

Pai Gow Tiles

GAMING GUIDE

How to play Pai Gow Tiles

Pai Gow is an ancient Chinese betting game played with Chinese dominoes also called tiles. It has been played throughout Asia for centuries.

Object of the Game is to beat the Banker. The Banker can be any Player or the Dealer. Any Player who wishes to bank must accept the responsibility for all wagers made during that round of play. The banking option will be offered to each Player, in turn, rotating in a counterclockwise direction. The banking Player must have enough chips to cover all wagers placed in that round and must have wagered in the previous round that the Dealer acted as Banker. No Player will be required to accept the bank and the Dealer will act as Banker when all Players decline.

The Tiles

Pai Gow is played with a set of 32 Chinese tiles which form 16 permissible pairs. A hand with any permissible pair is ranked higher than a hand which does not contain a pair. The highest-ranking hand is the **Supreme Pair**, followed by Matched Pairs and Unmatched or Mixed Pairs. The next highest-ranking hands are special combinations known as Wongs and Gongs. Hands consisting of Wongs and Gongs are ranked lower than Pairs.

Wongs are formed with the highest ranking single tile, 12, and either 9 (Teen Wong) or the second highest tile, 2, and either 9 (Day Wong).

Gongs are formed with the highest ranking single tile, 12, and either 8 (Teen Gong) or the second highest tile, 2, and either 8 (Day Gong). Refer to the Single Tile Ranking Chart.

High Nines

The next highest-ranking hands are numeric value hands, the highest of which is 9. Hands that do not contain pairs have numeric value.

Each tile has a numeric value and a symbolic ranking. To find the numeric value add the spots on each tile. The total will never be higher than

9 because only the last digit in the total number of spots is used. To find the symbolic ranking of each tile and each permissible pair, refer to the Tile Ranking Charts. Two tiles will combine to form a hand. Add the total number of spots contained on the two tiles. If the numeric total of the spots is a two-digit number, the left digit is discarded, and the right digit is the value of the hand.

Copy Hand

When two hands have the same numeric value, the ranking will determine the winner. To determine which is higher, find the highest ranked tile in each hand and compare them. When two hands have the same numeric value and identical high tiles, it is called a Copy hand. The Bank wins all Copy hands.

When two hands have the numeric value of zero, they are considered equally bad regardless of the high tile and the Bank will win all zero ties. When the two tiles that form the highest-ranking hand (The Supreme Pair) are used separately, the numeric value is interchangeable. The 3 can be counted as a 6 and the 6 can be counted as 3. They lose their highest pair and become low ranking tiles (fifteenth and seventeenth on the Single Tile Ranking Chart).

Play of the Game

To begin the game, the Players will place their wagers before the Dealer announces, "No more bets." The Dealer will shuffle or "wash" the tiles and stack them into eight stacks of four tiles each. Three dice, contained inside the Pai Gow Shaker, will be used to determine the starting position for dealing the tiles. The Dealer or Banker will shake the Pai Gow Shaker at least three times. The Dealer will uncover the dice and announce the total. The count will begin with the Dealer or the banking Player and continue with each betting position in a counterclockwise direction until it matches the total on the dice. That position will receive the first stack of tiles.

After the tiles have been delivered, each Player will "set" his/her tiles into two hands of two tiles each: a high hand and a low hand. The Players will place

their hands face down behind the betting area, separated into two distinct hands. Once the Player has set his/her tiles face down on the layout, he/she will not be permitted to touch the tiles again. Each Player at the table is responsible for setting his/her own hands and no other person except the Dealer may touch the tiles of that Player. Each Player is required to keep the four tiles in full view of the Dealer, at all times.

After the Players have set their hands, the Dealer will arrange his/her tiles into a high hand and a low hand. The Dealer must set his/her hand by using a set of rules known as **“The House Ways.”** A copy of these rules is available upon request. The Dealer will compare the low hand of the Dealer/Bank or Player/Bank to the low hands of the Players and the high hand of the Bank to the high hands of the Players and announce if the wager of that Player wins, loses, or is a tie (push). In order for the Player to win, his/her hand must be higher in rank than the low hand and the high hand of the Bank. In the case of zero ties, the Bank wins. The winning wagers will be paid at even money less 5% commission when the winning wager is paid. If either hand of the Player is higher than either hand of the Bank and the other is not, the hand will be considered a push and no money is won or lost. No commission will be charged on the pushes and the Player will be allowed to change or remove his/her bet before the start of the next hand. If neither of the Player’s hands are higher than the Bank’s hands, the Player will lose the amount wagered.

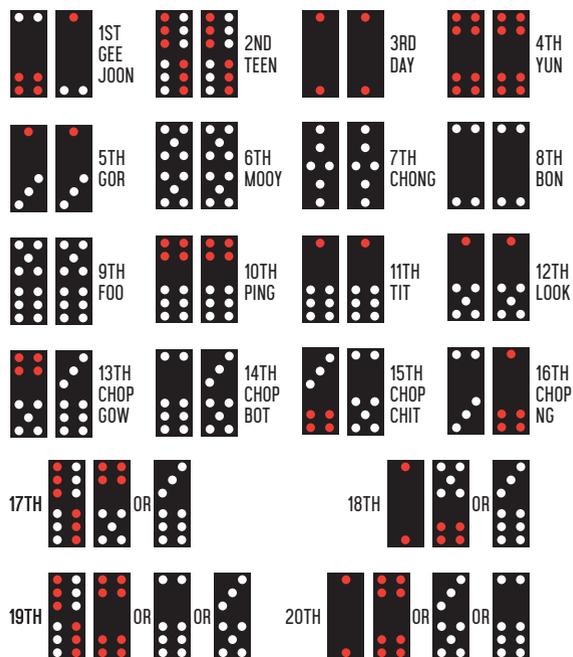
Co-banking

Any Player wishing to join in a partnership with the house may do so by requesting to Co-bank. Co-banking involves the Player and the Dealer acting as the Banker on a 50/50 basis. When Co-banking is in effect, the Bank hand will be handled by the Dealer, and the hand is set “House Ways”.

Rules for Betting

All wagers at Pai Gow are made by placing gaming chips in the appropriate betting area of the layout before the Dealer announces, “No more bets.” Once Dealer announces, “No more bets,” wagers may not be altered. Only Players who are seated at the Pai Gow table may place a wager at the game. Once a Player places a wager and receives tiles, he/she must remain seated until the completion of the round of play.

PAI GOW TILES – PAIRS RANKING CHART



PAI GOW TILES – SINGLE TILE RANKING CHART

