



How to Play Craps

Craps can be an intimidating game for the beginner. The table seems to have about a hundred different kinds of bets. Critical to the understanding of Craps is that it is a game of rounds. The first roll in a round is called the Come out roll. Sometimes the outcome of a round will be determined on the Come out roll. In particular a 2, 3, 7, 11, or 12 on the Come out roll immediately ends a round. If any other total is rolled (4, 5, 6, 8, 9, or 10) that number is called the Point. A white puck is placed on an area of the table to designate what the Point is, in case you forget. If a Point is rolled the dice will be rolled continuously until the same Point is rolled again or a 7.

Craps Bets

The Pass Line

The Pass Line is the most fundamental bet in Craps, almost every Player at the table bets on it.

The Pass Line is an even money bet. You start by placing your bet on the Pass Line area on the table on a Come out roll. If the Come out roll is a 7 or 11 you win, which is also called a “natural”. If the Come out roll is a 2, 3, or 12 (Craps) you lose. If any Point is rolled on the Come out roll if the Point is rolled again before a 7 you win. If a 7 comes before the Point you lose. That is all there is to it. Once you understand the Pass Line bet you are ready to play Craps. You may want to practice using fun money a few times before playing for real money.

Buying the Odds

Once a Point has been thrown you may bet up to 2 times your Pass Line bet on the 'odds.' The odds are simply an additional bet that the Point will be rolled before a 7. Because the probability of the Point being rolled first is less than 50% you win more than you bet if it happens. Specifically if the Point is a 6 or 8 the odds pay 6:5, if the Point is a 5 or 9 the odds pay 3:2, and if the Point is a 4 or 10 the odds pay 2:1.

Point	Odds	Bet	Win	Total Winnings
4 or 10	2:1	\$10	\$20	\$30
5 or 9	3:2	\$10	\$15	\$25
6 or 8	6:5	\$10	\$12	\$22

Don't Pass

The Don't Pass is almost the opposite of the Pass Line bet. If the Come out roll is a 2 or 3 then you win, a 7 or 11 you lose. A 12 is a push. Otherwise the dice are rolled over and over until either the Point or a 7 is rolled. If the 7 comes before the Point you win.

A person betting on the Don't Pass is not the bet of choice by many Players, since this bet is betting against the shooter. This is also called a "wrong" bettor and is usually winning when everyone else is losing, and vice versa.

Laying the Odds

This is the opposite of buying odds, in other words betting that a 7 will be rolled before the Point.

- If the Point is a 4 or 10 the don't odds pay 1:2.
- If the Point is a 5 or 9 the don't odds pay 2:3.
- If the Point is a 6 or 8 the don't odds pay 5:6.

Come

The Come bet is like the Pass Line bet but may be made at any time. Like the Pass Line bet you might also put money on the odds if a Point is thrown on the first roll after the Come bet is placed.

There is a nuance to the Come bet the Player should know about. If a Point is thrown and there are still active Come bets on the table waiting for a different Point then special rules apply for the following Come out roll. The Come out roll will still apply to active Come bets but it will not apply to their respective odds bets. In the event a Come bet is resolved on a Come out roll then the odds bet will be returned, while the original Come bet will be lost.

This bet is one of the more exciting bets to make in Craps. A lot of Players use this bet to get more numbers working for them at the same time, six in all.

Don't Come

What the Don't Pass is to the Pass, the Don't Come is to the Come. If the shooter rolls a 2 or 3, you win. A 12 constitutes a tie. You lose on 7 or 11. Any other number is the "Come Point". You win if a seven is rolled before the Come Point and lose if the Come Point is rolled before a 7 is rolled.

Other Craps Bets

Place Number Bets: This is very similar to laying odds. You may bet on a 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, or 10. If the number you bet on is rolled before a 7 then you win according to payoff schedule below. These bets work just like the odds except unlike laying odds you don't need to have a Pass Line bet. Place number bets are ON or WORKING during a come out roll. These bets can be removed at any time.

- A Place Bet on 4 or 10 pays 9:5 you bet \$10, win \$18
- A Place Bet on 5 or 9 pays 7:5 you bet \$10, win \$14
- A Place Bet on 6 or 8 pays 7:6 you bet \$12, win \$14

When a Place Bet wins, you are paid your winnings and your original bet is returned. You may take back an active Place Bet at any time.

