

EUREKA EUCHRE - How to play euchre

Euchre is a game of cards played with 5 cards to each of two, four or six players.

Eureka Euchre is played in pairs (partners)

The dealer is sorted by the turning the cards face up for each player and the dealer is the first black jack.

The dealer washes or mixes the cards on the table for a shuffle, as in other games this is mandatory.

The dealer passes the deck to the player on the right to be cut onto the cut card. There are a number of reasons for cutting the card but the most relevant is to ensure that the bottom card is not in view.

The dealer deals either 5 cards to each player. This is done by dealing 2 to each player or 3 to each player first and the opposite to make up the 5 cards.

The dealer then turns one card face up on the remaining deck, this is the face card.

The hand is not deemed to have started until the face card is turned up.

In order left of the dealer, each player has the option to either order the dealer to "take that up" which means that they have "made that suit trumps". In this case the dealer must take that card into his/her hand and discard one card leaving 5 in the hand.

The other option of the players is to simply pass, sometimes this is done by knocking the table or saying no.

If there is no ordering up, the dealer has the option to make the face card's suit trumps or turn it down, which is the dealer's way of passing

If the dealer takes it up, then that suit is trumps.

If the dealer passes and turns the card down then starting again with the player left of the dealer, each player has an option to call trumps of any of suit other than the suit which was turned down or pass.

In **EUREKA EUCHRE** if the other 3 players pass the dealer must call, this means no hand is simply folded.

So eventually in some way, the trumps are decided and the game begins.

The player left of the dealer starts the hand by "leading" a card face up into the middle of the table. Each player then does the same.

The overriding rule in Euchre is that every player must follow suit, meaning that if the player has a card in his/her hand that is the same suit as that which is led, they must play that card.

If they do not have that suit they can play another suit depending on the state of that hand etc.

Each lead starts what is called a TRICK, and as there are 5 cards there are 5 TRICKS.

The object of the game is to win the majority of the 5 tricks which is obviously a minimum of at least 3 tricks.

The player who calls trumps wins 1 point for the team if they win 3 or 4 tricks and 2 points if they win all 5 tricks.

If they fail to win at least 3 tricks they are Euchred and the opposition win 2 points. It doesn't matter if they win 4 or 5 tricks (although it may be disconcerting for the person who called and his/her partner!).

EUREKA EUCHRE is played with the same partner for one round of 15 minutes.

At the end of that round the players are directed to move depending on the result of the game.

Ok, so that is the way it is played now you will need to know what the ranking of the cards is and it really isn't that difficult once you see and play this game.

The dominant cards are the trumps and are decided as described above. The dominant card is the Jack of trumps – called the Right Bower. The next card is the Left Bower and it is the Jack of the suit which is the same colour as trumps.

Eg: If spades were trumps then the right bower is the Jack of spades and the left bower is the Jack of Clubs.

It is that simple, the Jack of trumps is the best card followed by the jack of the other suit of the same colour as trumps then the ACE, KING, QUEEN, TEN and NINE of trumps and then the ACE to NINE of the remaining suits.

As is the case with any other game, there are tactics, etiquette and strategies which make this game very interesting and challenging but this description gives you a basic understanding of the game.

We really want people to enjoy this game, so please ask us to help you understand it a little more.