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There is a common poker hands ranking system at the heart of all forms of poker. It ranks the relative strengths of all the different poker hands so players can understand and determine which is the best.

All the popular forms of poker such as Texas Hold'em, Omaha and poker-based casino games like three-card poker use these rankings, so it is essential to know exactly what each of them means.

The poker hand rankings are listed below, from high to low, and we have also produced a useful poker hand rankings chart that you can save to your phone and desktop, which can be used as a poker hand rankings cheat sheet.

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Poker-hand rankings: from strongest to weakest

1. Royal flush
2. Straight flush
3. Four of a Kind
4. Full house
5. Flush
6. Straight

The royal flush is the best hand available in poker. It features five consecutive cards, all of the same suit, in order of value from 10 through to ace.

2. Straight flush

Any five cards of successive values in the same suit that is not a royal flush is a straight flush. A royal flush or a straight flush with cards of higher ranking are the only hands that can beat a straight flush.

3. Four of a Kind

Four of the same card in the four suits. The five-card hand is completed by the highest card among the others on the table or in your hand.

4. Full house

Three of the same value card in three different suits plus a different pair of the same rank card in two different suits in one hand. If more than just one player has a full house the player with the highest value three of a kind will win the hand.

5. Flush

Five cards of the same suit in no particular order. If more than one player has a flush, the hand with the highest valued card will win.

6. Straight