



DOUBLE-DECK & SIX-DECK BLACKJACK
featuring the Side Bet

EZ
BUST

EZ Bust®

Background

EZ Bust® is a side bet that is dealt and played using standard Blackjack house rules. The side bet is offered for single deck, double deck, four-deck, six-deck and eight-deck play. The EZ Bust side bet wager is optional. To participate in the EZ Bust side bet, a player must wager on the main blackjack bet.

Rules of Play

Once the blackjack game is dealt in the traditional manner, each player may only place an EZ Bust wager if the dealer is showing a “bust card,” i.e., a two, three, four, five or six. Each participating player then makes the customary hit/stand/surrender/double/split decisions per the house rules. The Player may make an additional EZ Bust wager on all split hands, but not on a double down wager. The dealer then reveals its hidden card and hits/stands under traditional blackjack rules. The game does have two options for soft seventeen: one option mandates the dealer to take a hit on soft seventeen and a second option mandates the dealer to stand on soft seventeen. Resolution of the EZ Bust side bet wager is based solely on whether or not the dealer hand busts after drawing at least one card.

If the dealer draws at least one additional card and busts, all EZ Bust wagers win. The player is paid 1 to 1 on the EZ Bust wager.

The situational Return to Player (RTP) of EZ Bust varies according to the exact wagering situation. Overall, the optimal RTP associated with EZ Bust may vary according to the RTP of the base Blackjack game. In general, to optimize aggregate RTP, a player should place an EZ Bust wager whenever the situational RTP is greater than the aggregate RTP. Exact measurement of an overall EZ Bust optimal RTP cannot therefore be made in a generic way, but will follow specifics of the game it accompanies. However, bounds can be established according to configuration. The lowest optimal RTP for EZ Bust would occur when the player places the wager in all available situations (i.e., Min RTP). The highest optimal RTP would occur when the player places the wager only in the single most favorable situation (i.e., Max RTP). These results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Return Summary

		Decks	
		2	6
S17	Max RTP	94.61%	93.07%
	Min RTP	80.40%	80.13%
H17	Max RTP	90.07%	88.61%
	Min RTP	79.91%	79.64%

Because the EZ Bust wager is resolved solely on the dealer’s cards irrespective of the outcome of the player’s main blackjack wager, a player may lose their main blackjack wager by busting, but still win their EZ Bust bet if the dealer busts. If the dealer fails to bust after drawing at least one card, all EZ Bust wagers lose and the bet is collected by the dealer.

Note that if all players have busted or have Blackjack, then the dealer may not ordinarily draw out. Depending on configuration, the dealer may be forced to draw out to be able to resolve the EZ Bust wager, or else all active EZ Bust wagers may be resolved as a push in this scenario.