your profile by clicking File->Close Profile.

View->Opponents Hands Face Down: If you wish to simulate a single or double-deck Blackjack game where opponents play with their cards concealed, you can click View->Opponents Hands Face Down. By doing this you will not be able to see other players hands until you have finished playing your hand and each other player has finished playing their hand. This adds some challenge to counting since you have less time to see what other cards have been played so it is valuable to be able to practice this way. If you are using the trial version you can't add other players to your table so this option is disabled.

View->Strategy Card: If you are ever unsure of what decision you should make in any situation you can look at a Strategy Card by clicking View->Strategy Card. You can't leave the strategy card visible while you are playing however as this can lead to being dependant on having that card in order to play correctly. You should focus on memorizing the correct decisions in every situation by practicing the Basic Strategy Lessons (1-3). The strategy card is also available in Lesson 3 for your convenience.

View->Lifetime Statistics: You can see a summary of every hand of Blackjack you have played in Blackjack: Learn to Count by clicking View->Lifetime Statistics. Every time you play Blackjack at the casino-style table game with a profile loaded, your statistics are saved in that profile. The Lifetime Statistics dialog shows you a summary of useful information collected and calculated from each time you have played Blackjack. This information can not be cleared unless you overwrite your profile.

View->Hide/Show Session Statistics: Session Statistics are visible to the right of the dealers hand in Blackjack: Learn to Count. If you wish to hide these statistics you can click View->Hide Session Statistics. If you wish to show them again in the future simply click View->Show Session Statistics. Your statistics are saved even if you choose to hide your Session Statistics.

View->Hide/Show Running Count: You can Show and Hide the current Running Count by clicking View->Hide/Show Running Count. This value is calculated even if you choose to hide it, so it is available to you when ever you want to confirm you have the right running count as you practice. This option is only available if you are using the full version of Blackjack: Learn to Count.

View->Hide/Show True Count: You can show and hide the current true count by clicking View->Hide/Show True Count. This value is calculated even if you choose to hide it, so it is available to you when ever you want to confirm you have the right true count as you practice. This option is only available if you are using the full version of Blackjack: Learn to Count.

View->Hide/Show Decks Remaining: You can show and hide the number of decks remaining by clicking View->Hide/Show Decks Remaining. This value is calculated even if you choose to hide it, so it is available when ever you need to see it. This information is usually necessary for you to calculate the true count so it is a good idea to leave it on while you practice. In a real casino you will be looking at the discard pile and estimating how many decks have been used in order to convert your running count to the true count.

View->Hide/Show Shoe Remaining: You can show and hide the percentage of the shoe that is remaining. This value is calculated even if you choose to hide it, so it is available to you when ever you need to see it. If you are only using 1 deck then this number will be the same as the Decks remaining, but displayed as a percentage.

Lessons: The Lessons menu contains all 9 lessons that you can use to gain proficiency at playing correctly and counting cards to increase your odds of winning. Make sure you spend lots of time on each lesson, even if you feel you are good enough at one specific topic. Quite frequently players overestimate their Basic Strategy skills and jump right into the counting. When this happens it takes away from the advantage you could have because part of what gives you the biggest advantage possible when counting cards, is knowing the correct Basic Strategy decisions to make. If you are using the trial version you will only be able to use Lesson 1 and Lesson 4. This is meant to give you a feel for how the Lessons work so you can decide if Blackjack: Learn to Count is right for you.

Buy-In: You can increase your buy-in at any time, just as you can buy more chips at any time in a real casino. Be sure you are practicing how you really play in a casino or you will not achieve the same results in live casino play as you do while practicing with Blackjack: Learn to Count. If you would normally buy in for \$500 at a casino then you should be buying in for an additional \$400 when using Blackjack: Learn to Count. Remember, your lifetime statistics can't be erased or modified unless you overwrite your entire profile.