

Card Facts

52 cards

A complete set of cards is called a deck. Each card has a unique pattern on one side and the same background as all the cards on the other side.

13 faces

On its unique side, each card has a number or letter and a pattern or picture that is referred to as its face. The faces are:

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J, Q, K, A

A face with a J is called a Jack, Q is a Queen, K is a King, and A is an Ace. The cards are usually ordered from lowest to highest exactly as listed above.

4 suits

Each card is also labeled with a suit by a red or black symbol. The symbols are:



These are called hearts, diamonds, clubs, and spades.
For each face there is exactly one card for each suit.

Faces · Suits = 13 · 4 = 52 Cards

A given card is named after its face and suit. For example:

9♣ is called “the nine of clubs”

or

K♦ is called “the king of diamonds”

Jacks, Queens, and Kings often have pictures of royal people’s faces on them, and so are together referred to as the “face cards”.

Cards with faces that are numbers are referred to as “number cards”.

Cards called “Jokers” are sometimes included, but are not part of a standard deck.