



Windy City Hold 'Em™

For 2 to 10 Players

Description Windy City Hold'Em is a poker game where players get two of their own "down" cards (that no one else sees), and everyone shares three community "up" cards (that everyone sees). You make your best hand from these five cards.

Best With High and Low Poker deck

Setup Remove the jokers and shuffle the deck. Make sure everyone has the same number of chips to start. Agree on the ante, raise limits and any other betting items.

Play Each player antes. The dealer deals two cards, face down, to each player.

After looking at their down cards, the player to the left of the dealer chooses to Check (bet nothing), Open (bet something), or Fold (drop out). Each successive player either Calls (bets the same amount as the previous players), Raises (bets more than the previous players), or Folds. This first round of betting is over when everyone Calls or Folds.

The dealer then deals two cards, face up, to the center of the table, for everyone to see. A second round of betting takes place.

The dealer deals one additional card, face up, to the center of the table. Now all players have a complete hand - their two down cards plus the shared three up cards. They mentally make their best hand, using one value from each of the five cards. A final round of betting takes place.

Winning At the completion of the betting, everyone who has remained in the game turns their down cards over and announces what their best hand is. The highest hand wins the pot! The deal passes to the next player, and additional rounds are played until someone has won all the chips.

Variation Instead of dealing two up cards at the second step, the dealer can deal one up card, followed by a round of betting, then a second up card, followed by a round of betting. This would make a total of four rounds of betting.

Example

The players were dealt the following: Addison has 3♥/2♣ and 2♣/10♦ - a pair of twos, Blair has J♠/A♥ and 2♦/A♠ - a pair of aces, and Charles has 6♥/4♦ and Q♠/K♥ - nothing.

After the last card was dealt face up in the center of the table, all the players see A♦/8♠, 8♠/4♦, and 9♦/A♣. Addison chooses 2♣, 2♣, A♦, 8♠, and A♣ - two pair - as his best hand. Blair chooses A♥, A♠, A♦, 8♠, and A♣ - four of a kind - as her best hand. Charles chooses 4♦, K♥, A♦, 4♦ and A♣ - two pair - as his best hand.

Addison should bet (aggressively), as he is opening and has a weak hand, and would like to lead the other players to think he has a good hand. Blair should bet solidly, but not overly aggressively, as she has a great hand, and wants to get the other players to put in as many chips as possible. Charles also has a weak hand, and may bet a little in the first round, but will likely drop out quickly, once he sees how the other two players are betting strongly.