

Video Poker Variants

There are many different variants of video poker that all feature their own twists on the classic game, as well as having different pay tables, return to player (RTP) rates and house edges. We'll explain the highlights and rules to the most popular video poker variants below.

Jacks or Better

One of the most common options when it comes to online video poker, Jacks or Better is named after the lowest possible winning hand of the game. Confusingly, it refers to a Pair of Jacks or better, so don't go thinking that a high card of this value will be considered a winning hand. The game has an RTP of 99.5%, making it perfect for real money gameplay.



Tens or Better

Tens or Better functions in the exact same way as the variant above, however in this case the lowest possible winning hand is a pair of tens. The 'Power' version of this game allows you to play five hands of poker simultaneously, costing more in wagers but allowing you to collect the prizes for every winning hand found.



Aces and Eights

The main change you'll experience when playing Aces and Eights is that the second-highest combination you can find after the Royal Flush is Four Aces or Four Eights. Hence the name. Following that hand is the Straight Flush, then Four Sevens, then Four of anything else. The lowest paying combination is a pair of Jacks.



Deuces Wild

All cards with a two on them are considered a Wild in this game, which means that it is much easier to find pairs and three-of-a-kind. Therefore, the lowest possible winning combination is three of a kind, and the twos also stand in as any number to create a winning hand. This game has an RTP of 99.38%, and the second-highest hand is four twos.



Aces and Faces

The paytable of the Aces and Faces video poker variant changes again, with this now paying out the second-highest prizes for four eights or four Aces. This doesn't change any other gameplay factors, and can be played in the same way with the same strategy as Aces and Eights. There is the option to double against the dealer should your hand win, or simply collect your winnings.



Joker Poker

In the Joker Poker variant of the game, the hand is dealt from a 53-card pack: the standard deck plus one Joker. The Joker is a Wild card and will substitute for any value card that would be necessary to create a winning hand. The Power version of this game is also available, giving you four hands-worth of opportunity to win.



Louisiana Double

Louisiana Double includes a 53rd card to the deck that is the Double card. This doesn't work as a Wild, but it will result in any winning combination paying out twice as much as listed, so if you have any combination of three or four cards that would pay out, plus a Double, you're in for a good time. However, this additional card brings the RTP down to 94%, meaning the game is more volatile due to the bigger, yet less frequent, payouts.



Poker Pursuit

This title from Microgaming allows you to raise or call after seeing three and four cards. Combined with the fact that tens or better records a win, this allows players to be aggressive in their betting, at times without much risk.



Red Dog

Technically not even a form of poker, Red Dog is a guessing game where two cards are dealt, and you have to guess whether a third card will have a value between the two already-dealt cards. The dealer will point out how many numbers are between the two values, known as the 'spread'. You can choose to raise or call your bet based on the information about the spread.



Deuces Wild Power

What's better than an ace? Well, in this game, a deuce is trumps: all twos are wilds. They can stand for their own suit and value or can represent any other card in the deck. These wilds make this a popular game among players, especially as four hands are dealt each round, allowing you to make lots of winning combinations.



Double Joker Power

As the name would suggest, there are two jokers added to the standard 52-card deck used. They act as wilds, standing in for any suit and value of card. As such, wins come quicker than in games without wilds. However, you cannot score a Royal Flush with a joker, instead you are rewarded for the less-valuable "joker flush".

