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Starting Hand Selection

Step 1: Base Points

Every Ace counts as 16 points, every King as 14 points, a Queen is worth 13 points, Jack counts as 12 points and a Ten as 11 points. Every hand between Nine and Two counts as their face value (Nine = 9 points, Two = 2 points).

Card	Points
A A A A ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+16
K K K K ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+14
Q Q Q Q ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+13
J J J J ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+12
T T T T ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+11

Card	Points
9 9 9 9 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+9
8 8 8 8 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+8
7 7 7 7 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+7
6 6 6 6 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+6
5 5 5 5 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+5

Card	Points
4 4 4 4 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+4
3 3 3 3 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+3
2 2 2 2 ♥ ♠ ♦ ♣	+2

There is a simple method to calculate each value. Continue to add 1 point from Nine onwards: Ten=10, Jack=11, Queen=12, King=13, Ace=14. For Ten to King we add one and for Ace two extra points.



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Step 2: Qualification

In the next step, we add additional points if our hand meet the criteria of a qualification.

We add 10 points if we have a pair, 4 points if both cards are of the same suit, 3 points if both cards are connected with no gap in between, 2 points for a gap of one card and 1 point for a gap of two cards.

Card	Qualification	Points
A♥ A♠	Pair	+ 10 points
K♥ 3♥	Same Suit	+ 4 points
Q♥ J♠	Connected with 0 hands gap	+ 3 points
T♥ 8♣	Connected with 1 hands gap	+ 2 points
9♦ 6♣	Connected with 2 hands gap	+ 1 points



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Step 3: Analysis

Once we added up all points, we look can determine if our hand is playable from our current position.

Playable Hands

Position	Points
Late Position	25 points
Middle Position	27 points
Early Position	30 points

Memory hook: you can take Late Position as basis, then add +2 points for middle position (25 points + 2 points = 27 points) and another + 3 points for Early Position (25 points + 2 points + 3 points = 30 points)

Raising Hands

Position	Points
Late Position	29 points
Middle Position	31 points
Early Position	34 points

Memory Hook: You can add + 4 points to each playable hand value. Example: Playable hand late position has 25 points. 25 points + 4 points = 29 points