



Hand ranks in three-card poker

HAND	EXAMPLE	HANDS	CHANCE
1 Straight flush Three in a row, one suit		48	0.22%
2 Three of a kind Three cards of one rank		52	0.24%
3 Straight Three in a row, mixed suits		720	3.26%
4 Flush Three of one suit		1,096	4.96%
5 Pair Two cards of one rank		3,744	16.94%
6 High card None of the above		16,440	74.39%

Of 22,100 possible three-card hands. With three cards a straight is rarer than a flush, so it ranks higher. A-K-Q is the top straight and A-2-3 the lowest.

How a hand plays

1. Place the **Ante** (and a **Pair Plus** bet if you like).
2. Look at your three cards, then **fold** (lose the Ante) or **play** by adding a Play bet equal to the Ante.
3. The dealer **qualifies** with queen high or better.
4. Dealer does not qualify: Ante pays 1 to 1, Play is returned.
5. Dealer qualifies: beat it and Ante and Play both pay 1 to 1; lose and both go; a tie pushes.

The Q-6-4 rule

Play **Q-6-4** or better. Fold everything below it.

A-5-2	Play	Ace high always plays
K-3-2	Play	King high always plays
Q-6-4	Play	The exact line, the weakest hand to play
Q-6-3	Fold	Third card falls short
Q-5-4	Fold	Second card misses the six
J-10-9	Fold	Jack high never plays

Any pair or better always plays. Checked against every one of the 22,100 hands: Q-6-4 matches the best decision on all of them.

Paytables

A common payable - check the table you play

ANTE BONUS	PAYS	
Straight flush	5 to 1	
Three of a kind	4 to 1	
Straight	1 to 1	
Paid on the Ante when you play, whatever the dealer holds.		
PAIR PLUS	TABLE A	TABLE B
Straight flush	40 to 1	40 to 1
Three of a kind	30 to 1	30 to 1
Straight	6 to 1	6 to 1
Flush	4 to 1	3 to 1
Pair	1 to 1	1 to 1
House edge	2.32%	7.28%

One step on the flush line moves the Pair Plus edge from 2.32% to 7.28%. Read the felt before you bet.

3.37%

House edge on Ante and Play, per Ante, with the Q-6-4 rule and the 5-4-1 Ante Bonus

2.01%

The same edge measured against the total amount bet, Ante plus Play

2.32% / 7.28%

Pair Plus house edge on table A and table B above

All figures are exact, from a full count of the 22,100 three-card hands and every player hand against every dealer hand.