

Swoop Card Game

3 – 8 Players

Start with 3 Decks of cards, preferably different colors

Add 1 deck for every 2 players beyond 4 players

Pen and Paper for Scoring

Object of the Game

To be the first to get rid of all 19 of your cards for each round and to have the lowest total score at the end of the game. You decide how long a game will be; play until one player reaches 500 points or a pre-determined time limit. Player with the lowest total score wins.

Scoring

- Aces count 1- point.
- Face cards are 10- points each
- All other cards count at face value.
- **TEN'S** and **JOKER'S** are **SWOOP** cards and are worth **50 points** each.

Mix & Pick

- Place all cards face down on the table and mix the decks together .
- Each player selects 19 cards from the pile and keeps them face down.
- Players select a card from the pile of unused cards to determine who goes first.
- All remaining cards are then set aside and remain un-used.

Set Up

- Place 4 of your cards face down and unseen in front of you.
- Place 4 more cards face up, each on top of the 4 facedown cards.
- Pick up the remaining 11 cards and put them in numerical order for ease of play.

Play

Starting player may play from his hand **or** from the face-up cards before him **or** both. However, cards played must all be the same denomination, i.e. 2-Kings from the hand and 1-King showing face up, or 2-7's from the face-up's and one from the hand etc. He may discard as many of one denomination as he wants but does not have to play all. (See strategy below)

The second player must play a card(s) of the same value as the first player, or any value lower. If the player plays a higher card than the previous player, that player must then pick up the pile and his turn ends.

When 4 cards of the same value have been discarded to the pile by one or several players, this is a **"Swoop"**. With each swoop, the cards played are swooped off the table and the player who made the swoop plays again

and is free to play any card(s) of the same value from his hand **or** from the cards faced up on the table in front of him **or** a combination of both. Player may also play any uncovered facedown card at that time.

Swoop Cards

JOKER's and the **TEN's** are **Swoop** cards and may be played **in turn** at any time to swoop the pile off the table and begin again with the cards of his choice.

Facedown Cards

Each facedown card can only be played after the face-up card on top of it is played (uncovered). When a facedown card is played, the player may then also play any cards of the same value in his hand.

When playing a face-up card, that same player may then play the facedown card beneath it, risking that the hidden card is the same or lower value as the face-up card played. That same player may then play an additional face-down card which has been un-covered again risking that it may be the same or lower value as what is showing on the pile. Example, a face-up King is played, player then plays the card beneath confident that the facedown card will be no greater than a King. Should the face-down card be a Queen, again it is a low risk move to play another facedown uncovered card to the pile.

If the follow-on facedown card should be of higher value, player takes the pile

If a player uses a facedown card to start, he may also play any matching cards from his hand.

Play continues until someone discards all their cards and goes out. All other players must add up their points and the score keeper keeps track of everyone's points.

Strategy

Face cards carry higher points and should be discarded asap.

If you have several Aces or 2's, consider keeping one or more for later play

Watch closely the number of remaining cards each player has. Discard swoop cards at any time to get rid of them as you will be penalized 50 points if caught in your hand when someone goes out.

Watch who may not have low-point cards. Taking the pile then playing an ace or 2 can force the next player to pick up the pile.

For more info, check out this YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/SuAuz4fgVcQ>