Buy Bets: This is essentially the same as the Place Bet, only with a different payoff. The Player may "buy" any of the Points (4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10), which means to bet that the number will be rolled before a 7. When making a buy bet, you must pay a 4% commission and your bet will pay fair odds if it wins. Fair odds are 2:1 on the 4 and 10, 3:2 on the 5 and 9, and 6:5 on the 6 and 8. Another way to look at it is that the buy bet pays 48:25 on the 4 and 10, 36:25 on the 5 and 9, and 144:125 on the 6 and 8. The pay out on all bets will be rounded down to the nearest quarter.

Lay Bets: The lay bet is the opposite of the buy bet and the same as the Place Bet to lose but with different paybacks. The lay bets may be placed on the 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, or 10. The bet itself is that a 7 will be rolled before the number you

choose. Because the 7 is the most likely number to be rolled you will bet more than you can win. The Player must pay a 4% commission on the possible winnings and the fair odds are paid on the bet itself. Fair odds are 1:2 on the 4 and 10, 2:3 on the 5 and 9, and 5:6 on the 4 and 8. Another way to look at it is that lay bet pays 12:25 on the 4 and 10, 16:25 on the 5 and 9, and 12:15 on the 6 and 8.

Hard Ways: There are four different hard way bets. For example, a hard 4 bet is betting that a pair of twos will be rolled before a 7 or any other way to roll a total of 4. This is called "the hard way" because it is harder to roll two twos than a one and a three. Likewise, you can bet on a hard 6, 8, or 10, each of which is a bet that the hard way of rolling the given number will occur before a 7 or any "easy" way.

- The casino pays 7:1 on a hard 4 or 10
- The casino pays 9:1 on a hard 6 or 8

Place Lose Bet: A Place Lose bet is a bet that 7 will be rolled before a roll of 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, or 10. Similar to Don't Pass bets and Lay bets, Place Lose wins if a 7 is rolled before the selected number. A Place Lose bet loses if the selected number is rolled before a 7. Lose odds are 9:5 on the 4 and 10, 7:5 on the 5 and 9, and 7:6 on the 6 and 8.

Big 6: A bet that a 6 will be rolled before a 7. Pays even money.

Big 8: Same as the Big 6 only that an 8 will be rolled before a 7.

* Big 6 and 8 are not able to be placed on the Come out roll and are NOT working on the next Come out roll after a Point is rolled.

The table below is a summary of the various place number bets for quick comparison.

Bet	Description	Pays
Big 6	6 before 7	1:1
Big 8	8 before 7	1:1
Buy (4)	4 before 7	48:25
Buy (5)	5 before 7	36:25
Buy (6)	6 before 7	144:125
Buy (8)	8 before 7	144:125
Buy (9)	9 before 7	36:25
Buy (10)	10 before 7	48:25
Hard 4	Hard 4 before 7 or easy 4	7:1
Hard 6	Hard 6 before 7 or easy 6	9:1
Hard 8	Hard 8 before 7 or easy 8	9:1
Hard 10	Hard 10 before 7 or easy 10	7:1
Lay (4)	7 before 4	12:25
Lay (5)	7 before 5	16:25
Lay (6)	7 before 6	12:15
Lay (8)	7 before 8	12:15
Lay (9)	7 before 9	16:25
Lay (10)	7 before 10	12:25
Place (4)	4 before 7	9:5
Place (5)	5 before 7	7:5

Place (6)	6 before 7	7:6
Place (8)	8 before 7	7:6
Place (9)	9 before 7	7:5
Place (10)	10 before 7	9:5

The Proposition Bets

Proposition bets either win or lose on the next throw. Specific descriptions of the various bets are below.

- Craps 2: A bet that a 2 will be thrown on the next roll. Pays 30:1.
- Craps 3: A bet that a 3 will be thrown on the next roll. Pays 15:1.
- Seven: A bet that a 7 will be thrown on the next roll. Pays 4:1.
- 11(e): A bet that an 11 will be thrown on the next roll. Pays 15:1
- Craps 12: A bet that a 12 will be thrown on the next roll. Pays 30:1
- Any Craps (c): A bet that the next roll will be a 2, 3, or 12. Pays 7:1
- Field Bet: This is a one time bet that the next roll will be a 2,3,4,9,10,11, or 12. The 3,4,9,10, and 11 pay even money, the 2 pays 2:1 and 12 pays 3:1.

