

# How to Play Go Fish - Pairs

**Number of players:** Two to six (class room standard = four players)

**Object:** To win the most sets of pairs, by asking other players for them.

**The cards:** A regular 52-card deck is used

**To play:** Deal five cards each. Leave the undealt cards face down as a draw pile. Starting with the player at dealer's left, each player asks another for cards of a specific rank.

- For example: "Kevin, do you have a 6?" In order to ask, you must already have at least one 6. Kevin has to give you a 6 if he holds it in his hand.
- Whenever your request for a card is filled, it remains your turn. Continue with your turn, asking any player for a card of a specific rank.

When the player you ask can't oblige, you'll be told to "Go Fish."

- Pick up the top card of the draw pile. If it's the rank you called for, show the card at once, and your turn goes on. Otherwise, your turn ends.
- Play proceeds to the left in this fashion.



Whenever you have collected two cards of the same rank (called a pair) show the other players, then place the book next to you in a compact pile.

The 'game' ends when one person runs out of cards in their hand or when all the cards have been drawn and all the pairs collected. Whomever has gathered the most pairs wins. In the case of a tie (two players have the same number of pairs), the person who has the fewest cards remaining in their hand is the winner.

**Tip:** Pay attention to who seeks which cards, for you will inevitably draw a card someone was looking for earlier. You can capture those cards at your next turn if you can remember whom to ask!

## Card Game Glossary

- **Book:** four cards of the same rank
- **Cut** the deck: break into three sections; reassemble differently
- **Deal:** The act of portioning out the cards to the players; also, the period of play in the game between one deal and the next. *Verb: to deal. Noun: dealer – that one who passes out the cards.*
- **Deck of cards** (52 cards)
- **Draw a card:** To take a new card or cards.
- **Game:** A total number of points to achieve; also, what constitutes winning or ending a game.
- **Hand:** The cards dealt to a player; also, the period of play in the game between one deal and the next.
- **Joker** (not usually used – can be referred to as "Red Joker" or "Black Joker")
- **Pack** of cards: cards, still in box, usually containing Jokers as well.
- **Pair:** two cards of the same rank
- **Pool:** The undealt cards available for future use.
- **Rank:** value (number or letter of card) **Ace (1), Jack, Queen, King**
- **Shuffle** the deck: method of mixing the cards randomly.
- **Table:** The playing area; also, to lay down a meld on the playing area.
- **Winner:** In GoFish, the person with the most cards.

Suits: ♦ **Diamonds** (red)

♥ **Hearts** (red) ♣ **Clubs** (black)

♠ **Spades** (black)