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An ace-high straight flush, commonly known as a royal flush, is the best possible hand in many variants of poker. In 1, £ poker, players form sets of five playing cards, called hands, according to the rules of the game.[1] Each hand has 1, £ a rank, which is compared against the ranks of other hands participating in the showdown to decide who wins the pot.[2] In high games, like Texas hold 'em and seven-card stud, the highest-ranking hands win. In low games, like razz, 1, £ the lowest-ranking hands win. In high-low split games, both the highest-ranking and lowest-ranking hands win, though different rules are used 1, £ to rank the high and low hands.[3][4] Each hand belongs to a category determined by the patterns formed by its cards. 1, £ A hand in a higher-ranking category always ranks higher than a hand in a lower-ranking category. A hand is ranked 1, £ within its category using the ranks of its cards. Individual cards are ranked, from highest to lowest: A, K, Q, 1, £ J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3 and 2.[5] However, aces have the highest rank under ace-to-five high 1, £ or six-to-ace low rules, or under high rules as part of a five-high straight or straight flush.[6][7] Suits are not 1, £ ranked, so hands that differ by suit alone are of equal rank.[8] There are nine categories of hand when using a 1, £ standard 52-card deck, except under ace-to-five low rules where straights, flushes and straight flushes are not recognized. An additional category, 1, £ five of a kind, exists when using one or more wild cards. The fewer hands a category contains, the higher 1, £ its rank.[9] There are $52! / (52 - 5)! = 311,875,200$ ways to deal 1, £ five cards from the deck but only $52! / (52 - 5)! / 5! = 2,598,960$ distinct hands, because the order in which cards are dealt or arranged in a hand does not matter.[10] 1, £