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The History Of Jacks Or Better Poker

By Adel Awwad

The origins of Poker and Jacks or Better are quite controversial. There isn't any specific ancestor of the game to draw a date from. However, Poker is a very old game indeed. The earliest reference seems to be from JH Green who, in 1834, referred to the 'cheating game' being played on the riverboats in Mississippi of the time. Jacks or Better Poker seemed to be a more legitimate game than Three Card Monte, which was quite popular at the time. Jacks or Better took over with popularity because it was labeled a fair game.

The origin of the name 'Poker' likely comes from the French 'poque' and old French game; while other people claim that the word 'Poker' must have come from Germany's pochspiel. There are still few who also believe the word is derived from the Hindu pukka.

Jacks or Better is one of the more popular original types of Poker that were played, although no information is really available as to its exact origins. Jacks or Better is one of the common rules amongst most types of Poker games that are played with some exceptions in the new variations of Poker that are played at casinos.

Jacks or Better Poker is available as a game for video Poker. The concept behind the game is that a pair of Jacks or Better wins: the better hand consisting two pairs, flush, straight, etc. up to a royal flush. Poker was thought of as a game of the men of the underworld in times past however nowadays is played legally in many variations in casinos around the world. It is possible that Poker is derived from many of earlier games that lent influence to the game of Poker we know today. It was reported by English actor, Joseph Crowell, that Poker was played in New Orleans in 1829 with a deck consisting of 20 cards, and with four players betting on which player's hand was the most valuable.

After the spread of gambling from the Mississippi riverboats, the full, 52 card deck was introduced and used to play Poker and the flush hand (five cards of the same suit) was introduced. Poker has been around for nearly 200 years, and there have been many variations that have come about from the game. Jacks or Better Poker is one simple variation of the game that is commonly played, especially in video Poker.

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How To Play Jacks Or Better Poker

By Adel Awwad

Jacks or Better is a variation of five-card draw poker. You can learn how to play Jacks or Better easily if you already know the rules of poker. If you don't, learning how to play Jacks or Better is a great introduction to the game. Though draw poker variations are not popularly played in Las Vegas, you can find many internet casinos offering games like Jacks or Better. Would you like to learn how to play Jacks or Better?

The hand ranking in Jacks or Better is the same as standard poker; with the exception that the lowest winning hand possible is a pair of jacks or better—hence the name of the game. The first step in learning how to play Jacks or Better is to memorize the rank of hands. A Royal Flush, which consists of sequential cards of the same suit from Ten through Ace, is the highest possible hand. In descending order from the Royal Flush, they are: Straight Flush (any five cards of the same suit in sequential order); Four of a Kind (four same-value cards, such as four 3's or four 9's); Full House (three same-value cards plus a pair of another value card); Flush (five cards in the same suit, no particular order); Straight (five cards in sequential order, non-matching suits); Three of a Kind (three same-value cards and two unmatched cards); Two Pair (any two sets of same-value cards); Pair (Jacks or better: any pair of Jacks, Queens, Kings or Aces). When you learn how to play Jacks or Better, you can play just about any other variation of poker.

If you're just starting out at poker, learning how to play Jacks or Better is a good way to get to know the game because it's easier to get a high hand than it is in the more common stud poker varieties. In Jacks or Better, the game starts out with each player being dealt a face-down five-card hand. Players then keep as many or as few cards as they believe will make a good final hand and discard the rest. A second round is then dealt so that each player has five cards again. One strategy for how to play jacks or better is to know which cards to keep from the initially dealt hand. You should generally keep cards that would contribute to a good hand; for instance, a pair of Jacks or better; or three same-suit or sequential cards that might add up to a flush or straight.

Once you know how to play Jacks or Better, you can move on to other forms of poker. Jacks or Better is one of the easiest variations of poker to master, and knowing how to play Jacks or Better can help you hone your poker skills. Good luck in the game!

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