

# PICK A CARD ANY CARD

This game was inspired by the scene in Vegas Vacation where Clark and Cousin Eddie go to that odd casino where the games are 'a little different'. Included was a game called Pick A Number, which used no device to determine the winner. Despite being absurd to the max, and ripe for cheating, it inspired me to invent a fair version, with a house edge that is reasonable but hard to calculate on the fly, and can seem to be player advantage.

## Description

Players make a wager that a selected card rank appears in the three cards to be revealed. Payouts are increased if the rank appears more than once. Players may wager on as many ranks as desired.

A Bonus side bet allows players to wager that the three cards will be a pair, flush, straight, three of a kind or straight flush. It's similar to the Pair Plus side bet for Three Card Poker.

A Jackpot side bet works the same, but when a straight flush or three of a kind appears, a fourth card is shown. The full jackpot pays when that card results in a four card straight flush, or four of a kind. A partial jackpot payout occurs when the fourth card added to the straight flush is a straight or a flush, or when the fourth card added to the three of a kind is the fourth suit (Rainbow). The Jackpot payouts can be a static, or progressive.

Casinos can offer either, or both, of the side bets.

## Layout

Set up can be on a BJ style table, with grids containing spots for the 13 ranks, plus spots for the two side bets. Alternatively, the set up can be on a Big 6 style table, with larger community betting spots.

Separate full color PDFs are available showing a full size mock-up showing a single player position with a progressive sensor and a sample pay table as it would look on a BJ size table, also a reduced scale BJ size table with five betting grids, and a reduced scale Big Six size table with one and two large community betting areas.

## Unique Game Feature

Similar to craps where a player throws the dice to determine winners and losers, casinos can allow one player will select the three cards used to determine the winners and losers. All players play the same three cards.



## Stylus / Stylus Player

A player uses a stylus to indicate the card choices. When there is more than one player, the stylus moves around from player to player. If a player selects cards that have any winning Bonus combination, the player has the option of another turn – even if they didn't make any Bonus wager. Of course, any player may decline to pick cards when it is their turn.

If no player is willing to pick cards, the dealer will pick the cards, using the stylus or by simply cutting the deck and using the top three cards, whichever is the casino's preference.

The physical stylus can be anything with a rubber tip such as an actual computer stylus, a pen with a stylus tip, or even a standard hotel pen with the guts removed and a foam ear plug inserted, like these:



Suggestion: If using a pen, remove the ink so it can't mark the cards. A monogrammed pen stylus can be given to any player who gets a straight or flush or better, as a souvenir. This happens 8.7% of the time.

## Play / Procedures

Players make their wagers. Once done, the dealer will announce "No more bets" and takes a standard 52 card deck out of the shuffler, puts the other deck in. Or hand shuffle the deck from the prior round.

The cards are spread and one player is asked to pick four cards. As mentioned above, the player (or dealer) selects four cards, using the stylus to slide the cards out to indicate the choice.

The dealer then scoops the remaining cards and puts them in a discard tray, and turns the first three selected cards over.

If the cards produce a three of a kind or straight flush, the dealer will turn over the fourth card, at an angle to indicate that it is not part of the original game or three card results.

The dealer then takes losing bets, and pays winners.

The four cards are then put in the discard rack. If the casino does not offer the Jackpot side bet, then only three cards are selected.

Alternatively, the jackpot bet can be handled electronically by a sensor and indicator light system.

## Sample Paytable

	Type	Combinations	Odds	Occurs 1 in X	Pay X to 1	Total Paid
<b>Pick A Card ANY Card</b>	3 OAK (Three of a Kind)	24	0.000 180 995	5,525.0	40	0.007 240
	Pair	1,728	0.013 031 674	76.7	10	0.130 317
	Single	27,072	0.204 162 896	4.9	3	0.612 489
	Loss	103,776	0.782 624 434	1.3	-1	-0.782 624
	Total	132,600				-0.032 579
	Hit Rate, House Edge		21.7%	4.6		3.3%
<b>Bonus Sidebet</b>	SF (Straight Flush)	288	0.002 171 946	460.4	40	0.086 878
	3 OAK	312	0.002 352 941	425.0	40	0.094 118
	Straight	4,320	0.032 579 186	30.7	4	0.130 317
	Flush	6,576	0.049 592 760	20.2	4	0.198 371
	Pair	22,464	0.169 411 765	5.9	1	0.169 412
	Loss	98,640	0.743 891 403	1.3	-1	-0.743 891
	Total	132,600				-0.064 796
	Hit Rate, House Edge		25.6%	3.9		6.5%
<b>4 Card Jackpot Sidebet</b>	SF or 3 OAK, <i>plus any card</i>	29,400	0.004 524 887	221.0		
	SF then 4 card SF	528	0.000 081 263	12,305.7	400	0.032 505
	3 OAK then 4 OAK	312	0.000 048 019	20,825.0	400	0.019 208
	SF then St or Fl	3,936	0.000 605 781	1,650.8	40	0.024 231
	3 OAK then Rainbow	3,744	0.000 576 230	1,735.4	40	0.023 049
	SF or 3 OAK, then anything else	20,880	0.003 213 593	311.2	25	0.080 340
	Straight	211,680	0.032 579 186	30.7	4	0.130 317
	Flush	322,224	0.049 592 760	20.2	4	0.198 371
	Pair	1,100,736	0.169 411 765	5.9	1	0.169 412
	Loss	4,833,888	0.743 972 666	1.3	-1	-0.743 973
	Total	6,497,400				-0.066 540
	Hit Rate, House Edge		25.6%	3.9		6.7%
	<b>3+3 Card Jackpot Sidebet</b>	SF or 3 OAK, <i>followed by anything</i>	79,560,000	0.004 524 887	221.0	
SF or 3 OAK, then SF or 3 OAK		360,000	0.000 020 475	48,841.0	1,000	0.020 475
SF or 3 OAK, then Straight or Flush		6,537,600	0.000 371 819	2,689.5	100	0.037 182
SF or 3 OAK, then anything else		72,662,400	0.004 132 594	242.0	25	0.103 315
Straight		572,832,000	0.032 579 186	30.7	4	0.130 317
Flush		871,977,600	0.049 592 760	20.2	4	0.198 371
Pair		2,978,726,400	0.169 411 765	5.9	1	0.169 412
Loss		13,079,664,000	0.743 891 403	1.3	-1	-0.743 891
Total		17,582,760,000				-0.084 821
Hit Rate, House Edge			25.6%	3.9		8.5%

An Excel document, with the above and additional pay schedules, is available upon request.

Note that in the bonus side bet, the Straight Flush and 3OAK pay the same, while in both side bets, the Straight and Flush also pay the same. This is done since the odds are similar, to keep things simple, and reduce the number of pay lines on the felt.

Also note that Pair, Flush and Straight each pay the same in both side bets. This is also just to keep things simple so that the only difference between the two side bets is the Jackpot.

